**JOHNSTOWN WATER BOARD**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**JULY 8, 2019 6:00 p.m.**

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Board Vice President Swierzowski called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL OF BOARD MEMBERS**

Board Clerk Koehler

**BOARD MEMBERS**

John Swierzowski, Vice President

George DiMarco, Board Member

Brandon Lyon, Board Member\*

**ATTENDEES**

Michael Poulin, City of Johnstown Attorney

John Denmark, Water Plant Operator

Barbara Koehler, Clerk of the Board

Brad Hayner, City Council Liaison

\*Board Member Brandon Lyon arrived at 6:09 p.m.

**PUBLIC SESSION**

Willian Ondriska of 123 Heagle Road stated that his home is located within the Route 67 Smart Waters Line (Fulton County Water District #1). He noted that he was attending the meeting to learn more about the time line of receiving city water as this was a topic on the agenda.

Board Vice President Swierzowski stated when the Water Department is ready to start the tap project the Board will instruct the Clerk to mail an informational letter to all eligible residents.

**PERSONNEL RESOLUTIONS/MOTIONS**

• **RESOLUTION 12, 2019**  - Appoint new Water Board Member, Marjorie Kline

made by Board Vice President Swierzowski and seconded by Board Member DiMarco.

3 ayes 0 nays 0 absent 0 abstain

**OLD BUSINESS**

• Capital Projects Review:

1. *Christman Roof - Completed*

**MOTION** to giving the Clerk approval to release final payment, as long as the the Water Department has been provided with the “as built” drawings and all warranties, was made by Board Member DiMarco and seconded by Board Vice President Swierzowski.

4 ayes 0 nays 0 absent 0 abstain

Board Member DiMarco advised he would contact Nick Lobasco, PE (CT Male) regarding the aforementioned.

*b) Dam Phase II (Spillway)*

Board Vice President Swierzowski inquired if the Board was considering financial bonding this year. He

noted that GPI would like to prepare cost estimates for the scope of work we want to complete on the Dam

Phase II Spillway Project. He noted City Treasurer Gifford needs to know our bond intentions very soon.

Board Member DiMarco stated that he spoke with John Rizzo, PE (GPI) regarding a meeting that Rizzo and GPI associate Kurt Weiskotten had with John Smith, PE of the NYS DEC on 05/28/19. GPI subsequently issued a memo to the Water Board dated 05/31/19 listing the issues DEC had with the Cork Center Phase II Spillway Rehabilitation Project. Board Member DiMarco advised that Rizzo was waiting for a call back from Smith.

Board Vice President Swierzowski said we needed to contact GPI to inquire what is needed to move forward.

Board Member DiMarco stated GPI needs to know how we plan to proceed and the extent of the work being done. He noted John Rizzo has asked if we intended to replace valves on the full or partial spillway. He advised that GPI was ready to move forward once it receives direction from the Water Board.

Board Vice President Swierzowski stated that he met with the Water Department’s insurance representative William Van Gorder of NBT/MANG earlier this month. He advised that it was important to be in compliance with DEC and the state by finishing Phase II of the Dam Project.

Board Member DiMarco noted that more issues have arisen since the project was first started. He stated that he would ask John Rizzo (GPI) to come to a future meeting to bring new Board members up to speed on the project.

*c) New Dump Truck*

Denmark stated the new Freightliner dump truck was received June 20, 2019. He noted that the truck will be in

service once decals and license plates have been installed.

• *Sand Filter Replacement*

Plant Operator Denmark stated he is waiting for Jablonski Excavating, Inc. to respond with new sand tests.

• *Smart Waters – Fulton County Water District #1 Taps*

See Public Session above.

• *Increase Water Rates and Charges*

Board Vice President Swierzowski stated there will be no rate increase without a concrete reason to raise rates.

