

Orwigsburg Municipal Authority
Meeting Minutes
July 10, 2017

The Orwigsburg Municipal Authority met on Monday, July 10, 2017 at 1:00 pm in Council Chambers. Chairman Rod Schaeffer called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Attendance: Chairman Rod Schaeffer; Vice Chairman John Boyer. Members: Bill Bandholz, Randy Lindenmuth and Matt Baran. Borough Manager Bob Williams; Borough Secretary Sherry Edwards.

Visitor: Borough employees Jake Brensinger and Dave Teter; Bobby Shappell of 680 S Liberty St; Bryon Killian of Entech Engineering.

A motion to approve the December 12, 2016 minutes as presented was made by John Boyer, second by Matt Baran. Unanimous.

Public Comment –

Bobby Shappell expressed his concern with fixing the N Warren St and Cresswell Acres area what will happen to the original part of town and when will that be addressed. He is looking for a ten-year plan on how issues on the Ridge, outlying newer areas and the original part of town will be addressed.

Matt Baran addressed Bobby's concern:

- Get a strategic plan in place starting with the most distressed areas
- Once you fix a distressed area this will cause other issues down the line – plan needs to be big enough to account for this situation. We need to get to the point where all terracotta and old piping is replaced with PVC.
- Seek out appropriate investment – Figure total cost
- Figure options on how to afford without bankrupting anyone
- Take an assessment on how we intent to maintain, fix and repair the system
- Implement a Capital Improvement Fund
- Wean into a sewer rate increase and have some of the monies go into the Capital Improvement Fund
- Could be looking at 12 million to do it right and building a Capital Improvement on top of that

Bob noted Council is looking for a recommendation from this board and the engineer on how to move forward with improvements to the system.

The Authority appreciates Bobby's feedback and encourages him to keep attending meetings

A brief discussion was held regarding the timing of the Authority's Audit. The Authority reviewed the 2015 Audit. Rod was briefed by the Auditor when she completed the audit.

Treasurers Report

A motion to approve the March 13, 2017 and June 12, 2017 Treasurers reports along with the 2017 payroll adjustment of -\$45.42 was made by Bill Bandholz, second by John Boyer. Unanimous.

Bob noted the 2017 payroll adjustment of -\$45.42. 2017 Payroll approved as \$12,537.65 at December 12, 2016 meeting. Due to a bookkeeping error of -\$45.42 the 2017 payroll was adjusted to \$12,492.23.

Engineer's Report

Bryon Killian reported:

The Municipal Waste Load Management Report was submitted in March
31% Decrease in flows over last 5 years:

2012 – 405 gpd per edu
2013 – 365 gpd per edu
2014 – 346 gpd per edu
2015 – 318 gpd per edu
2016 – 279 gpd per edu

With the limited funds over past couple years (excluding the Interceptor Project) – we significantly made progress on reducing I & I.

Current capacity – 1.3 million gallons which is ½ the capacity

CCTV quotes obtained as requested at December's meeting:

- USG \$165 per hour travel time – \$190 per hour on site - \$55 additional labor as required - \$85.00 per night per diem
- Euros - \$295.00 per hour
- Roto Rooter \$235.00 per hour

Bryon recommend USG for additional televising work

Initiated Work Order for Bio Solids PAG08 permit

- \$3800 is for filling out application
- Doesn't include laboratory analysis which is recommended
- \$500 permit filing fee to DEP not included

Bob noted:

Two complaints by residents were received on the manhole #65 beside the well house
4/6/2017 – found residue and also was witnessed – reported to DEP
6/23/2017 – no residue found – not witnessed – after consulting with SCMA it was deemed not reportable

Two 8” lines connect to an 8” line along with major sages from #87 to #65, #86 to #65 and #65 to #64A help create overflow issues with manholes #65 and #153. All lines are terra cotta. Highest priority is sewage overflow in system – DEP compliance issue – potential fine

Matt Baran explained the County Rate Comparison:

- According to the county sewer rate comparison – Orwigsburg is positioned on the low end at \$40.00 per month based on 15,000 gallons average discharge per quarter
- The high end of the comparison is considered low for PA – High end has brand new systems
- Cannot do the whole system in one year – break up into 4 or 5 projects
- Increase rates over a period of 5 years for an increase of \$25.00 per month (\$2.00 per edu for capital fund and \$23.00 for loan) – increase \$5.00 per month over time and we’re still less than 1/3 of the county comparison
- To fix the entire system would be 11 to 12 million – Borrow at 1% for 30 years
- Put together a 5 year plan and educate the borough
- A new system will eliminate I & I and adds additional capacity for growth in the community and outside the community

Bill Bandholz noted it’s the Authority’s responsibility is to develop the plan that will fix the boroughs sewer system and let the financing end of it up to the borough.

Randy noted our streets have been left go; we should also come up with a couple alternative ways to look at it

Bob mentioned Council asked Bryon to come up with a plan to specifically fix the overflow that was reported to DEP – Council is looking for two step approach: fix the problem that will eliminate reports to DEP and develop a program to fix the system.

Dave Teter noted to replace existing line from Mifflin St to the well house where the over flow is with a 15” line would cost approximately \$700,000. This is a well-known I & I contributor.

Dave showed pictures of manholes (Upper Cresswell, Lower Cresswell, Station Rd, Lee Court and N Warren St) with clear water flowing heavily through them days after a heavy rain. This whole area is identified as Basin 5. To replace sewer lines in Basin 5 costs – \$2.3 million.

Questioned was asked what happens to the infiltration once the pipes are replaced, where does that water go? Bryon answered trench dams are installed when replacing the pipes.

A discussion was held regarding increasing user rates by \$7.00 per month.

A motion instructing and authorizing Bryon of Entech Engineering to prepare a detailed analysis and report that will be reviewed by the Authority and forwarded to Council that may recommend raising sewer rates to \$47.00 per month in order to obtain a Pennvest loan for \$2.3 for the first Phase of a rehabilitation project on Basin 5. Also to generate a Capital Improvement Study not to exceed \$8,000 to be paid out of the Authority After Councils review of the a proposed 5-year plan along with a total monthly increase of \$25.00 to cover the remaining phases was made by Matt Baran second by Bill Bandholz, Unanimous.

Randy asked are the costs being discussed logical figures?

Now that Bryon knows dollars amounts the Authority is thinking about and what direction they want head in he would like to run detailed cost estimates by the operations staff at his office; then the plan can be presented to Council.

Council to review the 5-year plan and beginning with phase one by increasing rates to \$47.00.

PAG08 Work Order - \$3800

Bryon reviewed the 2008 Sludge Reports that showed the borough is not meeting Class B Bio Solids. We can go with dewatering equipment and then to the land fill; upgrading would be necessary. Septage we are receiving at the plant is solids that are not easily degradable. There is a breakeven point when receiving septage that we are not meeting. The 2008 study recommended increasing rate to 4.6 cents and eventually to 5.1 cents.

A discussion was held on the benefits of a fan press at a cost of \$250,000 to \$300,000 just for the machine that does not include installation, costs of sludge removal and septage received.

A motion for Bryon of Entech Engineering generate a report for sludge reduction to be reviewed the Authority then forward to Council was made by Randy Lindenmuth, second by Bill Bandholz. Unanimous.

A motion to adjourn at 2:50 pm was made by John Boyer, second by Randy Lindenmuth. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherry M. Edwards
Borough Secretary