

**DALLASTOWN-YOE WATER AUTHORITY
175 EAST BROAD STREET
DALLASTOWN, PA 17313
AUGUST 11, 2014 – 6:00 PM
MEETING MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

The July 23rd meeting of the Dallastown-Yoe Water Authority was resumed on August 11th by Authority Chairman, Arthur Wertz, followed by the pledge of allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Arthur Wertz
Patricia Myers
Steve Malesker
Patrick Callahan

ALSO PRESENT

Connie Stokes – Borough Manager
Dennis Sarpem – Holley & Assoc - Engineer
Joe Joines - Maintenance
David Jones – Stock & Leader – Solicitor (arrived late)

ACTION ON THE 7/9/14 MEETING MINUTES

Motion: Ms. Myers moved and was seconded by Mr. Callahan to approve the 7/9/14 meeting minutes as presented.

Motion carried 4-0.

VISITORS

Shelly Riedel – 50 E. King Street, Dallastown
Carol Robbins – 60 E. King Street, Dallastown
Doug Bray – Alpine Signs – 280 N. Park Street, Dallastown

- Mrs. Robbins and Mrs. Riedel had concerns about the frequent discolored water. Mrs. Robbins asked what the brown is in the water and was told it is potassium permanganate which has accumulated in the lines. Potassium permanganate is a chemical added to the water at the filter plant which helps drop solids out of the water in the filtration process. She then asked if that is related to manganese and was told its pretty close. Mr. Wertz explained that it is a combination of DYWA's and RLMA's problem. On July 15th, Red Lion had some problems at their new filter plant and a valve blew which raised the pressure in the lines. This in turn washed out everything that was in those lines causing the dirty water. Mrs. Robbins was concerned with how this is effecting customers as far as the safety factor. Is it safe to drink, bathe in, wash dishes, etc.? Mr. Wertz stated that the water has been sent for lab testing by both RLMA and DYWA when it is brown and it meets all DEP specifications. He also went on to say that RLMA is responsible for the water quality. DYWA is currently in a contract to purchase the treated water from RLMA. The only thing DYWA can do to try to rectify the situation is to flush their system which sometimes makes things worse. Right now everything is dependent on the completion of the new filter plant.
Mrs. Robbins had done laundry not knowing that she had brown water and ruined some of her clothes. She brought them along to show the Authority. Mr. Wertz stated that most of the fading is probably coming from the high chlorine content in the water. DYWA has complained to RLMA in writing concerning the water quality, but are at their mercy until the new filter plant is completed. According to the contract between DYWA and RLMA, if this continues after the new filter plant is up and running,

DYWA has the option, after an arbitration process, to go with a new supplier which would be York Water. Mrs. Robbins asked the Authority for reimbursement for damages. Attorney Jones was not there at the time to confer with, so the subject was tabled until next month's meeting.

Mrs. Riedel is concerned that there is no warning. Mr. Wertz stated that the Authority gets no warning either. She hopes that the contract allows for more than just verbal complaints when there are ongoing problems. Mr. Wertz stated that there are penalties in the contract, but only after a certain number of occurrences. Mrs. Riedel spoke to an operator at the Red Lion filter plant and he told her to use bottled water. She thinks that makes a statement. Also, it is running up their water bills with having to rewash laundry and cleaning out hot water heaters. She thinks that even though York Water's cost is higher, it should be considered. Mr. Wertz then stated that unfortunately DYWA is tied into a contract, but Mrs. Riedel said the problems are more than two years old.

Mr. Wertz then relayed some history on the DYWA system. DYWA has been trying to tighten up their system since taking it over from RLMA in 2006. Prior to that year, all of the DYWA services were provided by RLMA including all the maintenance. At that point it was discovered that they weren't servicing the DYWA system properly. Now DYWA is in the catch-up mode. There were valves that didn't work, hydrants with problems, under-sized lines and numerous leaks leading to over 1,000,000 gals of water usage per day. DYWA has been working to correct the problems over these past 8 years, getting the daily usage down to 650,000 gal. As far as the brown water is concerned, RLMA told DYWA that they are now using a chemical at the filter plant to clean the lines out. Unfortunately, we are at the end of their system and when they flush their system with that chemical, we get all the dirty water. DYWA has been fighting tooth and nail to get it straightened out. Mr. Wertz was willing to share a copy of the contract between RLMA and DYWA so they could see what the consequences are. The previous contract between the two Authorities was never ending and DYWA worked hard to get a new contract with only a 10 year term of which 8 years is remaining.

Mrs. Robbins said Ms. Stokes, Joe and Melody have been very receptive in listening to them and very responsive, but they just felt that they should also let the Authority know because they have such a high level of concern. Mr. Wertz told her that the Authority appreciates it and they also have the same concerns.

- Mr. Bray from Alpine Signs was present to discuss high usage. Two quarters ago he received a water bill for about \$600.00 when his normal water bill is anywhere from \$89.00 to \$150.00. He didn't understand how they could have such a high bill so he called the Borough Office and maintenance responded to the call. Mr. Joines responded to the call and verified that everything seemed to be functioning properly. He suggested that Mr. Bray start documenting usage on a daily basis, which he did. He said on July 17th, the meter jumped 400,000 gallons. The meter was then changed out and Mr. Bray stated the usage appeared to be more consistent and not one that would generate a \$600.00 water bill. Mr. Wertz stated that his old meter was tested by York Water Co. and tested ok. He also had information from the new meter that was installed which can be logged daily from a computer. He said that there were some high usage days, one in particular with a usage of 190,000 gallons and another with 180,000 gallons. Mr. Bray stated that that was impossible. Ms. Stokes stated that according to the data logged by the new meter, some of the high usage is late at night. Mr. Malesker asked if the other business is open during the night and apparently it is. The Authority would like to continue to do some investigating with logging the new meter until next month's Water Authority meeting.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

- All the wires on the new vaults are pulled and in place. Keystone has done a good bit of the work on the vaults, but they still need to be programmed. Keystone will also have to update the computer system. After programming they should be ready to go. The Authority would like Mr. Sarpen to be present when the valves are put into operation. A time has not yet been set.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

- Shentel wants to put equipment on the Glen Avenue tower and there is an issue with Double Dog wanting to share in the profits.
- The posting of shut off notices is being postponed until the beginning of 2015. Attorney Jones is drafting a letter to be sent to all customers prior to that, explaining what will be happening. Something will also be put in the Borough Newsletter and York Township's Newsletter. The Authority also spoke briefly about changing to a paper billing.

MANAGER'S REPORT

- There was a discussion concerning re-flushing the system again in order to get rid of the dirty water.
- There was an 8" main leak on Frederick Dr.
- Tank Levels Report
- Master Meter Reads
- Maintenance Log

OTHER BUSINESS TO COME TO THE ATTENTION OF THE AUTHORITY – Nothing

APPROVAL OF BILLS

Motion: Mr. Malesker moved and was seconded by Ms. Myers to approve the bills as presented.

Motion carried 4-0.

APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Motion: Mr. Malesker moved and was seconded by Mr. Callahan to approve the financial statements as presented.

Motion carried 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Mr. Malesker moved and was seconded by Ms. Myers to adjourn the meeting.

Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan A. Wertz