

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY  
MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 19, 2009**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of The Washington Township Municipal Authority was called to order by Chairman Michael Krestynick at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 19, 2009, at the Washington Township Municipal Building. The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

The following members were present: Michael Krestynick, David Davidson, Eric Afflerbach, John Wynne, John Backenstose, Susan Brown, Administrator, Stuart Rosenthal, Gilmore & Assoc., Michael Setley, Esquire, Bob Maul, BWM Ecological Services. There were nine (9) member of the public in attendance this evening.

Absent:

**TAPING OF MEETING**

The meeting was recorded as an aid in the preparation of the minutes. It was noted that no one was taping the meeting other than the Administrator this evening.

**APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 15, 2009 MEETING MINUTES**

Mr. Krestynick asked for any questions on the minutes from the October Board meeting. A motion was made by Eric Afflerbach and seconded by John Backenstose to approve the minutes, as prepared, for the October 15, 2009 meeting. **No public comments received.**

All ayes

**TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Eric Afflerbach read the Treasurer's Reports for the month ending October 31, 2009. The requisition for funds will be in the amount of \$25,000.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT**

**Act 537:**

Mr. Rosenthal reported the Act 537 Plan has been completed and is up for adoption at the Board of Supervisor's meeting following this WTMA meeting this evening. Mr. Rosenthal stated there were five (5) comment letters received from township residents.

**NPDES Permit Renewal:**

Mr. Rosenthal stated the NPDES Permit renewal for the treatment plant is still underway.

**BWM REPORT**

**NPDES Permit Renewal:**

Mr. Maul reported the sampling for the NPDES Permit Renewal has been completed and are awaiting the test results.

Mr. Maul indicated he is in the process of preparing a list of different projects that need to be completed. Mr. Maul also stated Mr. Wagner has been noticing a significant increase in grease at the Swamp Creek Pump Station both in the station and in the lines.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Setley would like to discuss possible litigation in executive session this evening. Mr. Setley also reported there will be a hearing on Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> to consolidate cases from the R.A.T.S.

### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

The Administrator reported thirty four (34) accounts have been turned over to ARB for collections. Payment plans have been set up for fifteen (15) accounts and this has been going fairly well. The Administrator has received a request from a resident asking to make monthly payments rather than quarterly payments.

Mr. Setley stated a copy of years ago the Reading Area Water Authority went from quarterly billing to monthly billing because it was easier for the customers to pay monthly rather than quarterly. Mr. Setley stated there is a little less delinquency by doing monthly payments. The Administrator was asked to check into monthly vs. quarterly billing and report back to the Board.

Mrs. Brown also reported she attended a Sheriff Sale that was held on November 16, 2009. There were two (2) items listed to be Sherifed and one of the items was not available. At the direction of the Chairman, criminal charges will be filed due to the fact that both items were not available. This is the second Sheriff Sale at this location. There is also a Sheriff Sale scheduled at a different location for Monday November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30 a.m.

It was also reported the Utility Billing Contract with First States has expired. Mr. Watson from First States would like to renew the contract. There have been some issues in the past with First States. If we do not give sixty (60) day notice of termination the contract automatically renews for one year. At this point we do not have an alternative billing company to handle the accounts and it is too late to give notice for 2010 so the contract will continue through 2010. Mr. Setley suggested getting proposals from other utility billing companies and report back to the Board.

Mr. Wynne questioned how many accounts ARB currently handles for WTMA. The Administrator stated thirty four (34) accounts were just turned over to them and they may have an additional fifteen (15) accounts from previous billing cycles. Mr. Wynne asked what is there percentage of successful collections and the Administrator stated she did not know the exact rate but thought it may be in the 80% range. It was explained the collection fee is added on to the amount that is owed to WTMA and when the account is paid ARB keeps their portion and forwards the placed amount to WTMA.

**Public Comment:**

**Laura, Spring Valley Village**, asked if a late fee is charged. It was explained that when the bill is sent out to the residents from the utility billing company the amount due after the due date includes a penalty charge.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- 2010 Budget has been distributed and will be reviewed at the December meeting. Mr. Setley asked if the WTMA expected to have more than a \$250,000 shortfall this year. The Administrator stated a rough calculation was completed and it appears that \$250,000 will be enough to cover the debt service payment and keep enough funds in the account to pay the December operating expenses. Chairman Krestynick stated he would request authorization to draw on the account at this evenings Board of Supervisors meeting if the money is not received from the Developer by December 10<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Setley stated if the needed funds do not exceed \$300,000 the Supervisors approval will not be needed.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS-NON AGENDA ITEMS**

**RESOLUTIONS**

A motion was made by John Wynne and seconded by David Davidson to adopt all resolutions as stated on the November agenda. **No public comments received.**

All ayes

**COMMUNICATIONS**

- Letter from Envirotech regarding a proposed beauty salon in the lower level of the former Washington Inn building. Mr. Rosenthal stated he has been working with Envirotech regarding this matter.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Krestynick called for an Executive Session to discuss possible litigation and a personnel matter at 6:27 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Michael Krestynick and seconded by David Davidson to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. **No public comments received.**

All ayes

Respectfully submitted,

---

Secretary, David Davidson