A regular meeting of the Water/Wastewater Committee was held on October 14, 2020 via a zoom meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Mr. Ed Seyler, Chairman. Members present were: Mr. Ed Seyler Mr. Zebulon Hull and Dr. Derek Mace. Also in attendance: Mr. Gabriel Khalife, Borough Manager; Mr. Jarrad Burkert, Wastewater Plant Manager; Mr. Troy Smith, Water Plant Manager; Mr. Jim Schlegel, Mayor; Mr. Keith Mooney, Borough Solicitor; and Ms. Jill Remick, Recording Secretary. Public Attendance: Mr. Greg Davis and Mr. Nick Rakowski representing Duke Realty; Ms. Lisa Ladd-Kidder, Mr. Warren Shaub, Ms. Phila Back, Mr. Brendan Strausser, Ms. Jasperdean Kobes, Mr. William Bispels, Ms. Lisa Kahn Schnell, Mr. Nathan Lewis, Ms. Lisa Mitchell, Ms. Virginia Grim, Ms. Marina Schnell, Ms. Virginia Booth and Mr. Walter Hess.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
The September 9, 2020 meeting minutes were reviewed by members. Motion by Dr. Mace and seconded by Mr. Hull to approve the September 9, 2020 minutes as written. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
Ms. Ladd-Kidder stated that a comment period to the DEP is currently open for renewal of the 2017 New Enterprise Stone and Lime (NESL) permit. Ms. Ladd-Kidder requested the Water/Wastewater Committee submit a letter opposing the renewal of the 2017 permit and read aloud a letter drafted by the Environmental Advisory Committee opposing the renewal. Committee members discussed the recommendation letter and other public comments were heard opposing the renewal. Motion by Dr. Mace and seconded by Mr. Hull to recommend Borough Council take action to draft a letter to DEP in support of the comment letters submitted by the Planning Commission and the Environmental Advisory Commission, opposing the renewal of the New Enterprise Stone and Lime (NESL) NPDES Permit #0224499. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

WATER UTILITIES
Water report:
Gallons pumped for September 2020 – 19,072,000
Daily average pumped September 2020 – 635,733
Precipitation for September 2020 – 4.0"
Update on Duke Realty Water Request
Mr. Rakowski and Mr. Davis spoke regarding the request for 84,000 gpd for a proposed warehouse project located in Maxatawny Township. Mr. Rakowski stated he compiled a general list of concerns submitted from Borough entities and residents, which had a common thread of concern for water volume, quality and future growth.

Mr. Rakowski commented on the prevalent concerns of: 1) Available water capacity to current water customers based on the increased pumping from New Enterprise Stone and Lime and serving the Duke Project, 2) Future growth and demand for Borough water in the northeast area of 222 if the Duke Realty project is served with Borough water, and 3) PCE contamination migration from the Topton area being drawn towards the Borough wells at a quicker rate due to the additional draw of water for the Duke Realty project. Additional comments and discussion ensued regarding the need to protect the Kutztown water supply and take into account what the needs of the current customers will be in 20 – 30 years.

Motion by Mr. Hull and seconded by Dr. Mace to recommend Borough Council deny KMA’s request for 84,000 gpd for the Duke Realty project. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Update on AMR Project
Mr. Smith provided the Committee with an update that additional appointments are still needed. Ms. Remick reminded members that customer bills are still being estimated. Members discussed the project and agreed that the water should be shut off at the curb stop, based on Borough Resolution, if customers are not willing to make appointments to allow access to the water meter and equipment.

Discuss Backwash and Filter #3 Effluent Pump Repairs
Mr. Smith reviewed the backwash and filter #3 repairs with a cost of $11,575.00 and effluent pump repairs costing $7,725.00. Motion by Dr. Mace and seconded by Mr. Hull to move forward with the repairs. The motion passed by unanimous vote.

Discuss Test Results and Replacing Fairgrounds Water Meter
Mr. Smith explained that large meter testing was recently completed and produced the information that the Fairgrounds 6" water meter is 10% slow and noted the lost revenue associated with that meter. Committee members recommended not replacing the meter at this time.

Discuss Water Department Comprehensive Plan
Mr. Smith stated he had been speaking with HRG to complete an aquifer study as well as other studies which would allow the Water Department and Borough Council to use relevant and viable data to answer questions and make decisions regarding future water use and requests. Committee members agreed the information would be useful.
Off Agenda Items
Mr. Smith stated the dog park hydrant is consistently leaking. Several recommendations were offered for alternatives to supplying water at the dog park as well as discussion of dog owners supplying their own water. Mr. Smith noted the park will close in less than a month and the water spigots will be winterized. No recommendation was made at this time.

WASTEWATER UTILITIES
Sewer report:
Influent flow for September 2020 – 24,037,000
Effluent flow for September 2020 – 24,447,000
Daily average influent flow September 2020 – 801,233
Melted precipitation September 2020 – 4.2"

Update on DEP Review of 2019 Chapter 94 Report
Mr. Burkert stated the report was approved with no issues, however; he noted that in the future DEP would like Kutztown to provide a description in regards to the flow splitting with Maxatawny Township.

Update on WETT
Mr. Burkert noted the next quarterly mandated effluent toxicity testing is scheduled for mid-November. If that quarter testing passes the Borough testing will be reduced to twice per year in 2021, and then once per year in 2022, if all testing passes.

Update on 15305 Kutztown Road
Mr. Khalife and Mr. Burkert noted this current KMA customer is requesting a change of use with Maxatawny Township. This customer would continue to be KMA water and Borough sewer. Expenses for the Borough/KMA would be with engineering reviews. The change of use would also require a change in EDU request.

Update on ESD Issue
Mr. Burkert provided the Committee with the update that part of the program was lost for an unknown reason, however; Keystone Engineering was able to reprogram and rectify the issue.

Update on Recirculation Pumps/Misc. Items from Flooding
Mr. Burkert noted timely shipment of needed equipment has been an issue.

Update on Dewatering Press Grant
Mr. Khalife noted KMA will assist the Borough with the cost difference between the grant monies received and the project cost.

Discuss Wastewater Department Comprehensive Plan
Mr. Burkert reiterated Mr. Smith’s comment that it is imperative to obtain relevant and reliable data that can be used when planning future projects.
**Off Agenda Items**
Mr. Burkert explained the Briar Cliff Pump Station rehab will hopefully go out for bid in November. Point repair work will need to be completed separate from the rehab work.

**ADJOURNMENT**
There being no further business to discuss, motion by Mr. Hull and seconded by Dr. Mace to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

cc:  W/WW Committee  
    Gabriel Khalife, Borough Manager  
    Troy Smith, Water Plant Manager  
    Jarrad Burkert, Wastewater Plant Manager  
    Jim Schlegel, Mayor