**Town of Bath**

**Berkeley Springs Water Works (BSWW)**

**Water Committee**

**Minutes**

**In-Person Meeting**

**Monday, December 5, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM

Present were BSWW Director Ron Jainniney, Chairman of the Water Committee Chris Chapman, Councilwoman Rose Jackson, Mayor Scott Merki, and Water Business Office Manager Kandy Morris.

Steve Buchanan and Brian Channel of Thrasher, and Chad Schaffer of Pro Contracting participated in progress meeting number four for phase IV of the water line replacement project. As of December 5, 43.63 percent of the work has been completed. Completion of work for the project is on track for February 27. To date, we continue to stand at approximately 85 percent of materials being delivered to the project site. We still have not received meter setters and lids for dual setters. Work continues on the main line on Whisner Avenue and the contractor has started work on Cornelius Avenue. By the end of next week, the contractor plans to have Cornelius and Merrywoods’ services in. Work then will proceed to the area adjacent to Greenway Cemetery and up Johnsons Mill Road. The contractor will be working through Thursday, December 22, and then will take off for the Christmas holiday until Tuesday, December 27. They then will work through Friday, December 30, returning to work after the New Year’s holiday on Tuesday, January 3. Mayor Merki signed a change order for additional bedding for the project. The signed copy of the change order was provided to Buchanan, who will get the final copy to Region IX.

Due to the New Year’s holiday, the next Water Committee meeting will be held on Monday, January 9, at 4:30 PM.

Discussed the project to expand water and sewer lines south along Route 522 to Tabor Road. Chapman reported that he and Jainniney attended the November 16 County Commission meeting where they agreed to research pricing to conduct deep well drilling tests on the County’s 16-acre property near the ball fields to determine if a secondary water source can be found for the BSWW. Buchanan encouraged that this process include getting West Virginia University experts to work with the County to assist them in deciding where best to drill. Buchanan reported that Thrasher will not start design work on the project until the additional $100,000 requested for the project is received and the first meeting for the project coordinated by Region IX is completed.

Addressed three water leak adjustment requests from November. All three requests were approved for adjustment.

Chapman reported that he and Town Clerk Sharron Corrick met with the Town’s attorney for advice on what BSWW must legally do to get out of the contract with Munibilling. A plan has been set into action to address the Munibilling issue. Once this issue is resolved, BSWW will work with ASI to set up pre-authorization payments for customers. It will cost $1,900 to set up the Town’s ability to accept pre-authorized payments and then a fee of $407 annually.

Morris 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 but work on the upgrades has not started to date. Jainniney reported that the initial focus of the work will be on the Fairview tank. The work then will move into the water plant before going back out and addressing the telemetry at the remaining water tanks.

Chapman reported Jainniney met with the Town Planning Commission to discuss planning issues around the water department. The Commission has asked Jainniney to draft a five-to-ten-year plan for water issues that will need to be addressed in the coming years.

Jainniney reported that the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection issued a citation to the BSWW for a fish kill between the Courthouse and State Park on Saturday, October 8. The DEP attributes 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 has formally responded to the DEP laying out the actions that BSWW has taken or plans to take to address the citation. Jainniney reported we have not heard anything further from the DEP. He reported that the plant has extended back wash times with no notable changes in turbidity. We now need to find out from the DEP about renewal of the dumping permit while also talking with the Warm Springs PSD to see what we might be able to work out about directing backwash water into the sewer system.

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. Jainniney will discuss with Morris and Corrick getting the ad published with various media outlets.

Jainniney reported that John Petry has requested a “Water Availability Letter” for the Grey Ridge Estates subdevelopment. Jainniney will be in contact with them to discuss the request.

The meeting was adjourned.