MINUTES
UTILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WORKING MEETING: March 27, 2018 7:00pm

Attending: Jim Burnet, Thomas DeBiasse, James Mattina, Ken O’Brien, Katherine Dailey, Kevin Williams, John Hoover, Bob Vogel

The meeting was called to order by Jim Burnet, Assistant Administrator at 7:00pm.

The members present introduced themselves to the new members Ms. Katherine Dailey and Mr. John Hoover, Council Liaison.

Mr. Mattina, Electric Department Superintendent provided an update to the group on the Electric Utility Departments activities. A power outage chart dating back to 2016 was distributed to the Committee. Mr. Mattina pointed out that the light posts were installed at the KRE site on Kings Road and will continue down to Green Avenue. A three year contract was awarded to American Testing for the substations. The Substations capabilities were discussed. Mr. Mattina stated that there are four substations at James Park and two located on Kings Road. A new lineman apprentice was hired and should be starting in two weeks. The LED Lights that were ordered are presently on back order. Star Lo Electric was subcontracted to assist during the storms. Security around the substations was discussed.

Mr. Burnet updated the Committee on the Hand Held Meter process. He stated that this is a challenging project but things are moving along smoothly. Water modules and new electric meters are being installed on new construction projects. A $35,000 order was placed for more hand held meters and will be arriving shortly. $400,000 was appropriated by Mayor and Council to purchase 3,000 new modules and meters and they are expected to arrive by July 15, 2018. Mr. Burnet pointed out that Jim Trimble has been doing a great job with this new process.

Mr. Vogel discussed the 5 Year Capital Improvement Plan. A copy of the Borough Electric and Water Department 5 Year Capital Improvement Plan was handed out. This plan was reviewed and discussed by Mayor and Council.

An update on Wells A & B was provided to the Committee. Well A Improvements are slated for 2018, with a bid about a month away. Wells A, B and C will have facility upgrades over the next three years. $680,000 has been appropriated by Mayor and Council for these upgrades. Work may begin as early as this summer. Each individual well will be bid separately.

The Asset Management Project prepared by Mott McDonald was discussed. Mr. Vogel was advised by the Committee to prepare a brief summary of the report which will be circulated to the Committee members.

At this time the 6-10 Year Long Range Capital was discussed. Mr. Vogel remarked that redevelopment on the Wells in completed every ten years. A Madison Water Well Production; Gallons per Month dated 2010 through 2017 was circulated to the Committee; indicating that water demand is up. It was also emphasized that residents are wasteful of water.
The Committee along with the Borough Engineer, Water and Electric Department will need to determine the steps necessary for the 6 to 10 year forecast. Mr. Vogel and Mr. DeBiasse will work together to provide a list of projected items that will be necessary for this long range forecast.

A conversation ensued concerning a possible third water tower. This is being driven by Chief Lou DeRosa. There is currently space on Linden Lane if the need arises for a third water tower. Better ways to communicate with residents regarding water consumption should be looked at. At this time there is no pressing need for a third tank.

Mr. Williams explained to the Committee that a major plan is in place for water assistance if there is ever a fire at the KRE site on Kings Road.

Mr. DeBiasse cited the conditions of the soil in town, as well as the conditions of the water mains. Road salt and its corrosive capability was discussed. The work being done by PSE&G was the final topic of discussion. The Electric and Water Departments have been called out to assist PSE&G on Main Street since the work began. Central Avenue Water Main repairs were also discussed.

At this time it was determined that the following meeting dates would be published for the remainder of the year; Wednesday, June 20, 2018 at 7:00pm and Wednesday, September 19, 2018 at 7:00pm.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm.