

BROCKWAY BOROUGH MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

The regular meeting of the Brockway Borough Municipal Authority Board of Directors was held on Monday, February 10, 2025, at 6:00PM, at the Brockway Borough Building.

Board members present were Denise Foradori, Tim Grieneisen, Kurt Becker, Mike Arnold and Frank Uhl. Rodger Butters and Joe Bruno were absent.

Also present were Stephanie Bunach from Keller Engineering, Matthew Smith, Ross Ferraro, Laurie Wayne, and Megan Crawford.

Call to Order:

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.

Reading of the Minutes:

The Minutes of January 13, 2025 were presented for review.

Board member Tim Grieneisen stated two name corrections are needed for board members present and absent, as well as motions made.

Corrections to the Minutes for January 13, 2025 are to read as follows:

Board members present were Mike Arnold, Rodger Butters, Denise Foradori, Frank Uhl, Tim Grieneisen and Joe Bruno. Kurt Becker was absent.

Motions that were made by Kurt Becker should read as Tim Grieneisen.

Board member Mike Arnold stated that name correction is needed for Emporium Hardware.

Corrections to the Minutes for January 13, 2025 are to read as follows:

Emporium Hardware should be read as Emporium Hardwoods.

A motion to approve the Minutes of January 13, 2025, with the corrections as noted, was made by Mike Arnold and seconded by Tim Grieneisen. The motion carried unanimously.

Correspondence:

DEP's Notice of Violation to the Brockway Borough Municipal Authority was discussed. DEP is mandating Brockway Borough Municipal Authority to issue a Tier 2 Public Notice within 30 days. A lengthy discussion followed.

Exus Windmills was discussed and led to a lengthy discussion. The board has decided to proceed with the information that has been provided by Exus Windmills at this time, pending further review. A motion to proceed with Exus Windmills pending further review was made by Tim Grieneisen and seconded by Kurt Becker. The motion carried unanimously.

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Departmental Reports:

The Solicitor's Report:

The Solicitor discussed the Timber Consulting Agreement submitted by Smith Timbering & Consultant, LLC. Changes were made to the agreement pertaining to when payment will be received and if

there shall be any disputes or actions that need to be resolved, they will be handled through Jefferson County Court.

The Emporium Hardwoods Agreement was reviewed, updates were made without issues.

Collection efforts pertaining to the Whitman Estate were discussed. An address was obtained, and a letter has been mailed in regard to the past due balance.

Requisition #55 appeared to be in order. Signature is recommended in Requisition #55, in the amount of \$7,959.42, for interim interest.

A motion to pay the interim interest was made by Mike Arnold and seconded by Kurt Becker. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion to accept the Solicitor's Report was made by Mike Arnold and seconded by Kurt Becker. The motion carried unanimously.

The Consulting Engineer's Report:

The Consulting Engineer's Report submitted by David Cunningham was discussed and presented by Stephanie Bunach.

A meeting is scheduled on February 19th at 2 p.m. with PennVest pertaining to Phase 1 of the water line replacement project with the ongoing asbestos issue.

Survey crews were able to collect more data over the last few weeks for Phase 1. The Survey Crew has suggested using a drone to collect data for the Phases 2-4 of the water system. Essentially this will save money by obtaining information by drone, rather than on foot. Collection of the needed data on foot would approximately cost double, rather than by drone. Minimal on foot data collection would be required.

At this time the completion of Chapter 105 permitting is in progress, as well as the search for a Geologist. A Geologist is required to finalize the boring under Glasshurst, and this could delay the process of getting the permit submitted.

Additional comments from USDA were received regarding the Agreement Documents. The USDA is requesting a re-work of the foundation design for the tank; we will be working with MidAtlantic Storage/AquaStore. A lengthy discussion followed. The USDA Project Loan with First Commonwealth will be expiring next month. The board has given approval to Manager Laurie Wayne to proceed with requesting an 18-month extension on the USDA Project loan with First Commonwealth. The USDA Agreement was reviewed in January, requesting signature from Solicitor Ross Ferraro, as this allows for the Agreement to be submitted to the USDA. The Engineering Agreement Certification also requires a signature from Solicitor Ross Ferraro, approval was made at the January 13, 2025 meeting.

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The CDBG Keystone/Coder Project is moving along as scheduled and continuing to coordinate with Elk County. The Environmental Assessment for public comment will end on February 18th. We will attend the bid opening for the County Commissioners' Meeting which will be on May 1st.

Whetstone Dam Emergency Action Plan remains outstanding.

The LSA Rattlesnake Well #5 remains on the report, nothing has progressed at this time.

A motion to approve the Consulting Engineer's Report was made by Mike Arnold and seconded by Kurt Becker. The motion carried unanimously.

The Supervisor's Report:

The Supervisor's Report was submitted, as written, by Matthew Smith.

A Notice of Violation was received by DEP for RAA (Running Annual Average) to be above the MCL of 7 million fibers per liter. This requires Brockway Borough Municipal Authority to issue a Tier 2 Public Notice to our customers. A lengthy discussion followed.

