

**Mercersburg Water Authority
Borough Hall, Mercersburg, PA
February 18, 2021
MINUTES**

Attending: Chairman Ed Twine, Michael Pedersen, Jason Frey, Larry Nair, Borough Manager Derek Stoy, Borough Secretary/Treasurer Stacey Golden, Plant Operator Lantz Sourbier, Water Authority Engineer Lance Hoover

Absent: None

Guests/Press: Amy Burkot, Tom Suddeth, Tim Stanton, Susan Musselman, Christ Ardinger and various other guests

Chairman Ed Twine called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. Borough Manager Derek Stoy read over the virtual meeting instructions and then some email questions he received from borough residents. Plant Operator Lantz Sourbier responded to some resident questions and also explained the situation with the wells. Sourbier stated a new well has been drilled and a permit sent to DEP, the well will be put into production tomorrow at 5 AM. Sourbier added that the drought has also made an impact saying it still isn't over. Sourbier expressed the need to conserve water. Engineer Lance Hoover explained the DEP process as requested by Chairman Ed Twine. Hoover said he is hopeful that in 8-10 weeks he will have a permit for construction for the new well.

MOTION: To accept the Treasurer's Report for the month ending January 31, 2021 was made by Larry Nair, second by Michael Pedersen. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve the Bills Payable for the month ending January 31, 2021 was made by Michael Pedersen, second by Larry Nair. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To accept the January 21, 2021 meeting minutes as presented was made by Jason Frey, second by Larry Nair. All ayes, motion carried.

Authority moved onto the Engineer's Report.

Engineer Lance Hoover reported on the Zimm Well saying he obtained an emergency use permit and that he is continuing to work with DEP and submitting a detailed packet every month. LRM completed installation of the temperature probe and start-up dialer. Engineer Hoover said he is moving forward with filter work for filter #3 and then progressing to filter #4.

Authority moved onto the Plant Manager's Report.

Plant Manager Lantz Sourbier noted "exceptional" water is continuing to be made despite the various issues at the water plant. Sourbier noted there some things to do regarding the backwash pump.

Authority moved into the Borough Manager's Report.

Borough Manager Derek Stoy revisited the online billing and reviewed the costs associated with the software to include the annual subscription fee and maintenance fee. Stoy anticipates the first online billing possibly around June. Manager Stoy asked the authority for approval to move forward with Central Square, the online billing company. Moving on in his report, Stoy discussed the PRV Pit Project stating that the bid has not yet been awarded. Stoy stated that a conversation with the solicitor resulted in a recommendation of disallowing the first two bids. Stoy noted in his report that there was question as to the amount of experience those two bidders had. Manager Stoy concluded his report with an update on the Zimm Well. Stoy explained that shortly after submitting the permit the reservoir production dropped resulting in a low water supply. Certified water haulers from Williamsport, PA hauled water from Greencastle. After discussion with Chairman Ed Twine, DH Martin was contacted to get a crew to install a new line from the Zimm Well to the line from the Mountain Well to the plant. Negley's finished the electrical work to get the Zimm Well up and running. Stoy noted that during this time a voluntary water conservation notice was issued and then a mandatory water conservation of 20% notice followed by a boil water advisory due to a lac of flow through the chlorine analyzer.

Authority moved onto Old Business.

MOTION: To move forward with Central Square to start the online billing process was made by Michael Pedersen, second by Larry Nair. All ayes, motion carried.

Engineer Lance Hoover reported on the PRV (Pressure Reducing Vault) pit bids expressing concern of the experience of the lowest bidder. After discussion with the solicitor, Salzman and Hughes, it was recommended to reject the two lowest bidders due to a lack of documentation and lack of support surrounding the five year minimum project related experience required. Hoover recommended awarding the bid to PSI (Pumping Solutions Inc.) stating they are 100% complete, compliant and acceptable providing more information than requested. The next step would be to issue the intent to award. Engineer Hoover asked the authority to make a motion.

MOTION: To accept the bid from PSI (Pumping Solutions Inc.) in the amount of \$67, 360 for the PRV Pit Project was made by Michael Pedersen, second by Larry Nair. All ayes, motion carried.

Chairman Ed Twine asked how long until someone would be in the field. Hoover said he would be in contact with someone at PSI tomorrow morning and should expect to break ground in 3-4 weeks.

Lance Hoover spoke to the authority about his small business, High Tide Environmental, LLC, that specializes in water/wastewater operation consulting services. Hoover said he would be assisting with water treatment plant maintenance projects to include; rebuilding of the water plant filters, PADEP certification paperwork and other tasks requested, inspection and troubleshooting of water plant process equipment and preparation and submission of the annual water supply report, annual consumer confidence report, drought contingency report and other report requested. Hoover said he would still continue to work under Dennis E. Black for certain things. Chairman Ed Twine asked if this would create a "conflict of interest" with Dennis E. Black, Hoover responded "no" saying that he has cleared it with Dennis E. Black.

MOTION: To accept High Tide Environmental LLC's proposal for water operations consulting services at a rate of \$59.85 per hour was made by Jason Frey, second by Michael Pedersen. All ayes, motion carried.

No New Business.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:58 PM was made by Michael Pedersen, second by Larry Nair. All ayes, motion carried.

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

Date approved: _____ Motion: _____ Second: _____