# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY PERKASIE REGIONAL AUTHORITY MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2020

The regular meeting of the month was convened in the Authority Office, 150 Ridge Road at 6:30 p.m. on February 8, 2021 by Chairman David Watt (at Authority building). Attending in addition to the Chairman were Board Members J. Thomas Horn (at Authority building), Stephen Algeo (virtually attended), Ben Rainear (at Authority building) and David Bedillion (at Authority building). Staff members present: Nicholas Fretz, Manager (at Authority building), Peter C. Andersen, Engineer (virtually attended), John N. Schaeffer, III, Esquire, Solicitor (at Authority building) and Patricia Fluck, Accounting Assistant (at Authority building).

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

None this meeting.

## **MINUTES:**

Upon motion by Bedillion, seconded by Rainear, the Minutes of the regular meeting of January 11, 2021 were unanimously approved as written.

# PUBLIC FORUM (NO PUBLIC ATTENDED – REQUESTS WERE PRESENTED BY PRA STAFF)

- a) 505 N. 5th Street, Perkasie, PA Property owner did not attend meeting
- b) 638 E. Walnut Street, Perkasie, PA Property owner Paul Kramer (no public attended-requested were presented by PRA Staff) requested a credit on the sewer portion of their bill for a broken pipe that has since been fixed.

# See Official Board Action

c) 215 Strassburger Road, Perkasie, PA – Property owner Kevin Pavack (no public attended-requested were presented by PRA Staff) requested a credit on the sewer portion of their bill for a leaking toilet that has since been fixed.

See Official Board Action

#### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

None this meeting.

## **PWTA:**

- a) Minutes from the December 2020 meeting
- **b)** December 2020 flow reports
- c) Audit Delay Letter

#### FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

- a) Balance Sheet for January 2021
- b) Profit and Loss Budget Overview Reports for January 2021
- c) Statement of Trust Funds January 2021
- d) Revenue Fund Requisition Number 553 in the amount of \$247,659.10
- e) Bond Redemption and Improvement Fund Requisition Number 1058 in the amount of \$13,443.40
- f) Construction Fund Requisition Number 116 through 121 in the total amount of \$287,683.10
- g) Project Summaries
- h) Developer Escrow Releases & Summaries

Upon motion by Rainear, seconded by Bedillion, the Financial Report and the List of Bills – Items d) through h) were unanimously approved.

## **OPERATIONS REPORT:**

- a) Activity Report for January 2021
- b) Average production by month for January 2021
- c) Precipitation Report for January 2021
- d) Water Production Reports for January 2021
- e) Sewer truck reports

Upon motion by Rainear, seconded by Bedillion, the Operations Report was unanimously approved.

#### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

- a) Ridge Road Sewer Extension The Solicitor stated that the WRT Supervisors had a meeting on January 20th to discuss the mandatory connection Ordinance that PRA had sent them and they had a few questions that they wanted answered before moving forward with the Ordinance. The Board discussed their concerns and directed the Manager to respond to the West Rockhill Township Manager with the answers to their concerns.
- b) Hidden Meadows Dedication and Easement The Solicitor stated that he has filed all necessary paperwork for the Dedication and Easements (that were approved at the December 2020 Board Meeting) for Phases 1 & 2. He further stated that the Engineer was still awaiting the as-built plans for Phase 3 to review, so hopefully PRA would be able to accept the Dedication and Easements in the coming months for Phase 3.
- c) Pennridge Airport The Solicitor stated that he has received a letter from the lawyer representing Rob Brink (owner of the Pennridge Airport Business Development Park) notifying him that Mr. Brink was formally challenging the bills for the engineering review of plans, construction inspections and inspections of improvements relating to Phase 1 of the project. The section of the Municipal Authorities Act referenced in the letter was disputing the bills as excessive, unreasonable or unnecessary and allows for them to go back 100 days and challenge the charges for only that time period. He further stated that he believed this should be discussed further in Executive Session as it could potentially become a legal concern.

Upon motion by Bedillion, seconded by Rainear, the Solicitor's Report was unanimously approved.

