

Mercersburg Sewer Authority
Via Zoom, Mercersburg PA
December 10, 2020
MINUTES

Attending Via Zoom: Chairman Dan Chayes, Jim Malone, Gene Headley, Catalin Bonciu, Jon Piper, Borough Manager Derek Stoy, Secretary/Treasurer Stacey Golden

Absent: None

Guest(s) / Press: None

Chairman Dan Chayes called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

MOTION: To accept the Treasurer's Report and Bills Payable months ending October 31, 2020 and November 30, 2020 was made by Jim Malone, second by Catalin Bonciu. All ayes, motion carried.

Authority accepted the October 8, 2020 minutes as read.

No Solicitor or Engineer Report.

Authority moved into the Borough Manager's Report.

Borough Manager Derek Stoy gave an overview of plant operations and what needs done. The service influent valves have been adjusted and are "working great". Nothing to report on the waste transfer pump. The board has failed on the digester blower #2 timer board and will need looked at. At the Main Pumping Station, the alarm still needs to be installed and the control panel heater needs repaired. The generator at the main plant operations will need to have automatic startup. Stoy moved on in his report to discuss the 2021 budget saying it will need to be officially adopted. Training has been set up for the all call system, Manager Stoy said he hopes that the system will be online by the new year. RFP's for the new website will be reviewed by council, Manager Derek Stoy suggested the idea of online billing and asked the authority their thoughts. The flusher jet hose has failed, Stoy said they cannot camera a line without it. A letter of resignation has been submitted by authority member Catalin Bonciu, Manager Stoy noted that Bonciu has served for many years and wished him the very best in his future endeavors. DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) has issued several NOV's (Notice of Violations), Stoy said Jon Piper would have more to elaborate on. The propane tank is no longer needed at the sewer plant, Stoy explained that it only ran the hot water heater and that it is currently out of service and a new electric one is expected to be purchased. Stoy recommended having AC&T remove the tank. Manager Stoy reviewed meeting dates with the authority and noted there will not be a need for a personnel committee meeting this month.

The authority moved onto the Plant Manager's Report.

Plant Manager Jon Piper reported that for the month of October there were violations of the NPDES permit limits for Ammonia-Nitrogen and CBOD which also corresponded with the SBR #2 failure. Plant Manager Piper said since the influent valves have been correctly fixed the DO readings have been above

DEP requirements. Due to these violations DEP did a remote inspection and did issue a notice of violation on November 25, 2020. Piper reported that DEP is requiring a written response and Engineer Lance Hoover is assisting with that submittal. Piper continued in his report to discuss issues with the UV system. The sensor was cleaned and worked for about two weeks and then started to decline again. Kappe and Associates installed a new (refurbished) rack of bulbs, did some adjustments and corrected some electrical abnormalities but unfortunately that did not fix the intensity reading issues. Kappe is planning to return to try some other parts. Plant operator Piper said DEP was notified with actions to fix the problem. Piper noted that each of Kappe's representatives said the system is over twenty years old and some of the replacement parts are no longer being made. Jon reported on the SBR #2 rejuvenation update stating that "super bugs" were added and the plant was visited every four hours. It was discovered that there was a volume level of difference between the two SBR's and an off float is not functioning as intended with some control panel issues. Piper said PSI visited the site two different times to adjust the influent valves and air adjustments are being made to keep each SBR as close to optimum levels as possible. Also, Bio-Microbics, manufacturers of the control panel, have been contacted to diagnose the float/control issues. Piper said he responded to an alarm call on Friday, December 4th for a mixer 2 malfunction, Chairman Chayes and Manager Stoy were both contacted and Chayes diagnosed the issue as a tripped breaker. Piper reported that PSI is "waiting on some pieces to finish updating/insulating all valves leading into the tanks". The sludge transfer pump has been scheduled to be fixed next month. Piper concluded his report with saying that the last month was "very frustrating" however through all the difficulties there was a lot learned.

No Old Business.

Authority moved onto New Business.

MOTION: To adopt the 2021 budget was made by Catalin Bonciu, second by Jim Malone. All ayes, motion carried.

The authority discussed online payments and decided to take no action until Borough Manager Derek Stoy got more information.

MOTION: To approve the U.S. Municipal quote (600 ft) for \$11,875.00 for a flusher jet hose pending Chairman Dan Chayes looking at it was made by Jim Malone, second by Catalin Bonciu. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve sewer credits for 109 Loudon Rd (\$156.45) and former resident of 15 North Main Street (\$151.24), was made by Jim Malone, second by Gene Headley. All ayes, motion carried. Catalin Bonciu abstained.

Borough Manager Derek Stoy mentioned that a new check signer will be needed since Mr. Bonciu resigned. The authority discussed creating a resolution to add Gene Headley. Stoy said the bank would need the resolution to add him. Chairman Chayes noted that Bonciu served as Treasurer and they would need an appropriate replacement.

Authority reviewed correspondences and committee meeting dates.

MOTION: To adjourn at 7:55 PM was made by Catalin Bonciu, second by Jim Malone. All ayes, motion carried.

These meeting minutes have been transcribed and respectfully submitted for approval by Stacey Golden with the use of her meeting notes and audio recording.

Date approved: _____