

CALL TO ORDER

The January 21, 2016 meeting of the Macungie Borough Authority was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in Borough Council Chambers, 21 Locust Street, Macungie, PA. Members present were Tom Kociuba, Jeffrey Stauffer and Linn Walker. Also present was Attorney Mary Eberle, Water Operator Douglas McNair, Public Works Supervisor Tracy Smith, Borough Manager Chris L. Boehm and Administrative Assistant Cynthia Hartzell.

REORGANIZATION

- a. Chairperson – Authority Member Walker nominated Jeffrey Stauffer as Chairperson, second by Authority Member Kociuba. Motion carried: 3 ayes.
- b. Vice-Chairperson – Authority Member Stauffer nominated Linn Walker as Vice-Chairperson. No other nominations. Motion carried: 3 ayes.
- c. Secretary - Authority Member Walker nominated Cynthia Hartzell as Secretary, second by Authority Member Stauffer. Motion carried: 3 ayes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – No public comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. November 12, 2015 - Motion was made by Authority Member Stauffer, second by Authority Member Walker, to approve the November 12, 2015 minutes as corrected. Motion carried: 3 ayes
- b. December 7, 2015 - Motion was made by Authority Member Kociuba, second by Authority Member Walker, to approve the December 7, 2015 minutes. Motion carried: 3 ayes

CORRESPONDENCE – No correspondence

WATER OPERATOR'S REPORT

Water Operator McNair provided and reviewed his report. He reported on a meeting with Engineer Harry Garman and Christine Mildner. The topics discussed were the hydrants and storm drains in the Main Street Streetscape, the Hillcrest Water Tank repairs, a new well pump system for Well #1 and other topics.

Water Operator McNair and Supervisor Smith mentioned their concern with Engineer Garman getting the projects moving along in a timely manner. Borough Manager Boehm commented she will get Engineer Garman to move the projects along and express the concern that the projects are not started.

Authority Member Kociuba asked about having a lead test done on the water. Water Operator McNair commented a test was done about 3 years ago as well as radon testing and the results were within the parameters. Water Operator McNair will supply the DEP website information to review the test results.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Authority Member Walker, seconded by Authority Member Stauffer, to approve the December 31, 2015 treasurer's report. Motion carried: 3 ayes

Water Revenue Fund	\$98,056.12
Debt Service Reserve	\$29,553.62
Bond Redemption and Improvements Fund	\$119,432.98
Collection Account	\$3,915.03

NEW BUSINESS

a. Debt Service for Capital Projects – Borough Manager Boehm has asked Engineer Garman to get quotes together and for the February meeting to discuss moving forward with getting a loan. Attorney Eberle commented that the Authority is not subject to the Unit Dead Act or DCED approval. She noted they can solicit banks for a proposal when the amount they want to loan is established. So this will be carried until the February 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Member Kociuba gave a report on a phone conversation he had with the Sales Representative of the local Badger Water Meter Distributor. The following are the Sales Rep's comments: The New Badger Remote Reading Water Meter consists of an encoder devise which is connected as a "Top Hat" to the existing Badger Water Meters that are installed in the Borough. The Encoder Devise is connected via a 10 foot cable to a radio transmitter which broadcasts the water meter reading. The package is powered by an epoxy encapsulated lithium battery. In the event the lithium battery fails, the entire remote reading package has to be replaced, but the water usage can still be read at the meter register.

The warranty on the Badger Remote Reading Meter is 20 years plus 6 months after shipment. Badger Meter will repair or replace a defective meter at no cost during the first 10 years, and at a prorated discount schedule during the last 10 years of the warranty. The Authority is responsible for the cost of removing and returning a defective meter plus reinstalling the replacement meter. The remote reading meter also has the capability to provide a 90 day historical profile of meter data. The transmission reception range of the meter depends on a number of factors: building construction, trees, weather, etc., but in general is a quarter of a mile.

Authority Member Kociuba suggested putting an article in the newsletter about the water rates. Authority Member Kociuba made a motion to prepare a script for the next newsletter as to why the water rates were raised and explain the new meters, second by Authority Member Walker. Motion carried: 3 ayes

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Water Ordinance Amendment – Attorney Eberle explained that it would be best to keep the revisions of the ordinance to a minimum to avoid having to revise the management agreement between the Borough and the Authority. She will talk to Solicitor Armstrong to review the ordinance and have a revision for the next meeting.

b. Tree Removal around the Reservoir – Water Operator McNair commented on his surprised that the tree removal project did not go forward. Supervisor Smith and he commented

about the importance of the project. Their concern was tree roots growing against the basin and pushing against it. Authority Member Kociuba commented that pine trees generally have shallow roots and that the roots could be cut if any were considered a potential hazard to the reservoir walls. Authority Member Walker was not in favor of taking down a large number of trees. He stated that trees tend to support one another and if taken down the remaining trees would be more vulnerable to wind damage. Authority Member Kociuba questioned if trees were taken down would we have a water erosion problem. Chairman Stauffer suggest the engineer take another look at the area to see what could happened and the condition of the trees. Water Operator McNair and Supervisor Smith explained that the reservoir is a big part of the water system and would be greatly needed when the tank repairs are done. Borough Manager Boehm will inform Engineer Garman to look at the area around the reservoir for a recommendation.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting is February 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Hearing no further business to be brought before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Hartzell  
Secretary