

WELLSBORO MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY MEETING

MINUTES

FEBRUARY 16, 2010

Ed Owlett presided over the meeting of the Wellsboro Municipal Authority on February 16, 2010 in the Council Room of the John E Dugan Fire Station/Municipal Building.

ATTENDANCE: Municipal Authority members: Grant Cavanaugh, Ed Owlett and Denny Young, Council Members: Rudy Scharf, Joan Hart & Terry Bryant, Engineer: Scott Bray, Superintendent of Public Works: Mark Dieffenbach, Superintendent of the water & sewer plants: Dan Brought, Solicitors; Bob Cox and William Stokes, Media: Natalie Kennedy and visitors Cindy Copp and Lour Prevost from the Wellsboro Planning Commission.

MINUTES: The minutes from January 19, 2010 were approved as written. Grant Cavanaugh made the motion to accept and Denny Young 2nd. Passed.

SOLICITOR'S

REPORT: There wasn't a report given. William Stokes will speak to the Authority during an executive session.

SCOTT BRAY: Scott has sent copies of sand specifications for the slow sand filter to Myles Group to see if they can deliver the sand by train. He also contacted DEP to see if they needed a permit to resand the second filter. DEP has requested some revision of some of the information that was given them to match up with what we are doing.

Scott also attended a webinar of January 25, 2010. The webinar presented information about Penn Vest's role in the nutrient trading for the Chesapeake Bay Initiative. If a plant has extra credits, they could sell them to another plant that may need them. The trading up period would be from September 30 to October 30. It is a little complicated but if right now it looks like we may have some extra credits in a year's time. We would work up a procedure and get everything into control. After two year's we may be able to sell on a long term program. Some of the plants have not chosen to upgrade or some of them only did some of the upgrades.

East Resources was contacted about the letter of intent for the sale of water from the SRBC. The SRBC has gotten the application but has not gotten back to East Resources yet on any additional information that they may need yet. If they wait to long, we may not have any surface water to sell them.

The ferric chloride building is finished being built by Kennedy Home Center We will be able to finish the work inside once the building has been set.

The wastewater treatment plant has been experiencing an outbreak of filamentous bacteria that affects the ability to treat ammonia. We have taken action to correct this and also have notified DEP. The test results for January started out high but they have come down significantly.

GRANT CAVANUGH: Grant asked what caused the outbreak. Scott responded it might be too much air or something else could have happened which usually happens in the warmer weather. He has contacted Enviroquip for some guidance.

ED OWLETT: Ed read the memo from Moody & Associates on the pump test at the Keck well. On March 4, 2010 will be the step test and on March 8, 2010 will be the pump test. Dan Brought has run an alkalinity test on the water and was happy with the results. Grant Cavanugh and Mike Loomis watched the testing while they made the change to 250 gallons per minute. Mark Dieffenbach commented that while the test was at 150 gallons per minute, the test well kept filling back up. Grant also commented that the production well and the test well dropped only 5 feet at 250 gmp. All of the other wells were not affected. Mark will wait for the request from Dave Anderson to lay the hose out.

We also received a letter from Williams on an offer of \$5,000 per acre and a 20% royalty amount for the land owned by the Municipal Authority. We were to respond in twenty days from January 27, 2010. We are not ready to lease the property at this time.

LOU

PREVOST: Lou is a member of the Planning Commission. He had also attended the town meeting held at the high school. He felt that it was necessary for Bob Cox to follow up on the 25 questions that were presented to the speakers and to follow up with a meeting. He also had a proposal from CMX a consulting firm, who would discuss with us, a development of a water resources program for Wellsboro. This was in response to the natural gas drilling activities in Tioga County. Lou was concerned with the possibility of the impact on our water supplies. He had also gone over this material in great depth with the Planning Commission. He also handed out a map of the existing wells in progress around the Wellsboro area. We have an obligation to the public to make sure any drilling around the public well systems be done safely. It would be catastrophic to the hospitals if we were to have our water systems contaminated. CMX would be an unbiased group to give us the information we would need. He had contacted Steve Reed plus two other companies for proposals. The Authority could review these proposals. There have been some negative impacts from drilling in other areas. There is some legislation in front of Congress to strengthen the issues on drilling. We should go slow and make sure everything is right. We could use the monies from leasing to pay for CMX or another consulting firm's costs. Our first step would be to have a discussion on the issues then get an unbiased consulting firm in. East Resources is owned by one of the most powerful Wall Street Companies. New York State has shut down drilling. We need to go slow. Lou then handed out another hand out on the "Haliburton loophole". Ed Owlett asked him how many proposals would be coming in. Lou responded that possibly two more maybe only one.

SUE STEPHENS: She had a visit from Ken Meyer. He provided her with some information to pass out concerning the meeting that took place on February 20, 2010 at the Heights Theater in Elmira. This talked about what the area will go through with the drilling and what Texas had experienced. Central Texas had both positive and negative impacts from the drilling of the Barnett Shale.

ED OWLETT: He has a slate of officers that Sue Stephens had put together. They are as follows:

Robert DeCamp:	Chairman
Dennision Young:	Vice Chairman
Grant Cavanaugh	Secretary
Ron Gontarz	Treasurer
Ed Owlett	Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

The motion to accept the slate as written was made by Grant Cavanaugh and 2nd by Denny Young. Passed

BILLS:	SEWER	Scott Bray	\$ 942.50
		Kennedy Home Center	\$1,599.00
	WATER:	Cox, Stokes & Lantz	\$1,658.53
		Gra-Hill Construction	\$ 100.00
		Halterman's Farm Shop	\$ 128.66
		Houghtaling Garage	\$ 29.74
		Reese Welding	\$ 304.23
		Susquehanna Sprinkler	\$ 134.50

We are deferring the bill from Moody & Associates.


Total Water bills: \$2,355.66 and Sewer bills: \$2,541.50

Grant Cavanaugh made the motion to pay the bills and Denny Young 2nd. Passed.

SUE STEPHENS: Sue asked the Authority for permission to transfer \$5,000 from Water Source Expense account to the Checking Account. Denny Young made the motion to transfer the money and Grant Cavanaugh 2nd.

RUDY SCHARF: Rudy asked about if the pump test was cancelled in March, is there any way they would have to pay us for the delays? Joan Hart responded that the reason that the test wasn't done the first time was that Moody's didn't get the paperwork in. Grant also responded that the last time was the Ground Water Resources wasn't given there. Ed Owlett wasn't sure what the contract said. It will be checked into.

SCOTT BRAY: Moody's & Associates were going to use sub-contactors for some of the work but we took it over to say some money.



The contact will be looked into according to Ed Owlett.

The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes prepared by Teresa Marshall