Board Member DiMarco directed the Clerk to compile end of year balance sheets for a 3-4 year period for the

Board to review.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Christine Battisti/Written Request for Water/Sewer Confirmation**

Christine Battisti mailed a request to the Board regarding her property located at 32 Pine Avenue of which she is interested in selling a 1.56 acre section of the 5.4 acre parcel. Ms. Battisti asked the Board to confirm in writing if water and sewer would be available for the parcel she is selling.

Water Plant Operator Denmark noted the parcel is within city limits. He advised that there is no city sewer service; however, there is a service line for water. He added that there are water and sewer lines on Pine Avenue.

Board Member DiMarco noted the house is on top of a hill. A former City Engineer gave permission for the water line to be installed and the Water Department later had issues with the Department of Health (DOH) as the house had a pressure pump in the basement not approved by the DOH at the time of installation.

Board Vice President Swierzowski advised he would compile a letter regarding water, stating the property owners would have to go through the proper channels and bear all associated costs. He noted he would advise the property owners to contact the City Engineer regarding the availability of a sewer connection.

**MOTIONS & RESOLUTIONS**

**MOTION** to contract services with CT Male for Cold Brook Reservoir Dam Repairs and Improvements at a proposed fee of $49,850, made by Board Vice President Swierzowski and seconded by Board Member DiMarco.

4 ayes 0 nays 0 absent 0 abstain

***Discussion:***

Plant Operator Denmark noted about 50% of the work could be done in house and we could expect to start the project when DEC provides the okay on final plans.

**MOTION** for the purchase of (30) Neptune Cubic Feet Submersible Meter Pit Meters from TI Sales, at the cost of $4,500 - Blanket PO W05-2019, made by made by Board Vice President Swierzowski and seconded by Board Member Lyon.

4 ayes 0 nays 0 absent 0 abstain

**MOTION** for the purchase of repair parts from NAPA Auto Parts of Johnstown for the Ford F250 Super Duty pickup truck (2011 Truck #73), for the approximate cost of $1,600 - PO issued upon Board approval, made by Board Vice President Swierzowski and seconded by Board Member DiMarco.

4 ayes 0 nays 0 absent 0 abstain

**MOTION** for the rental of a Boom Lift from ADMAR for repairs to Cork Center gate house roof, for the cost of $1,850 - PO 76-2019 issued upon Board approval, made by Board Vice President Swierzowski and seconded by Board Member DiMarco.

4 ayes 0 nays 0 absent 0 abstain

**MOTION** for the rental of a Trackhoe from H & M Equipment for repairs at 21 ½ E Clinton Street, for the approximate cost of $3,500 - PO issued upon Board approval, made by Board Vice President Swierzowski and seconded by Board Member DiMarco.

4 ayes 0 nays 0 absent 0 abstain

***Discussion:***

Plant Operator Denmark noted the Trackhoe will be rented for one (1) month to be used at 21 ½ East Clinton Street, Cork Reservoir cleaning, and a gate valve leak by Auto Zone. Denmark advised that he checked with surrounding municipalities regarding borrowing this equipment with no availability.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION** to accept meeting minutes of June 10, 2019, made by Board Vice President Swierzowski and seconded by Board Member DiMarco.

3 ayes 0 nays 0 absent 1 abstain (Kline)

**FINANCIAL**

**MOTION** to accept Claims and Vouchers for payment July 2019 (Audit Approval) made by Board Vice President Swierzowski and seconded by Board Member DiMarco.

4 ayes 0 nays 0 absent 0 abstain

**MOTION** to approve June 2019 Industrial Levy made by Board Member DiMarco and seconded by Board Vice President Swierzowski.

4 ayes 0 nays 0 absent 0 abstain

**PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Next regular Water Board meeting will be held on Monday, August 12, 2019 at 6:00 pm.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION** to adjourn the meeting at 6:56pm made by Board Vice President Swierzowski; seconded by Board Member DiMarco.

4 ayes 0 nays 0 absent 0 abstain

Submitted by

Barbara Koehler

Clerk of the Water Board