



245 Main Street
P.O. Box 469
Conyngham, PA 18219
Phone (570) 788-0608
Fax (570) 788-6146

November 24, 2020

The Conyngham/Sugarloaf Joint Municipal Authority met for a Regular Session on November 24, 2020 at 7:00 pm. The meeting was held online using GoToMeeting’s virtual conferencing service. It was called to order by Chairman Gallagher, the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and roll call was taken.

Present: Joseph Gallagher, Greg Olander, Marc Eble, Andre Marchese, Marguerite Woelfel, Ed Gregory (Operations Manager), Peter O’Donnell (Solicitor), Rich Harrison (Engineer), Dorothy Pisano (Office Administrator)

Absent: None

Public Comment on Agenda Items: None

Invited Guests: None

Motion

Motion to Remove September 22, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes (Resolution #30) from Tonight’s Agenda – Eble. Second –Marchese.

Questions on the Motion: None

No Roll Call – Five (5) Yes Motion carries.

Treasurer’s Report:

Item 1: Chairman Gallagher presented the Treasurer’s Report. The document was also displayed on the video call. A copy of the report is on file and available for review.

Motion

Motion to Approve the Treasurer’s Report ending November 24, 2020 – Eble. Second – Olander.

Questions on the Motion: None

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Eble	-	Affirmative	Gallagher	-	Affirmative
Marchese	-	Affirmative	Woelfel	-	Affirmative
Olander	-	Affirmative			



245 Main Street
P.O. Box 469
Conyngham, PA 18219
Phone (570) 788-0608
Fax (570) 788-6146

November 24, 2020

Item 2: Details of the Accounts Payable Report were read by Vice Chairman Olander. A copy of the report is on file and available for review.

Motion

Resolution #29: Motion to approve the Payment of Invoices and Unpaid Bills totaling \$42,843.47 – Woelfel. Second – Marchese.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Eble	-	Affirmative	Gallagher	-	Affirmative
Marchese	-	Affirmative	Woelfel	-	Affirmative
Olander	-	Affirmative			

Solicitor’s Report:

Item #1: Solicitor O’Donnell notified the Board that there were two liens filed on properties during the month of October. If further information is desired as to the addresses or owners, he may be contacted at a later time.

Item #2: A copy of Sugarloaf Township’s approved minutes will soon be provided to Solicitor O’Donnell. As of now, he has not received a response from DEP in regard to the conditional approval of the Authority’s subdivision. O’Donnell is under the assumption that this should be deemed approved and the 1-acre sale will begin to be finalized.

Engineer’s Report:

Item #1: There has been no update on the 537 Plan. Engineer Rich Harrison said that DEP has been remarkably busy. He plans on contacting Scott to find out if the plan’s administrative review has at least been completed. Chairman Gallagher asked if board should consider requesting a dozen EDUs in the meantime. The Authority has taken measures to reduce I & I in several places. Additional EDUs would add to hydraulic issues but not affect the plant’s efficiency. Vice Chairman Olander asked if any data exists that could support this claim. There was one large, reoccurring SSO, located on Main street, that was stopped but unfortunately no statistics were collected. However, the lines that were discovered to have major defects by CCTV work provide estimated inflow rates. The rates and footage of these sections are to be generated into a spreadsheet where they can be referenced.

It was agreed that future flow monitoring is necessary. February and March would be an ideal time to record such data due to rising temperatures. Engineer Harrison recommended installing a

November 24, 2020

permanent, low maintenance monitoring system. He believes this would be most advantageous. Using a couple meters would also be beneficial. Harrison was asked to research different systems, including FLO-DAR, and provide a comparison. This purchase would need to be included in next year's budget.

Item #2: The Authority currently has the funds to administer a \$1,000,000-\$2,000,000 sewer rehab program. Harrison will provide a prioritized list of individual projects. All are to describe the flows that would be removed and predict each cost. This and the above comparison are expected to be delivered to the board by December 20, 2020.

Manager's Report:

Item #1: The Manager's Report was presented to the Board by Operations Manager Gregory. It was also displayed on video. A copy of the report is on file and available for review. One item was added to the report verbally. That being a leak found in the Brookhill subdivision. It is located inside an apartment. The customer will be sent a certified letter notifying them that the repair is their responsibility.

Item #2: Gregory asked the Board to further explain why the meter replacement project is being delayed. Members agreed that entering customer's homes could be problematic due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Gregory asked that they reconsider this seeing as it would take at least 6-months to begin work after being approved. He went on to explain that the Authority is losing an estimated 15% in revenue that can equate up to \$150,000. Completing the program would also meet TA and DEP requirements for finding unbilled water. Replacing meters pays for itself. It is a return on projects and investments. Members agreed to reconsider and further discuss approving the program at next month's meeting.

Old Business:

Item #1: During last month's meeting, the Board had discussed inspecting the sewer main that is along the creek from the park to the sewer plant. Secretary Eble went on to say that he had spoken to Gary from the Conyngham Borough's council about the need to clear the land there and of thoughts to permanently maintain it for recreational use. The councilman was very receptive to the idea and even stated that the borough themselves could possibly clear the land and help maintain it. Solicitor O'Donnell reminded everyone that there would be other items to address, such as insurance and worker's compensation, if this were to be agreed upon. It would however be a good option. Secretary Eble is to discuss the idea with Gary further.

New Business:



245 Main Street
P.O. Box 469
Conyngham, PA 18219
Phone (570) 788-0608
Fax (570) 788-6146

November 24, 2020

Item #1: Frey & Company’s contract for services in 2021 was provided. The rate for services would be \$100/hour up to \$8,000/year. These numbers have not changed from the previous contract.

Motion

Motion to approve Frey & Company’s contract for services in 2021 – Olander. Second – Woelfel.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Eble	-	Affirmative	Gallagher	-	Affirmative
Marchese	-	Affirmative	Woelfel	-	Affirmative
Olander	-	Affirmative			

Item #2: Chairman Gallagher requested Engineer Rich Harrison provide the board with an estimated annual maintenance cost, this would include jetting and be used to further determine next year’s budget. Harrison agreed to further evaluate the number. He explained that the biggest issue is root intrusion. This is particularly problematic in shallow sewers that go through wooded areas. Roots can ultimately be cut down or chemically destroyed but eventually they will grow back.

In addition, Harrison asked when clearing is expected to begin at the previously mentioned interceptor under the plant. There is still money remaining in USG’s budget and the interceptor is a top priority due to its depth and proximity to the stream. It could potentially be a main source of I & I. Gallagher stated that the board is considering in-kind costs with the borough. He predicts clearing will begin over the winter. If so, work may start in the spring of next year.

Public Comment: None

Executive Session was held prior to the November 24 meeting for personnel issues. The meeting will be continued at 6:00 pm on Tuesday December 1, 2020.

Motion

Motion to Adjourn the meeting at 7:48 pm on Tuesday, November 24. – Eble. Second – Woelfel.

Questions on the Motion: None



245 Main Street
P.O. Box 469
Conyngham, PA 18219
Phone (570) 788-0608
Fax (570) 788-6146

November 24, 2020

No Roll Call – Unanimous.

Attest:

Marc Eble
CSJMA Secretary