On January 21st letters were mailed out to PA Representative Mike Armanini, PA Senator Cris Dush, PA Representative Brian Smith, US Representative Glenn Thompson, US Senator John Fetterman, US Senator Dave McCormick, PA Governor and, US President Donald Trump providing them with important information pertaining to the ongoing asbestos issue. Supervisor Matthew Smith received support from everyone except, the Governor and President. On February 12th, Supervisor Matthew Smith and Megan Crawford are attending a meeting with Representatives for John Fetterman in Brookville with the Department of Development.

The search continues for the unaccounted water loss in our system. A home located at 633 Broad Street had a water line break. The owner of this home lives in another state and was unaware of this leak. Supervisor Matthew Smith now has a list of homes that the billing is mailed to an out-of-town address from the office today, this way the crew can keep an eye on them in the future. As of today, they system is still losing approximately 100,000 gallons of water daily, as well as facing the issue of maintaining the level of water in the tank due to the PRV's not functioning as they should be. The PRV located by the Church will not open, unless it is bypassed. This could result in this needing replacement as we cannot find anything wrong with it. There remains a small leak by the 3 homes located between the Car Wash and Ambulance Station. A water leak was detected at a home located on Kearney Street that cannot be found due to the water line going underneath homes. The crew also checked the school and the water meters, water lines, their valves and fire hydrants, with no noise being detected. The crew will continue to search and have asked Glenn to assist us. Supervisor Matthew Smith and the crew are suspecting the water loss to be within town.

A quote was obtained from LB Water in the amount of \$59,921.14 for the line replacement for Church Street and Harris Street. A lengthy discussion followed pertaining to Fermantown Road. Fermantown Road has continuous leaks and, in the last 5 years there have been a total of 12 leaks, and in the last 3 years, a total of 6 of the leaks are in the same location. It would be possible for the crew to complete all 3 locations projects this year, if they have the material. Requesting Boards approval to proceed with purchasing material for Fermantown Road, as well as purchasing the material for Church Street and

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Harris Street before Friday the 17th and proceed with quotes for boring on Fermantown Road.

A motion to purchase materials for Fermantown Road, Church Street and Harris Street, and to obtain quotes for boring on Fermantown Road was made by Mike Arnold and seconded by Kurt Becker. The motion carried unanimously.

The Filtering System from Sweet Soil Inc was delivered. A lengthy discussion followed.

A motion to accept the Supervisor's Report was made by Kurt Becker and seconded by Frank Uhl. The motion carried unanimously.

The Manager's Report:

The Manager's Report was submitted by Laurie Wayne.

The monthly overtime report was submitted as written.

The financial information for the month ending January 31, 2025, was presented as written.

Requesting approval for direct deposit for payroll to employees who wish to do so.

A motion to approve direct deposit was made by Mike Arnold and seconded by Kurt Becker. The motion carried unanimously.

Borough Council has approved adding President's Day as a paid holiday for employees and it would become effective for 2026. This will require a change to the personnel policy.

A motion to approve the added paid holiday and change the personnel policy was made by Mike Arnold and seconded by Tim Grieneisen. The motion carried unanimously.

Requesting approval to change the personnel policy to state, if a holiday falls on a Saturday, employees will get Friday off and if the holiday falls on a Sunday, employees will get Monday off. Currently if a holiday falls on either Saturday or Sunday, employees get off Monday.

A motion to approve the change to the personnel policy and change the day which will be taken off will depend on what day the holiday falls on was made by Mike Arnold and seconded by Kurt Becker. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve the Manager's Report was made by Mike Arnold and seconded by Kurt Becker. The motion carried unanimously.

The Forester's Report:

There was no Forester's Report this month.

The Treasurer's Report:

The Treasurer's Report for January 2025 presented for review.

A motion to accept the January 2024 Treasurer's Report was made by Mike Arnold and seconded by Kurt Becker. The motion carried unanimously.

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Bills, Wages and Investments:

Bills:	\$70,784.34
Payroll PR2 & PR3:	\$21,548.54

A motion to approve paying bills and wages, providing there are available funds, was made by Mike Arnold and seconded by Tim Grieneisen. The motion carried unanimously.

Other Business:

There wasn't any other business discussed.

Unfinished Business:

The Jefferson County Conservation District tabled at the June 10, 2024 meeting was not discussed.

The updated inventory cruise and management plan tabled at the November 14, 2023 meeting was not discussed.

The water line situation with NAPA, Goodwill, and 814 Hardware was not discussed.

The sale of 10 to 12 acres of the Brazinski property on Fire Tower Road was not discussed.

DEM surveying was not discussed.

Three Rivers Forestry, regarding the land triangle was not discussed.

Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn, at 7:57PM, was made by Kurt Becker and seconded by Mike Arnold. The motion carried unanimously.

Michael S. Arnold, Secretary
MA/mlc