

Water/Sewer Committee Meeting

May 27, 2021

Present: Mr. Burnett, Ms. DeBenedictis, Mr. Carrow, Town Foreman Mr. Hurlock, Recording Secretary Melissa Knight, Mr. Smith, Mr. Valentine, John Theader, Diane Taylor, Dave Spacht and Ken Branner.

Mr. Burnett started the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the following item:

- To discuss the water system options

Mr. Burnett gave a brief description of the meeting between town representatives and Artesian. The guidelines for water systems are changing rapidly. With the prospect of the water operators retiring in a couple of years the town needs to start thinking about different options they have in the future to keep up with the new guidelines. It is very hard to find someone that has water certification and is willing to accept the pay that a small town can offer. Artesian is equipped with operators and the ability to meet the state mandates on a bigger scale. Working with Artesian at some level would benefit the town. We have discussed the following with Artesian selling the water system, a partnership or having Artesian supply the town with water. Mr. Theader spoke about the report that was done by the engineer. The report shows the infrastructure in the old part of town is old and the supply is high with the age of the wells. Artesian does have a similar treatment as the town with the arsenic. Artesian is looking into some expansion work installing a new well whether it be in the same aquifer. Artesian wants to know what the town wants to do and what is the best way to put something together to meet the town's needs. As discussed before it's getting harder and harder to treat and meet the states guidelines. Every few years the state adds more contaminants to the list and it becomes a paperwork nightmare. Delaware City and Frankford would be two towns that are comparable to the Town of Clayton that Artesian has either purchased the water plant or supplies the town with water. Artesian and the committee stated the water rates will need to be increased in the near future. Artesian is going to set up options for the town and present to them on June 16, 2021. Artesian will send out fliers, set up workshops that will help educate the residents through this process by answering questions or concerns they may have.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Recording Secretary,

Melissa J. Knight