

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES  
February 22, 2022**

The meeting of the Public Utilities Committee was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Chairman Keith Endy. Present in addition to Mr. Endy were Committee members Gene Gabel, Barry Christman, and ex-officio member Frank Deery.

Also in attendance was Council member Charles Heller; Lori Carnes, Mayor; Patricia Loder, Borough Manager; Ralph Schoenly and Alex Eidle, Inframark, LLC; and Jason Newhard, SSM.

Mr. Endy called for public comment on the agenda; no comments were forthcoming.

A motion to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2022 meeting of the committee was made by Mr. Endy, seconded by Mr. Gabel, and approved.

**Inframark Report – Water and Sewer**

Mr. Schoenly reviewed the operator's report for January 2022. The complete report is on file in the administrative office.

**Spotts, Stevens & McCoy Report**

Mr. Newhard reviewed the engineers' report for reporting period through February 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The complete report is on file in the administrative office.

- **Colebrookdale RR Expansion/Boyertown Sewer Force Main** – Mr. Newhard and the committee reviewed and discussed SSM's recommendation concerning the Colebrookdale RR's Expansion Plan, which will essentially be on top of the existing Sewer Force Main. Mr. Newhard noted that there would be no effective method to excavate or perform maintenance on the force main in close proximity to the proposed track. For that reason SSM recommends relocation of the force main outside of the proposed rail ROW and abandoning the existing main in place to address this issue. A somewhat lengthy discussion ensued, following which all members of the committee and Mr. Heller agreed that the force main and sewer easement must be relocated to a location where it will not be impacted by the rail installation project. Mrs. Loder will advise Solicitor Hartman of the decision.
- **Aqua** – Continuing discussion concerning Aqua's interest in a bulk water purchase, Mr. Newhard discussed with the committee a brief summary he prepared of the condition of the water treatment plant in order to allow the Borough to begin evaluation of the plant's capability to meet existing and projected water supply needs. A lengthy discussion was held on the physical condition of the plant, changes in regulatory requirements for treatment

efficiency, and the need to produce more water to accommodate growth. The Borough needs to consider whether investment in the existing plant is reasonable, or if construction of a new facility is warranted. Mr. Newhard stated his overall recommendation is for the Borough to authorize SSM to prepare a detailed CAPEX Plan for the Water Treatment Plant to determine the potential amount of debt service that would be required to fund the project. A revenue analysis including potential revenues from Aqua, would also be performed to determine the most efficient capital project to undertake, plant update or plant replacement. Following a lengthy discussion, all agreed that SSM should prepare a CAPEX Plan.

### **Unfinished Business – Water and Sewer**

**Trout Run Dam Spillway** – Mrs. Loder advised the committee that Mr. Boyer, of ARM Group, has indicated that H & K has agreed to replace the sealant as part of the warrant. In addition, Mr. Boyer noted that the waterstop representative recommends using the product that he originally specified. Mr. Boyer further noted that use of this product is temperature sensitive. No change from last month.

### **New Business – Water and Sewer**

There was no new business to discuss.

### **Public Comments**

There being no further business to conduct, a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. was made by Mr. Endy and seconded by Mr. Christman. The next meeting of the Public Utilities Committee is scheduled on Tuesday, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2022 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Loder  
Borough Secretary