

Newmanstown Water Authority September 25, 2023

The regular monthly meeting was held on Monday, September 25, 2023 at 7:00 pm at the Newmanstown Water Authority's office. The meeting was opened with the pledge of allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

In attendance were:

<i>Susan Harper</i>	<i>Steve Hickernell</i>	<i>Robin Bomgardner</i>
<i>Leonard Ontkos</i>	<i>Charles Duffy</i>	<i>William Zimmerman</i>
	<i>Scott Sweigart</i>	<i>John Tschudy</i>

Visitors - Ann Decker and Heather Via from Jonestown Bank and Trust Company

Ann and Heather explained that because of a lower number of physical transactions and more digital transactions, the bank will no longer accept direct payment from NWA customers. They introduced Smart Pay Express, in which they would create a URL on our website for customers to pay the bank electronically. NWA can name the cost per customer for this service. It was discussed that \$1.00 would be charged and this money will come back to the Authority. Payments can be uploaded to our software on a daily/weekly basis, whichever we would choose. JBT gave an example of the screen that customers would see to register for this service. A flyer, which would be mailed to customers to notify them of this additional method of payment, was given and we can revise this to our needs. Also, the flyer would be followed by a letter from the Authority. The cost for this payment method would be \$45 per month. They hope for this transition to happen in January of 2024. After a question and answer session, the girls left the meeting.

Discussion by the board followed. It was suggested that we could provide a drop box for customers to drop water payments, and have it located at the Township building on Alumni Avenue. Susan will call Lorie Kupp at the Township office and discuss this with her. Board members are to look at the handouts given and discussion and a vote will be held at the October meeting.

A motion was made by Lenny and seconded by Charlie to approve the August 2023 meeting minutes. All aye. So approved.

Secretary's Report

All 3rd quarter water bills are ready and will be mailed on 09/29/23. All but one delinquent account was collected. The Authority was notified by Millcreek-Richland Authority that there are 12 sewer accounts that have not been collected and doors were posted on 09/22/23. If payment is not received from these customers by 09/30/23, water is to be shut off on 10/02/23.

Operator's Report

Steve reported the gallons of water consumed in the month of August was 3,741,945 gallons. The average chlorine residual was .97% and coliform was absent. The readings were taken on 08/02/23.

Leak at 16 E Bethany Road and A H Moyer was called to do the repairs. It was determined that the amount of the bill will be split between the customer and the Authority. The customer agreed to pay the water bill for the water lost through this leak. There was a repair needed at 22 E Bethany Road and A H Moyer did these repairs also.

A sink hole was discovered at 21 Central Drive and awaiting UGI to come to see where the problem is and what is causing this sink hole.

An issue with Well #5, it was discovered that the magnetic starter failed and this was caused by a phase burn out. Kohl Brothers provided a temporary repair so the pump could be utilized, a new part is ordered and will take 2 to 4 weeks to receive. Will check with an electrician to see what causes this to happen.

Engineer's Report

In Darryl's absence, Steve reported that the CFA meeting for grant approval was postponed from 09/29/23 until 11/23/23.

The revised Drought Contingency Plan was submitted to DEP.

Chairman's Report

Steve reported for John Kantner.

As was stated prior, all delinquent accounts, with the exception of one, have been paid. The exception is 221 E Park Street.

Also stated prior, there was a leak at 16 E Bethany Road on the customer's side of the old meter pit. A new meter pit was installed and the repairs were completed by A H Moyer. It was agreed by the customer and the Authority to split the A H Moyer bill. The customer agreed to pay the water bill for the water lost through this leak.

Met with the owner of the properties at 81 E Main and 21 W Main Street. He is thinking of converting these two single homes into double homes. Gave him Darryl's phone number, email, and address. Told him that meter pits are not in stock and have a wait time to acquire. The customer said he will let SSM know when he is ready. Explained to the customer that NWA rules state each residence must have its own water line and meter.

The pump failure for Well #5 was discussed in the Operator's report. This will be repaired by Kohl Brothers upon receipt of the new part required.

OLD BUSINESS

Correspondence and work continue on new housing project at 322 W Main Street

NEW BUSINESS

Water tank cleaning to be done sometime in the Fall because of the present dry conditions.

NWA Project list for 2023

Krall Landscape – seeding on property between the office and alley

Continue and complete painting of fire hydrants

Continue to locate all water service laterals into homes and mark/repair as needed

NWA projects for new grant funding. September meeting was postponed until November.

John F Martin Project – Scott and John attended an informal meeting on 09/06/23 with Burnell Martin to discuss supplying them with public water. JFM will discuss and advise the Authority if they want to connect to public water.

Seal coating of NWA blacktop areas. Willie Peterman will start this the first week of October.

Eblings – Lawn Mower – A new push mower is needed. Awaiting Eblings to release these mowers.

Flushing of hydrants on hold due to drought

Additional items added as become necessary.

The bills for September 2023 were reviewed. A motion was made by Charlie and seconded by Robin to approve the bills as read, with the exception of moving the Willie Peterman billing and Krall Landscape billing to October. All aye, so approved.

The treasurer's report for the month of August 2023 was read. Bill made a motion to accept the treasurer's report as read and seconded by Robin. All aye. Treasurer's report approved.

Lenny announced that he will be retiring from the Newmanstown Water Authority Board as of 12/31/23. Discussion was held as to filling the Treasurer position and also to think about a new member to add to the Board.

Lenny made a motion to adjourn and Scott seconded it. Meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

The next meeting will be Monday, October 30, 2023 at 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Harper, Secretary