

**BETHEL TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
MINUTES**

February 6, 2008

The meeting of the Bethel Township Municipal Authority was called to order by Chairman David Younker at 7:03 p.m. on February 6, 2008 at the Bethel Township Community Center, Bethel PA.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Chairman Younker called the roll:

Rufus Geesaman – present

Harold Gruber – present

Kevin Stupp –present

David Younker – present

Carl Weaver – present

Also present were Terry Parish, John Roche, Frank Leber and Darlene Orendo, Secretary.

Public Comment on Agenda

No public comment

Approval of Minutes

Rufus Geesaman made a motion to approve the minutes of January 30, 2008. Second by Harold Gruber. All agreed. Motion carried.

Member Report

Rufus Geesaman reported he received a statement from the First National Bank of Fredericksburg on the escrow account.

Solicitor Report

Solicitor Parish reported to members regarding the easements that have been recorded since last month's meeting. He also reported on several that are still outstanding.

Eugene Siegrist had several questions regarding the easement requested by the Board.

John Roche can work up a fee schedule to review the plans and Solicitor Parish will do a resolution to establish fees.

Engineer's Report

John gave a review of the projected budget report for the PENNVEST closing to each member. In finalizing the project budget there are some line items that require further discussion. Frank Leber was also involved in the discussion.

Rufus Geesaman made a motion to accept the Standard Form Agreement and sign the contract. Motion was seconded by Carl Weaver. All agreed. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business

Easements: Previously discussed.

At this time Chairman Younker acknowledged Frank Leber, to present financial documents that need to be approved and signed this evening by the Authority and discuss the timeline and logistics for the PENNVEST closing.

A minimum tap in fee must be established. John Roche gave members some ranges. He advised them it can be raised at a certain point but by increments. Members discussed options.

Supervisor Randall Haag questioned whether there is funding for elderly and families. Supervisor Michael Orendo mentioned that USDA, Rural Development is a government agency that can be contacted for funding options. Solicitor Parish stated that it is the Board's intent is working on helping people.

A motion was made by Carl Weaver to establish a \$6,000 tap in fee. Second by Rufus Geesaman. All agreed. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Rufus Geesaman to adopt Resolution 2008-23 setting a tap in fee of \$6,000 with the understanding that there may be some technical adjustments/amendments/changes by future vote of the board. Second by Kevin Stupp. All agreed. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Kevin Stupp to adopt Resolution 2008-24 to establish a flat rate user fee of \$60.00 a month with the understanding that there may be some technical adjustments/amendments/changes by future vote of the board. Second by Rufus Geesaman. All agreed. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Rufus Geesaman to adopt Resolution 2008-25 Conditional Award Resolution. Second by Carl Weaver. All agreed. Motion carried.

The secretary was instructed by Mr. Leber to send the packet of documents back by Fed Ex to his office after they are signed and sealed. Mr. Leber will send an email when we are officially closed with PENNVEST. He will submit a bill to the Authority for the March meeting for his fees that will cover the PENNVEST side of the financing. Chairman Younker thanked Mr. Leber on behalf of all the Board for a job well done. Chairman Younker also advised Mr. Leber, John Roche and Solicitor Parish to advise us if the need arose to schedule a special meeting if any problems arise in the closing process.

Community Meeting:

A motion was made by Rufus Geesaman to hold a public information meeting at the Community Center at 7pm on Monday, March 24, 2008. Second by Harold Gruber. All agreed. Motion carried.

David Younker made a motion to address it to Frystown and Bethel residents. Second by Harold Gruber. All agreed. Motion carried.

A motion was made by David Younker to authorize the secretary and Rufus Geesaman to place an ad in the Merchandiser by March 7th and run it twice, and a legal ad in the Reading Eagle. Second by Kevin Stupp. All agreed. Motion carried.

Wesley Weiant, Old 22, Bethel had several question for the Board regarding his easement. He shared his concerns about placement of the easement and stated that he did not want all of his trees ripped out. There was discussion with John Roche regarding the lines and if there would be any possible way to move them. Chairman Younker told him that he had been out to see the lines and told him they could not avoid the trees. He also told him the Authority would do everything possible to move the line north. Solicitor Parish advised Mr. Weiant that the Board was trying to accommodate him but we are now out of time. He told him the Board would try to come up with something that would make him happy. Solicitor Parish also advised Mr. Weiant that by not signing the easement, he is holding up 6.4 million dollars that the authority needs to proceed. He said that it is fair to compensate the land owner and replant trees on the property. Rufus Geesaman asked Mr. Weiant if he would sign the easement tonight the Board would make a motion to compensate him at a fair rate and plant other trees. Solicitor Parish said the Authority should have some credit for the \$6,000 to \$8,000 costs to change the North/South easement off the Weiant property that had been done at an earlier date. Rufus Geesaman made a motion that location of the line be looked at and move it as far north as possible and compensate at a reasonable rate for mature trees and replace with five trees @ 3.5 inch diameter at breast height. Mr. Weiant agreed to sign the easement based on those considerations. Second by Carl Weaver. All agreed. Motion carried.

A 3 minute break was taken at this time (from 9:12 to 9:15 p.m.)

New Business

Werner Truck represented by Brain Boyer came to discuss his time crunch with members and express their desire to get the plan moving forward. They are hoping to get conditional approval by May or June, 2008. Their intent is to dedicate the lines and maintain the forced main and pump station as private. Chairman Younker advised him of our priority to close with PENNVEST and then allow John Roche to review their plans. Solicitor Parish advised members we would have to authorize him to draw up a fee resolution for engineering review. A motion was made by Rufus Geesaman authorizing Solicitor Parish to prepare a resolution and fee schedule. Second by Kevin Stupp. All agreed. Motion carried.

Authorization of Payment of Bills

Rufus Geesaman made a motion to pay all bills. Second by Kevin Stupp. All agreed. Motion carried.

Public Comment

Supervisor Randall Haag advised members that electric service should be installed by February 19, 2008 to the house to renovate for the Township office.

Solicitor Parish had omitted an agreement that needed to be acted on this evening by the Board regarding the BCIDA property. After discussion of the agreement a motion was made by Rufus Geesaman to give a letter to Attorney Setley to commit to this agreement with the BCIDA. Second by Carl Weaver. All agreed. Motion carried.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:30 p.m. was made by Harold Gruber. Second by Rufus Geesaman. All agreed. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Darlene M. Orendo
Secretary