

HULMEVILLE MUNICIPAL WATER AUTHORITY
Meeting Minutes
December 19, 2022

The regular monthly meeting of the Hulmeville Municipal Water Authority was held on the above date at the Borough Hall, 321 Main Street.

Authority Member's Present

Kurt Ludwig, President
Bert Wolfe
Joe Nocito
Mike Wasson

Staff in Attendance

Bill Wheeler, Borough Manager
Dorothy Omietanski, Borough Secretary
Pat Slater, Water & Sewer Clerk
Sheri Wheeler, Water Meter Reader

Authority Members Absent: Patricia Taggart

Staff Absent: Mike Whittaker, Licensed Water Operator

Authority Members Late to Arrive: none

Guests in Attendance: none

Call to Order: Mr. Ludwig called the meeting to order at 7:00pm; all those present joined in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment: none

Minutes:

Motion made by Mr. Wolfe seconded by Mr. Nocito to approve the minutes of October 24, 2022; Motion passed with all in favor 4-0-0.

Water and Sewer Clerk:

- Payment Plan Update – Four accounts are behind on their payment plan – one each on Penna Ave, McKinley Ave., Washington Ave. and Main St. Mr. Ludwig will reach out to the four accounts. The account on Michelle Court that was not billed for their first year of service is paying their current bills but Ms. Slater will need to check to see if the back charges have been paid yet. Mr. Ludwig also still needs to talk to council regarding Woodruff. They are the only account who has not signed a payment agreement yet. He will need to get directive from council on how to proceed.
- Tax Parcel Changes – There will be changes for the properties of Nems, Goodrow and Vile. Once the properties are sold then Ms. Slater needs the tax parcel numbers to create their account. Mr. Ludwig will send Ms. Slater the information on these three properties. Ms. Slater also asked Ms. Meyers for any changes she receives from the county.

Water Meter Reader:

- Meter Reading – The meter readings are almost finished.
- Meter Replacement Program – Mr. Ludwig did touch base with Steve Hartman a couple weeks ago regarding Rio and their plan to do the meter replacement project in the Borough. They told Mr. Hartman that they were behind on finishing a big project and as soon as they completed it Hulmeville was next on their list. According to Mr. Hartman the project should have been done last week. Mr. Hartman asked Rio for updates every two weeks. If Mr. Ludwig does not hear from Rio by the end of the week, he will reach out to Mr. Hartman again.
- Meter Issue – Mr. Ludwig never heard back from the two residents who called about their water meters leaking. BCWSA was contacted to respond to the issue. Ms. Wheeler did assume it was all fixed since neither customer called back.

Water Operator Report: no report

Bills: Mr. Ludwig presented the following bill to be paid:

- Wood and Floge - \$1,042.00
- Carroll Engineering - \$441.00

Motion made by Mr. Wolfe and seconded by Mr. Nocito to pay the bills; motion passed with all in favor 4-0-0.

Correspondence:

- Census Request – Mr. Ludwig received a letter from the Census requesting information. Mr. Ludwig will sign in and see what information they are requesting.
- Basket – Carroll Engineering sent the Authority a basket for the holidays.

Old Business:

- Vent Cap Inspection Program – Mr. Ludwig does have a list of companies that can do vent cap inspections for the Authority. The companies he spoke to all requested two items be in place before they can start the work. An ordinance passed allowing the inspections to be done by the company and a letter to residents that the ordinance exists and the inspections would be done. Mr. Ludwig will confirm with the companies that the Authority is only looking for location and viewing of condition of the caps.
- Low Income Household Water Assistance Program – Mr. Ludwig is still waiting for a letter from IRS stating the Authorities EIN number. Ms. Omietanski never received the letter the IRS stated they would send. She will contact the IRS again.
- Neshaminy Picnic Park Water Source – Mr. Ludwig contacted the owners regarding their water situation. They are currently a sewer only customer and the Authority does not know where they get their water if it comes from a well. Samantha did respond and was

not sure what the water situation was and passed the question on to Dan the other owner. Mr. Ludwig has not heard back from Dan yet.

New Business:

- PA One Call – The Authority has signed a contract with Private Utility Enterprise on 10/25/22 to manage the PA One Calls. To date they have responded to six calls. The Authority has not received a bill yet for calls completed. Their charge is \$55/hour; however, they charge for the exact time it takes to complete the work so if it is a half hour, they only charge \$27.50.
- COVID 19 ARPA Small Water and Sewer Grant – Bill Wheeler completed an application for small water projects provided through COVID 19 ARPA. The program is 15% matching which means the Authority will pay roughly \$10,000 if they receive the grant. If the Authority receives the grant that would free up the \$70,000 Council gave them for the meter replacement to be used for another project. There was a \$100 application fee that Bill Wheeler needs to be reimbursed for. Bill Wheeler is hoping the decision for who is going to receive the grants is soon because any work done before the grant is received possibly cannot be paid for by the grant.
- Sewer/Water Rate Increase in 2023 – BCWSA has sent a notice that the sewer rate will be increasing in January by 16.6%. The Authority will need to meet to discuss how much the Authority will need to increase their sewer rate. Mr. Ludwig is recommending having a work session meeting to discuss. The Authority members agreed to meet on 1/16/22. The rate increase will take time to put into place. The Authority will need to pass an ordinance which will need to be approved by council and advertised before it can be charged to the customer.
- MuniBilling Contract – MuniBilling is asking that all customers now sign a three-year contract. Mr. Ludwig has reached out to Diane McKairnes to see how much the Authority currently pays. The new fee will be \$200/month. Mr. Ludwig also needs to contact MuniBilling to confirm the new fees and also discuss the possibility of an increase in customers with the development of the Superior Holdings property.
- New Solicitor – Bill Wheeler informed the Authority that as of January 1, 2023 they will have a new solicitor. Council has completed interviews but a new solicitor has not been selected yet. Bill Wheeler will keep them abreast of the new hire when the decision is made.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:59 pm; motion made by Mr. Wolfe, seconded by Mr. Wasson; carried 4 -0-0.

Respectfully Submitted

Dorothy Omietanski
Hulmeville Borough Secretary