

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES
September 20, 2022**

The meeting of the Public Utilities Committee was called to order at 7:45 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 were Lori Carnes, Mayor; Patricia Loder, Borough Manager; Ralph Schoenly and Alex Eidle, Inframark, LLC; Bruce Hansley, Street Supervisor and numerous interested citizens.

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

A motion to approve the minutes of the July 19th, 2022 meeting of the committee was made by Mr. Endy, seconded by Mr. Christman, and approved.

Inframark Report – Water and Sewer

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

Mr. Schoenly reviewed and discussed with the committee three quotations received for replacement of the WWTP Influent Screening in the main pump station. Mr. Schoenly had previously advised the committee that the existing screen is no longer functioning properly and replacement parts are no longer available. Mr. Schoenly is recommending acceptance of the quotation provided by LB Industries, Inc. in the amount of \$159,240. Mr. Schoenly further advised the committee that he recommends the screen replacement project be completed in place of the clarifier drive replacement and moving the clarifier drive replacement to 2024. The committee agreed with Mr. Schoenly's recommendation and advised him to proceed with the project.

Mr. Schoenly and the committee then reviewed Inframark Contract Year #29 Budget in the amount of \$1,399,380.42. The budget reflects an 8.8% increase over the Year #28 budget. The increase is due to increased labor costs, increase in the maintenance cap to reflect the increased cost for repair of water main breaks, and an increase in the utility and chemical caps to cover increases in those prices. The budget proposal was provided to the elected officials in August for their review and comment. Mr. Endy advised that he reviewed the budget and has no questions or concerns with the budget as presented. The committee recommends that Borough Council approve the Contract Year #29 Budget as presented by Inframark, LLC.

Spotts, Stevens & McCoy Report

Due to a medical emergency Mr. Newhard was not able to provide a monthly report or attend the meeting. Mr. Newhard anticipates being available on a limited basis later this week and hopes to be able to return to work next week. SSM, Inc. has provided the Borough Manager with an alternate contact for engineering needs during Mr. Newhard's absence. The Borough Manager stated that she spoke with Mr. Newhard and he advised her that due to a currently heavy workload SSM has not been able to get their survey team out to do the survey work required for the Madison/Rhoads Avenue Sewer Replacement. The survey work is required due to an issue with the man hole invert elevations being in conflict with the old paper record drawings. Mr. Newhard believes they may need to extend the sewer east to Fourth Street and north along Kehl to the Boyertown High School. This conflict will likely delay bidding of the project to January of 2023.

Unfinished Business – Water and Sewer

Trout Run Dam Spillway – Mr. Endy, Mr. Deery, Mr. Heller and Mrs. Loder are in discussion with ARM and H & K concerning the Joint Remediation work completed at the spillway in August. A virtual meeting with ARM and H & K is anticipated.

New Business – Water and Sewer

Earl Township Emergency Management Dry Hydrant Trout Run and Popodickon Dam – Mrs. Loder and Mr. Schoenly advised the committee that the Earl Township Emergency Management Coordinator was in contact with them concerning installation of dry hydrants at both dams. Mr. Schoenly advised that if the Borough is in agreement to approve the request, he prefers it be limited to the Popodickon Dam. Mr. Schoenly noted that Trout Run Reservoir is the primary water source for the Borough and for this reason he recommends permitting the installation of a dry hydrant at the Popodickon Dam only. Mrs. Loder advised that she contacted Boyertown Fire and Rescue Chief Dietrich for input on the request. Chief Dietrich is supportive of the proposal. Mrs. Loder further stated her understanding that funds to pay the cost of the installation are available through Emergency Management Grants. Following discussion, the committee agreed that they have no objection to the proposal; with the understanding that the Borough will not pay for the installation of the dry hydrant. Mrs. Loder will advise the Earl Township Emergency Management Coordinator.

Mr. Endy called for public comment and recognized Mr. Randy Dittman, a resident of the 600 block of Rhoads Avenue. Mr. Dittman stated that he and other residents of Rhoads Avenue are in attendance at tonight's meeting for an update on the status of the Madison/Rhoads Sewer Main Project. The residents expressed their frustration with the length of the time it has taken for Council to take action to resolve the Inflow/Infiltration problem experienced by the residents of Rhoads Avenue, and to hear that bidding of the project has now been delayed to January of 2023. Mr. Endy assured the residents that Council is committed to completing the project.

There being no further business to conduct, a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. was made by Mr. Endy and seconded by Mr. Gabel. The next meeting of the Public Utilities Committee is scheduled on Tuesday, October 25th, 2022 beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Loder
Borough Secretary