

MNUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE FREEBURG MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Approved
Feb 15, 2024

January 11, 2024

Members Present: Robert Heintzelman, presiding; Thomas Gingrich, Bruce Blades and William Hoffman.

Others Present: Attorney Cravitz, Josh Owens, PEST; Dave Madl, HRG; and Wanda Kantz.

Attorney Cravitz Called the Freeburg Municipal Authority meeting to order. Thomas Gingrich made a motion to retain the same officers as in 2023, William Hoffman seconded the motion and the FM-A member unanimously approved the same slate of officers for 2024.

2024 FMA officers are:

Robert Heintzelman, President

Bruce Blades, Vice-President

Joseph Volinski, Treasurer

Wanda Kantz, Recording Secretary & Assistant Treasurer.

Robert Heintzelman called the regular meeting to order.

The December 14, 2023 meeting minutes were available for review. Thomas Gingrich moved to approve the minutes, William Hoffman seconded, the FMA members unanimously approved the motion.

The paid bills for January 2024 were reviewed, Bruce Blades made a motion to approved the January 2024 paid bills, Thomas Gingrich seconded the motion, the FM.A members unanimously approved the motion.

PUBLIC CONCERNS: None

OLD BUSINESS:

PESI Report — The PESI report for January 2024 was reviewed, completed issues PESI has done:

- All the monthly DEP Reports for have been submitted with no violations.
- Addressed issues from FPPE & updated spreadsheets
- Installed concrete pad for air compressor
- Repaired air leak and regulator
- Samples streams for water leak

- Check former Colonial Furniture building for leak ● Alarm callout for Nitrate system
- Tested Nitrate system alarms with Pall and Galene
- Updated monitoring calendar and process control sheets for 2024 ● Performed quarterly regulation 334 chlorine meter calibrations

Action Items:

- Interlock Equipment — The reservoir, plant and cleat-well should be interlocked together to provide continue system pressure & supply.
- This should be completed with upgrades.
- PESI recommends level sensor with float backup control to ensure minimum runtime of 20k gallons a day for compliance.
- Finished Water Line — Repair work will be scheduled once level monitoring system is completed.
- Reporting — Spreadsheet has been updated to include Galene info, but the reporting has not been changed to match DEP reporting.
- Regulators — Replacement regulators are being shipped ● Nitrate Upgrade — Nitrate system is on.
- Monitoring is occurring
- Alarms are being received
- Shutdowns happening as required ● Filter Items — Pall sent list of required repairs. ● pH Meter Screen — Hach SC2000 is failing.
- Quote from JS environmental to upgrade and install included in grant application
- Cable extension ordered
- Item to be installed at new location
- FPPE — Filter Plant Performance Evaluation was conducted November 7 & 8, 2023 o Waiting for report from DEP o DEP Exit meeting planned for Jan 30, 2024 at 10 am

Water usage for last month: Average GPD: 48,000 Maximum GPD: 59,000

Nitrate Level Issues

Consent Order from DEP — Consent Order & Agreement (COA) has been terminated by DEP effective June 27, 2023.

Nitrate Levels — Current daily nitrate levels are between 4.6 mg/L and 5.5mg/L

PA Small Water and Sewer Grant - Grant request has been submitted. Freeburg Municipal Authority was awarded a PA Small Water and Sewer Grant in the amount of \$418,302.00.

Robert Heintzleman and Bruce Blades e-signed the documents for the grant. The grant coordinator has been contacted about an extension on the grant program to include time for the level monitoring system to be bid and installed, since the grant committee approved reimbursement of this project through the grant funds.

Remaining balance on grant is \$152,270.00.

Grant had been extended to June 30, 2024

Construction Bids Awarded —

Contract 2021-01 (General Construction)

- This portion of the contract has been completed. Contract 2021-02 (Electrical Construction):

- Paige Electrical submitted Request for Final Payment of \$9,220.00. Thomas Gingrich made a motion to approve the final payment in the amount of \$9,220.00, Bruce Baldes seconded and the FMA member unanimously approved the motion.

- Money will need to be transferred to cover the Paige Electrical final payment of \$9,220.00. William Hoffman made a motion to transfer \$10,000.00 from the construction loan to cover the approved payment, Thomas Gingrich seconded the motion. The FMA member unanimously approved the motion. • Wanda Kantz will transfer the approved funds and process the final payment.

Line of Credit — The FMA has received a proposal from The Northumberland National Bank for a \$150,000.00 line of credit, for the construction of the Nitrate Removal System, for a 66-month loan with a 1.99% interest rate. The Northumberland National Bank has completed the loan documents, all loan documents have been signed and loan is ready for any needed funds draws. Current Line of credit balance is \$120,000.00.

Salt Usage — It is estimated that the nitrate removal system will use about 56 lbs. of salt per day to treat 40,000 gallons of water. Monthly salt deliveries have been set up with Cole's Hardware from Selinsgrove, PA.

