

Cecil Township Municipal Authority
Monthly Meeting
November 17, 2009

The Cecil Township Municipal Authority held their regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, November 17, 2009 at the Cecil Township Municipal Building. Secretary Kenneth Heirendt called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM with Stephanie Lucchino and Blane Volovich present. Absent were Donald Gennuso and Brian Altland. Also present was Romel Nicholas, Gaitens, Tucceri and Nicholas; Eric Tissue, KLH Engineers; and Dennis Bell, Administrator. Absent was Walter O'Shinski P.E.

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 20, 2009

The Board on a unanimous vote on motion by Blane Volovich and second by Stephanie Lucchino approved the minutes of the meeting of October 20, 2009.

STATEMENT ON H2O PA GRANT FUNDS

Kenneth Heirendt issued a statement to clarify the status of the H2O PA grant funds. He stated the grant was announced on July 1, 2009 but that the Authority had not received any money. He stated the Authority just received the H2O PA Grant Award Agreement for signing by the Board. He referred to the KLH Engineers letter of October 29, 2009 to the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) requesting clarification of restrictions imposed by their agency for how the money may be used specifically if the money may be used to refund part of the tap-in fee. He stated that until the questions are answered the Board believes it would be irresponsible to make promises or commitments that it cannot keep and would later have to retract. He stated the Authority is committed to "doing the right thing" for its' customers with regards to the usage of the H2O PA funds and that the CTMA board will move forward with a plan of action once the funds have been made available and clarification has been received from the DCED.

ENGINEER REPORT

UPDATE ON LOCAL SHARE GRANT PROJECT

Eric Tissue updated the Board on the three projects. He stated the testing on the Mc Connell Road Sewer Line project is completed. The Muse-Bishop Road was repaved on November 12 and 13, 2009 and requires a final inspection by Penndot. A final walk-through will be scheduled.

He stated an agreement with the five property owners on Elm Drive has been drafted and is under review by the solicitor. He stated once the review is completed the

residents will be contacted and/or mailed the agreement.

He stated a meeting was held on October 22, 2009 with PA DEP, Pennvest and RUS for obtaining grant funding for a Lawrence project. He stated that grant funds will be needed to make any of the alternatives affordable. Pennvest grant funds will not be available for this project but a Pennvest low interest loan would be an option. USDA RUS grant funds may be available but an income survey would be needed to determine eligibility. He stated that a meeting will be scheduled with RCAP for completing an income survey in the area.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Romel Nicholas provided the Board with his written monthly report. He stated the issues related to the Sitarik contracts remain with the surety company and that his office has nothing to report. He stated the information provided to the surety is still under review by them. He pointed out that he will provide the Board his recommendation for moving forward at the next meeting.

Romel Nicholas stated that enforcement actions have been filed with the District Magistrate for property owners not connected into the sanitary system. He stated 54 properties are involved and that to date 17 citations have been issued with another 11 scheduled to be released within the next week.

BUSINESS MANAGERS REPORT

AUTHORIZE SIGNING THE H2O PA GRANT AWARD AGREEMENT

The Board on unanimous vote on motion by Stephanie Lucchino and second by Blane Volovich authorized signing the H2O PA Grant Award Agreement for the amount of Five Million Dollars to be used for the Millers Run Project.

REQUEST FOR DEDUCTION METER CREDIT – DIANE COSSU

Dennis Bell addressed the Board on a request from Diane Cossu, 1013 Buck Run Road, Canonsburg PA for a deduction meter credit. He stated the inside meter is reading in reverse and he suggested the property owner replace the meter. The Board tabled any action until the property owner has the meter replaced.

DISCUSS SEPTEMBER 2009 FINANCIAL REPORT

Dennis Bell discussed the financials for September 2009.

CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondence was reviewed for filing. No comments from the Board.

PAYING OF EXPENSES/TRANSFER OF FUNDS ETC.

A unanimous vote on motion by Blane Volovich and second by Stephanie Lucchino the Board authorized payment of expenses and transfers as follows.

Brush Run Expense/Transfer MM to Checking
Teodori Expenses/Transfer MM to Checking
Southpointe Expenses/Transfer MM to Checking
CherryBrook Expenses/Transfer MM to Checking
Millers Run Expenses/Transfer MM to Checking
Employee Time Reports/Payroll; 941 Employee Tax Deposit
Payment of Invoices
Discharge Monitoring Reports were approved for submission to the PA DEP

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Representative Jesse White addressed the Board on the H2O PA grant funds. He stated that he has not heard from the Authority on how the money will be used. He stated that we are in a unique situation regarding the award of these funds as the project was completed prior to the award. He stated past decisions by the Board on the project cannot be reversed but that he was hopeful that the Board would do the right thing and that would be a substantial refund to the residents. He stated he has spoken to representatives from through out the state and the consensus is that the tap-in fees were too high. He stated everyone needs to focus on the future and not dwell on the past. He stated the options for using the money would be to pay down the debt which would help the Authority borrowing power for future projects and work toward refunding money to the people. He stated we have an extremely rare opportunity and that we should be thankful that we have the problem. He suggested the Board work with the township supervisors and his office to schedule a meeting to work toward developing a model to take to the DCED on how we plan on spending the grant funds.

Kenneth Heirendt stated that KLH Engineers is working to recalculate the tap-in fee. He stated that he was in agreement with Representative White that we work as a unified group in approaching the DCED on the issue of how the money may be used. He stated he personally was in favor of giving some money back to the residents and the same comment was made by Blane Volovich. Stephanie Lucchino stated that she has never heard any board member personally or the Board as a whole, ever state that the "refund issue" was off the table, but cautioned that clarification was needed before any decision on disbursement could be made by the Board.

Several residents in attendance addressed the Board on issues related to the project in general and the poor workmanship completed by the contractor. Romel Nicholas commented that the issues are now with the surety company and we are patiently awaiting a response from them. Several residents in attendance addressed the Board on their personal property issues in regard to restoration.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business by unanimous vote on motion by Blane Volovich and second by Stephanie Lucchino the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM. The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 15, 2009 at 6:00 PM.

Secretary