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

- a) Booster Station /Pressure Reducing Vaults—The Engineer stated that the station was nearing completion and once the snow melts the pressure reducing stations will be calibrated. He further stated that once the PRV's were calibrated, the booster station would be started and tested.
- **b)** Perkasie Green (Cedar Ridge) The Engineer stated that the water main had passed the preliminary hydrostatic test, but there were still a few items that needed to be completed with both the water and sewer system.
- c) Hidden Meadows The Engineer stated that the review of Phases 1 and 2 were completed and satisfactory. He further stated that the developer had assured them that they would be submitting the CAD files within the next couple of days.
- d) Ridge Road Sewers The Engineer stated that the prevailing wage determination for the project was applied for and obtained. He further stated that bids have been uploaded to PennBid and the bids would be received for the project on March 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- e) JEV (Booster Station mechanical contractor) Letter The Engineer stated that he has received a letter from JEV seeking \$2,500 associated with delays not associated with his work. The Engineer stated that they had requested him to start work and then leave so that the building could be erected and with the change of building contractors, the building was delayed more than anticipated at the beginning of the project, so the contractor is looking for compensation for those delays due to the extra costs associated with insurance, temporary utilities and additional costs. The Manager stated that the \$2,500 equates to roughly 1/3 of 1% of the total contract. The Board discussed the delays and instructed the Engineer to submit a Change Order at the next meeting to include the \$2,500.00 additional fees.

Upon motion by Bedillion, seconded by Rainear, the Engineer's Report was unanimously approved.

#### **MANAGER'S REPORT:**

a) 2021 Late Fees & Shut Offs – The Manager stated that PRA contacted Perkasie Borough about the electric accounts and informed him that they had re-instituted shut-offs back in May 2020 and were doing shut-offs right up until when they were no longer allowed to do shut-offs due to the winter months. He further stated that Perkasie Borough would be resuming the shut-offs as soon as they were legally allowed in March/April 2021. The Manager presented the Board with a spreadsheet showing the number of accounts that are delinquent as of the end of 2020. There were roughly 20 customers almost all of them get shut off before making payment. He further stated that he would recommend re-instituting the late charges with the April 1st billings. There was some discussion by the Board and Manager on the shut off date.

## See Official Board Action

- b) Perkasie Borough-Little League Fields (sprinklers) The Manager presented the Board with a draft letter regarding the excessive usage at the Little League Fields (sprinklers). After discussion by the Board and Manager, the Board directed the Manager to draft a letter allocating 200,000 gallons a year for this account and any usage over that amount would be billed the lowest "bulk" water rate to present to the Board at the March 2021 meeting.
- c) Perkasie Green/Cedar Ridge Escrow Release The Manager presented the Perkasie Green/Cedar Ridge Escrow Release for approval.

# See Official Board Action

d) Ridge Road Sewer Extension to Mountain View Drive (Phase 1) – The Manager stated as described under the Solicitor's Report, at the WRT Supervisors meeting on January 20<sup>th</sup>, the Supervisors had a few questions and concerns. After discussion by the Board and PRA staff, the Manager stated that the Authority should contribute the 1/3 of the construction costs if the customers connect within a year of the project being completed and if the customers choose not to connect within that year and would have to connect in the future (because of a failing system or when they sell the new property owners wish to connect) then the Authority would contribute a much smaller percentage or nothing at all.

Upon motion by Horn, seconded by Bedillion, the Manager's Report was unanimously approved.

## OFFICIAL BOARD ACTION:

Upon motion by Watt, seconded by Rainear, the Board unanimously approved to credit 638 E. Walnut Street, account #3062, the sewer charges for a pipe break that was since fixed in the amount of \$520.70

Upon motion by Watt, seconded by Rainear, the Board unanimously approved to credit 215 Strassburger Road, account #5405, the sewer charges for a malfunctioning toilet that was since fixed in the amount of \$195.95

Upon motion by Watt, seconded by Algeo, the Board unanimously approved re-instituting the late charges with the April 1, 2021 bills and shut off on April 12, 2021 of the customers that still have a balance through December 2020.

Upon motion by Watt, seconded by Horn, the Board unanimously approved the Perkasie Green/Cedar Ridge Escrow Release.

# **UNFINISHED BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS:**

None this meeting.

## **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS:**

Chairman Watt stated that there would be an Executive Session following this meeting.

## **PUBLIC FORUM II:**

Board Member Rainear brought to the Board's attention that there was more discussion at the PWTA meeting regarding local breweries and how costly it was for the plant to treat the waste when there was no pre-treatment being done on site. He further stated that the PWTA Board would be increasing the Industrial Treatment Permit fees from \$3,000 to \$4,000 to help offset the costs.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The Board did have an Executive Session regarding legal and real estate but did not reconvene.

## **ADJOURN:**

There being no further business to come before the Board in the regular session and upon motion by Watt, seconded by Horn, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Patricia Fluck, Recording Secretary

David Bedillion, Secretary