

The regular monthly meeting of the Altoona Water Authority Board of Directors was held on Thursday, March 24, 2016 in the board room at the Administrative Office. Vice-Chairman, Mr. Schirf called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call:

Mr. Lawruk (by phone), Mr. Ake, Mr. Schirf, Mr. Neugebauer, and Ms. Marcinko were present, constituting a quorum in accordance with AWA Bylaws. All AWA Board of Directors meetings are conducted in accordance with the PA Sunshine Laws. AWA Staff representatives attending were, Mark Perry, Gina DeRubeis, Mike Sinisi, Lisa Kleinosky and Kathy Gabella

Approval of the Minutes:

Mr. Neugebauer moved on the motion to approve the minutes for the February, 2016 meeting with the correction of the votes for the election of the officers and approval of the minutes to reflect Ms. Marcinko was not present to vote. The vote should have been 4-0. Ms. Marcinko seconded the motion. Mr. Schirf called the question. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

Mr. Schirf then turned the meeting over to Mr. Perry. Mr. Perry introduced Lisa Kleinosky, GIS Administrator and Office Manager. He also introduced Mr. Tim Link, president of Link Corporation. Mr. Link attended the meeting to observe Lisa's presentation as she will be requesting help from his company to move forward with updates of the GIS system.

Mr. Schirf welcomed Mayor Pacifico.

Mr. Lawruk joined meeting at this time.

Ms. Kleinosky then gave a power point presentation on the GIS system. She explained how the system works and how the data is used by the Authority. There are two (2) kinds of data; Raster which is used as a back drop and Vector which is features represented as different shapes. Lisa further explained how the GIS system is used to pull customer information to alert them of main breaks and boil water notices. This customer information is transferred into an excel worksheet then uploaded to the Code Red System which makes calls to the customers affected by a water main break and a boil water notice. The Authority also uses city works which is an extension of the GIS system. This is used to track water and wastewater system improvements and maintenance. City works is also used for inventory control.

Unfinished Business:

1. Bellwood Dam Improvements – the geotechnical information was received from the consulting engineers in Pittsburgh. The information received was the foundation & barium pressure capacities for the structure. Transition will be made into the structural design phase of the project next month.

During the dam project water treatment plant upgrades will be completed. There will be

a meeting with staff at GD&F to help identify the necessary plant upgrades and coordinate those upgrades with the dam improvement. Bellwood Borough has been advised of these upgrades within the treatment plants.

2. Mill Run Treatment Plant Mag Meter Install – the new mag meter and other materials have been purchased and installation should be started soon. The old Venturi meter weighs approximately 3,000 pounds; the new mag meter weighs approximately 300 pounds. The one mechanic has an idea as to the safe removal of the old meter.
3. Tipton 16-inch Transmission Main Cleaning & Lining – last year phase I was completed. This project ties into the Bellwood Dam project since water will be supplied from the Tipton plant while Bellwood is off line. There was 13,000 feet cleaned and lined last year and this year 8,615 feet will be cleaned and lined. By-pass piping will have to be used to keep residential areas in service. The valve and hydrant are installed by the Tipton tank however the project is on hold until AECOM (consultant for Norfolk Southern) sends the permit. Staff is working on expediting this process. It is hopeful the bids will go out June 6th and be awarded June 23rd.

There are two (2) pumps at Tipton the first pump was re-built, restaged and re-rated last year. The second pump is at Tipton and scheduled to be installed Monday.

4. Sanitary Sewer Inflow & Infiltration investigation Areas M, R & U – this work will involve smoke testing in these areas. Residents will be advised before this starts so they will be aware of why there may be smoke in the area. This work is to identify connections that should not be connected to the sanitary system. This would include downspouts, French-drains etc. that should not be contributing to the sanitary system. This project will go in stages; first the smoke testing and then follow up with any unauthorized connections. This area contains Valley View Boulevard from 17th Street east to Rosehill Drive. When this is complete the westerly side of Valley View will be started. This project is scheduled to start the beginning of April and is expected to last several months.

Requisition Approval:

Mr. Schirf asked Mrs. DeRubeis for her Financial Report and the Requisitions/Authorizations. Mrs. DeRubeis gave her report and then asked for approval of the following requisitions:

Mrs. DeRubeis stated the interim financial report for February was included in the packets. The projection after two (2) months is approximately 16.67% and revenues as a whole are slightly below that. Total expenses are down and many line items are being monitoring. Overtime and utilities are usually higher within the winter months but level out by the end of the year.

1. Requisition #47-48 Water Division Construction Fund totaling – \$41,119.90

Mrs. DeRubeis explained this is for the system wide meter replacement and is funded through a PennVEST Loan. Principal & interest payments will begin next month. The AMI portion of the project

is complete.

2. Requisition #2015-14 Water Division Capital Project Fund totaling - \$27,936.67

This is all of the capital expenditures for 2015. It will start new for 2016 since some of the projects for 2015 were not completed.

3. Requisition #2016-2 Water Revenue Surplus Fund totaling - \$111,576.79

Ms. Marcinko made a motion to approve the requisitions. Mr. Ake seconded the motion. Mr. Schirf called the question. Motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

New Business:

1. Mr. Neugebauer thanked everyone for kindness and thoughtfulness during his time of grieving.
2. Repairs were made to the Fairview water storage tank. Approximately a year ago there was some piping deterioration indentified. This was contracted out to Pittsburgh Tank & Tower. While this work was being done valving configuration was installed to allow a shutdown to replace or repair the meters or pump that are in place. The project is complete and went well.

Other Business:

None

Media Questions:

The board and staff addressed questions from Bill Kibler from the Altoona Mirror.

Executive Session:

An executive session was called at 10:23 for personnel issues.

Adjournment:

The meeting reconvened at 10:45. No further business was brought before the Board. The meeting was adjourned at 10:46 a.m. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. in the Board Room at the Administrative Office Building located at 900 Chestnut Avenue.

Secretary/Assistant Secretary

/klg