

**Town of Bath
Berkeley Springs Water Works (BSWW)
Water Committee
Minutes
In-Person Meeting
Monday, November 7, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM

Present were BSWW Director Ron Jaininey, Chairman of the Water Committee Chris Chapman, Councilwoman Rose Jackson, and Town Clerk Sharron Corrick.

Steve Buchanan and Brian Channel of Thrasher, and Chad Schaffer of Pro Contracting participated in progress meeting number three for phase IV of the water line replacement project. As of November 7, 38.18 percent of the work has been completed to date. 3,664 feet of 2" PVC water line has been laid. 5,085+ feet of 6" C909 CL 235 line has been installed. A payout for the contractor of \$169,609.63 is ready once the Mayor signs off on it and sends it to Region IX for Jennifer Wishmyer to coordinate. Completion of work for the project is on track for February 27. To date, we continue to stand at approximately 75 percent of materials being delivered to the project site. Meter lids have arrived. We still have not received meters and meter setters. For the few people in the work area still on well water, Thrasher put a letter on their doors letting them know that if they want to tap into the public water lines, then they should go to the BSWW office and sign up. To date, no one has applied for service and paid the required tap fee. Pro Contracting will not be working the week of Thanksgiving.

Discussed the project to expand water and sewer lines south along Route 522 to Tabor Road. Buchanan reported that Thrasher has agreements that need to be signed by the Mayor for BSWW and another to be signed by the Warm Springs PSD. These agreements reflect what was in the final Professional Engineering Report. Region IX subsequently will have a phone call set up with the parties to discuss the plans for going forward. The Federal EDA grant does not include funding for exploration of a secondary water source for the BSWW. Chapman reported that he discussed this issue with County Commissioner Sean Forney. Forney plans to put this issue on the agenda for the Commission's second meeting in November to discuss the county conducting drilling tests on its 16-acre property near the ball fields.

No water leak adjustments were requested in October.

Corrick reported that she talked with ASI about the Town being able to set up pre-authorization payments for customers. It turns out that this payment option is available through ASI. It would cost \$1,900 to set up the Town's ability to accept pre-authorized payments and then a fee of \$407 annually. The Committee agreed that the Munibilling issue should be put in front of the Town's attorney for advice on what it must legally do to get out of the contract with Munibilling. Chapman and Corrick agreed to set up a meeting with Dick Gay and share with him the Munibilling contract.

Jainniney discussed a long-standing agreement with the Berkeley Springs State Park agreeing that for use of the springs BSWW would not charge the Park for their water usage. However, recently they have been using a lot more water than in the past. Jainniney is going to coordinate with the BSWW business office to see if they can find the agreement to determine if there are any parameters around the Park's water usage.

Jainniney reported that there is no adjusted water loss report to provide at this time.

Jainniney reported on BSWW equipment upgrades. Instrulogic called to inform Jainniney that the needed supplies are in and work on the upgrades will be starting a couple of weeks ahead of schedule.

Chapman discussed the Town Planning Commission's request to meet with BSWW management on Thursday, December 1, at 5:00 PM to discuss planning issues around the water department. Jainniney and Chapman both plan to attend that meeting.

Jainniney reported that an emergency spill notice had been put out by the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection for a fish kill between the Courthouse and State Park on Saturday, October 8. Kate Lehman was called in from the Warm Springs Watershed Association. BSWW staff was called in to do testing at three different locations. No residual chlorine was found in Warm Springs Run. DEP has been here and Jainniney talked with them. The DEP is investigating but at this point doesn't know the cause of the fish kill. There is no sign that the cause of the fish kill is coming from the water plant. Nevertheless, Jainniney received a call from the DEP on Friday, November 4. Jainniney says the DEP is going to attribute the cause of the fish kill to excessive chlorine discharge from the water plant despite no chlorination being found in the spots in the Run where the dead fish were found. BSWW backwashes every day. It samples the backwash only once every quarter. Jainniney said there could be a chlorine residual in the backflow tank due to the tube being crystalized and not putting out enough of the chemical used to remove chlorine from the backflow tank. The crystalized tube has been replaced. There also was identified a problem with chlorine being sucked back in. This problem has been fixed as well. Jainniney discussed a proposal he will investigate and discuss more at the December Committee meeting to go away from discharging backflow into the Warm Springs Run and instead discharge it into the sewer lines.

Jainniney reported that there were no new BSWW personnel issues to discuss this month.

Chapman discussed with the Committee a draft ad for an Assistant Director to give them six months to train under Jainniney before stepping into the Director's position. The Committee agreed to move forward with publishing the ad in various outlets.

The meeting was adjourned.