Air Compressor Issues — Air Compressor #2, a new air compressor has been installed and started. Due to the recent rebuild and failing of compressor #2, Thomas Gingrich made a motion to hold payment for the \$3242.87 payment for the rebuild that was approved earlier in the meeting until there can be a discussion with the supplier regarding the rebuilt billing, William Hoffman seconded. Municipal Authority Members approved the motion.

PALL Upgrades and Maintenance — PALL has submitted a report noting repair and possible upgrade issues for review. Estimated cost of repairs is \$12,965.00. PALL also suggested adding two additional filter unit to help decrease water pressure on the system, estimated cost of each filter is \$7,000.00, \$14,000.0 for two additional filters.

Second PA Small Water & Sewer Grant Application #2— The new grant request would include PALL recommended repairs/upgrades and additional filter units. Estimated amount of grant is \$50,000 to \$100,000. The second Pa Small Water & Sewer Grant application has been submitted. The Freeburg Municipal Authority has received a \$80,000.00 grant.

Source Water Protection Plan— The complete Source Water Protection Plan has been reviewed. The approval of this plan has been shared with the community

2024 Steering Committee Meeting — 2024 meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at 1 pm. DEP, HRG, PEST, area farmers, community members and the FYI-A members will be invited to attend.

Water Shed Grant Program - Snyder County Conservation District is applying for a water shed grant to help divert storm water away from well heads and public water supplies. Freeburg Municipal Authority has been approached to be part of the program to help decrease our nitrate levels from storm waters. This program would have no upfront cost the Authority, only cost would be future maintenance of the system. Thomas Gingrich made a motion to agree to work with the Snyder County Conservation district in this program, Joseph Volinslöe seconded and the FMA members approved the motion.

American Tower Discussions — American Tower has requested a review of the previous submitted offer. The authority has decided currently table this issue.

Level Sensor System — PSW&S Grant has approved this as reimbursable with the grant money.

- TRA Electric was award the project - \$22,465.00 e HRG reviewed the bids for compliance. • Contract award letter has been signed.

Trees at Reservoir — Timber and Tree trimming at 532 & 534 Reservoir Hill Road. • Bid was awarded to Steve's Logging & Excavation for \$12,565.00

- timbering contract has been signed.
- Payment has been received for the project. • Timbering it completed.
- Contractor suggested posting no dumping signs and private property signs at the reservoir site.

Holes in Reservoir Roof— There are some holes in the plastic panels on the roof of the reservoir. This issue will be discussed at a future meeting.

Road Issues at Water Plant & Reservoir — There are some large holes developing on the access roads to the water plant and the reservoir. Wanda Kantz will have the borough staff see about doing some repairs to the access roads.

Water System Replacement Priorities Committee Update - The Committee includes

Thomas Gingrich, William Hoffman, HRG representative and a PESI representative,

Joshua Owens. Joshua Satteson presented updated cost estimates for system wide repairs of the water lines and connections. Current estimated is 5 million dollars. Larson Design can provide technical assistance for developing a phased plan for the upgrades. Thomas Gingrich suggested creating a committee to review option for water line improvements and prioritizing projects. Wanda Kantz Mill check with Penn DOT on scheduled repair projects on Route 35, Whitetop Road and Reservoir Hill Road.

- Working on updating all addresses in the borough for CBDG survey to be completed.
- Working on a phase approach to system repair. Creating a plan to be proactive and not reactive
- Josh Satteson has developed a phased capital improvement plan at a total cost of \$5,109,000
- Funding meeting was held with Penn Vest, USDA, Snyder Co Commissioners and our State Representatives & Congress persons offices
- Penn vest can offer a 60% grant with a 1% fixed interest rate for 20 years.
- USDA is currently offering a 30 years loan at 3.25 %
- The H2O program is not going to be funded for 2024 per governmental sources. ● Contacting SEDA-COG regarding possible CBDG Grant.

2022 Audit • -2022 audit has been completed by Wagner Dresser and Elsasser. The 2022 audit was presented for review. William Hoffman made a motion to approve the 2022 FMA audit, Thomas Gingrich seconded, the FMA members unanimously approved the motion.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Water Meter Replacement Project — The FMA will start planning to replace water meters in 2025 budget, due to most meters being at least 20 years old.

Replacement Heater in Chemical Room —Josh Owens shared that the heater in the chemical room is not working and needs to be replaced. A quote from Paige Electric was presented for review, the quote was for \$1,600.00 to replaces the heater. It was suggested to get additional quotes for this project possibly from TRA Electric. Additional quote will be review at a future meeting.

Lead & Copper Service Lines Inspection — Service lines for customers need to inspected by October 2024 for lead and copper pipes. PESI will come up with a quote to do the needed inspections.

AUTHORITY MEMBERS/EMPLOYEE CONCERNS:

Bruce Blades made a motioned to adjourn, William Hoffman seconded, the motion carried. The Freeburg Municipal Authority's meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm. The next FMA meedng will be Thursday, February 15, 2024 at 7 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wanda Kantz, Secretary

Freeburg Borough / Freeburg Municipal Authority Secretary/Treasurer