**Mt. Holly Springs Borough Authority**

**200 Harman Street**

**Mt. Holly Springs, PA 17065**

**Regular Meeting Minutes**

**March 9, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Authority Chairman Wil Shirey called the March 9, 2017 Authority meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Authority members stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

**MEMBER PRESENT**

Wil Shirey, Mike Gwozdecki, Judy Russell, Ed Kendall, Kathy Landis, GHD Representative Nancy Adams and Jim Williams

**MEMBERS ABSENT** Mark Allshouse

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS** No visitors

**REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES-FEBRUARY 9, 2017**

Judy Russell made a motion to approve the Authority minutes of February 9, 2017. The motion was seconded by Mike Gwozdecki. Motion passed.

**BILLS FOR APPROVAL-FEBRUARY 2017**

Mike Gwozdecki asked about the 8 X 10 building to protect the sewer handling equipment. Wil Shirey stated it was a building put over top of the screen chamber to keep it from freezing. The motors froze, the screen chamber was gummed up and it had to be torn apart twice.

Wil Shirey stated he and Jim discussed it and decided to have the covering installed over the chamber. The building was $3500 which was less than what was spent twice before for the repairs.

Judy Russell made a motion to approve payment of the water and sewer bills for February 2017. The motion was seconded by Ed Kendall. Motion passed.

Ed Kendall asked if that is something that could be retroactively then approve and what number they stand at before they get approval from the Board to spend. Wil Shirey stated he did not know. Jim Collins stated it was just approved it.

Wil Shirey stated he was appointed as the guy who could make the decision at one point, 5 or 6 years ago, that if they were between meetings and it was not possible for the Authority to meet and he would make a decision. If the Authority would like to stop that, that would be fine or if someone else would like to do that that would be fine with him. Mr. Kendall was not objecting to that, but there should be a dollar amount set.

**ENGINEER’S REPORT**

Nancy Adams reported on the sludge hauling contract. They were in contact with the low bidder to get the return documents but have not received them yet. There has been some lag.

**SOLICITOR’S REPORT** No report

**OLD BUISINESS**

Wil Shirey stated he was going to have Mark discuss the Blair/White easements but in his absence it would be tabled until next month.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Treasurer’s Report-**Ed Kendall made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report for February 2017. The motion was seconded by Mike Gwozdecki. Motion passed.

**Borough Report-** Mike Gwozdecki asked Jim and Tom to explain the way Mt. Holly Springs Borough operates. There is a Council and Tom is the Borough Manager and how does the Authority fall into the whole realm under Council and the Borough.

Jim Collins stated Tom is the interim Borough Manager and is part-time. The Borough is responsible for the management of the sewer and water systems, which the Authority owns. The Authority hired the Borough to staff the water and sewer systems. All the employees of the sewer plant are Borough employees and not Authority employees.

Nancy Adams indicated one of the primary reasons for forming an Authority is to provide a means to borrow money or bonds. The Authority sets its own rules, rates and regulations in order to pay for the operation of the systems. Ms. Adams stated there are more situations where there is a lease back Authority. Mr. Collins was in agreement and indicated this goes back to the Pennvest loan the Authority got to re-do the water system.

Mike Gwozdecki stated there has been a lot of confusion with hiring and the uniforms. If the employees are Borough employee then why does the Authority have to worry about uniforms and safety equipment and why would the Authority go through all the effort if the Borough manages the employees.

Mike Gwozdecki stated last month there was all that conversation and if the Tom, as interim Borough Manager felt that it was in the best interest of the Borough to have uniforms, why does the Authority have to discuss it. Jim Collins replied they didn’t have to discuss it.

Judy Russell asked in the lease back agreement it states “for the safe operation of the water and sewer plant” and how do uniforms have anything to do with the operation of the water and sewer plant. Tom stated Jim and Ed are the two who really wanted the uniforms for the service. Seth and John thanked him for getting the uniforms because they don’t have to take their sewage covered clothing home and mix in with their own family’s laundry. Technically, that is a hazmat material the sewer plant is dealing with.

Mike Gwozdecki did not to waste time on stuff that does not even need to be discussed. If Council and Tom think it is in the best interest of the employee, then the Authority should put that in the budget because it is part of the deal and is an operating cost. The Authority has entrusted in the Borough to do that.

Mike Gwozdecki state the Authority needs to decide if they are going to supply boots and safety glasses etc. Tom Day indicated ever since that has been brought up he has watched the employees and what they wear. Most of them wear sneakers so boots are not being worn.

Mike Gwozdecki indicated if you require an employee to get into a ditch they should be given a pair of muck boots.

Mike Gwozdecki stated in his opinion the whole uniform issue got blown out of proportion. He does not want to waste anyone’s time discussing something that doesn’t need to be disused and there was a lot of energy put into that discussion when it didn’t even needed to be discussed when the decision was already made.

Tom Day indicated as far as the employees are concerned, they fall under his supervision as the Borough Manger and that is how it is adopted inside the Borough Ordinance. He answers to Borough Council. Mr. Day also stated he had talked to Wil Shirey about the uniforms and came to the conclusion that it would be a safe venture. Judy Russell indicated Wil was not at the last meeting. Mr. Day replied that was unfortunate and he apologized and maybe he should have sent out a memo on the issue.

Mike Gwozdecki asked Mr. Day if he agreed that muck boot and safety glasses etc. should be part of the Authority’s budget to provide to the Authority’s employees because that is a necessity for the job. Mr. Day replied absolutely.

Judy Russell made a motion to eliminate the $400 clothing allowance. The motion was seconded by Mike Gwozdecki. Motion passed.

Judy Russell stated when something like this is decided and Council votes on it, maybe the Authority should be notified or a note put in all members mailboxes when it has an effect on the budget.

Mike Gwozdecki made a motion to create a line item in the budget of $500 for personal protective equipment. The motion was seconded by Judy Russell. Motion passed.

Mike Gwozdecki stated with Seth, they should not immediately invest in boots until he gets through the testing matter.

**ADJOURN**

Judy Russell made a motion to adjourn the March 9, 2017 Authority meeting. The motion was seconded by Kathy Landis. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Fisher

Utility Billing Clerk