
NORTH SEWICKLEY TOWNSHIP
WATER AUTHORITY
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING
Thursday – August 17, 2023 - 6:00 pm

The regular meeting of the North Sewickley Township Sewer Authority was held on Thursday, August 17, 2023, at 6:00 pm in the Meeting Room of the Municipal Building, 893 Mercer Road, Beaver Falls and adjourned at 6:19pm, the Water Authority meeting was called to order at 6:19 pm. In addition to the Board Members, in attendance were the Field Supervisor, Ryan Cooper, Engineer, Emily Palmer, Solicitor Gene Dimeo, and various members of the public.

The meeting was called to order by Secretary, Emmett Santillo, followed by the salute to the flag at the beginning of the Sewer Authority Meeting.

ROLL CALL:

Ken Chute	Absent
Arthur Hayes	Present
Emmett Santillo	Present
Jason Wilds	Present
Rudolph Shirilla	Present

PUBLIC SPEAK:

None

MEETING MINUTES:

Motion by Rudolph Shirilla and seconded by Emmett Santillo to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of the Water Authority, dated July 20, 2023. Four ayes, motion carried.

BILLS FOR APPROVAL:

The bills for the North Sewickley Township Water Authority were presented in the amount of \$93,766.91 for discussion and approval. **Motion by Emmett Santillo and seconded by Arthur Hayes to approve payment of the bills as presented. Four ayes, motion carried.**

BUDGET REVIEW:

The budget for the month of July 2023 was presented for review and discussion. We will be talking about rate increases on the water side. Emily mentioned we would talk budgeting in person next month upon Lisa's return to the meeting. Emmett stated we need another full-time person. Lisa and Emily will talk next month about budgeting.

GENERAL REPORTS:

- a) Water Loss Report – Ryan updated the Board that the service line at Hillcrest Park was leaking for months and that could be a potential for higher water loss the last few months. The resident believed his pressures were off and never reported it. Art Hayes asked about the valve by the turnpike. Ryan informed the Board that it was told to him that the Turnpike didn't allow us to have a line there.
- b) Balance Sheet

OLD BUSINESS:

- a) Meter Replacement Program update – Discussion on getting moving on the meter replacement. Emmett wanted to see if we could look at contractors for the installation of the meters. We are looking for COSTARS contractors. We will need to regroup next month on this.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a) 2” Replacement Head for Hydrant Flushing Meter – **Motion by Emmett Santillo and seconded by Rudolph Shirilla to approve the purchase of the 2” Replacement Head for the Hydrant Flushing Meter in the amount of \$711.60. Four ayes, all in favor.**
- b) Summer Help – Continuing Through Fall – Ryan highly recommends them full time; they have a great work ethic. Ryan mentioned Ethan wanted to consider an apprenticeship with the Authority. Emmett has noticed the garage has been cleaned and things are getting done. **Motion by Emmett Santillo and seconded by Art Hayes to approve Ethan and Hayden to remain on the payroll year-round, part time, with a \$1.00 an hour increase. Four ayes, motion carried.**

ENGINEER’S REPORT

- a) Monthly Engineer’s Report – Emily Palmer reported on the Brush Creek Water Line Replacement, the surveys have been done and it should go out for bid later this fall. The truck bid is out and opening on September 12, 2023, so we will have something for the September meeting.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT:

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Arthur Hayes mentioned maybe we could put on the bills that if they have pressure issues, they could call the Authority for us to look at it. This could potentially catch water leaks. Ryan brought to attention that some people may not call because it isn’t metered, and they can deal with the lower pressure, so they don’t have to pay for it. Ryan mentioned there are multiple hydrants in our system that need attention. Ryan found one by Riverside that wouldn’t open. Another one wasn’t opening properly. The hydrants are from the 1950’s, 1960’s and 1970’s. Cost of a hydrant is \$3500-\$4000. Emmett agreed that anything from 1950’s should be replaced. 90% of our hydrants are Mueller’s and older. Ryan wanted to see if we could implement a program where we would set aside around \$15,000.00 and do about 4 hydrant replacements per year. There is a possibility of grant money for hydrants. There are 186 hydrants in the system, and we need to replace more than half of them. Ryan happened to stumble across the two that have issues but there are probably more issues than we know. Emmett would like the hydrants by the school replaced as quickly as we can. 1972 and newer hydrants are repairable. Emmett would like to see how many we have that are older than 1972. Emmett is concerned about the safety issues with having hydrants that aren’t working. Emmett wanted to see what the cost was to repair the hydrants. For a former repair, it was \$1,800.00 but that doesn’t mean they are all that much, it depends on the problems. Emmett would rather see them replaced after that 1972 year. Hydrants can mostly be replaced in one day. Ryan would like to keep 4 hydrants with different stem lengths in stock with the Authority. When one gets used, we replace it. **Motion by Emmett Santillo and seconded by Arthur Hayes to order 4 hydrants and have them in stock at all times. Four ayes, all in favor.**

ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:55 pm, Emmett Santillo made the motion to adjourn the Water Authority meeting, Rudolph Shirilla seconded the motion, four ayes, motion carried.