

REGULAR MEETING

December 3, 2024

7:00 o'clock, P.M.

The regular meeting of the Board of the Municipal Authority of the City of Sunbury, County of Northumberland, Pennsylvania, was held Tuesday, December 3, 2024, at 7:00 o'clock, P.M. at the Municipal Authority Administrative Building, 462 South Fourth Street, Sunbury, Pennsylvania.

The following were in attendance:

Norm Koch  
Tom McBryan  
David Persing  
Larry Welfer  
Tom Krieger via phone  
Cory Fasold  
Tre Bittner, constituting Board Members in attendance  
Jason Neidig, Manager  
Matthew Billman, Wastewater Department Manager  
Patrick Bennett, Solid Waste/Recycling Manager  
Brian Michaels, Water Department  
Michael Balducci, Solicitor  
Todd Kerstetter, Solicitor  
Karen Campbell, Recording Secretary  
Jenn Kremer, Assistant Recording Secretary

Mr. Koch called the meeting to order and Mr. Welfer led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Those in attendance enjoyed a delicious meal in honor of Attorney Balducci and Recording Secretary, Karen Campbell retiring after 42 years of service to the Authority Board.

Mr. Koch presented the Minutes of the November 5<sup>th</sup>, November 19<sup>th</sup>, and November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 meetings and called for any additions or corrections. There being no additions or corrections, on motion of Cory Fasold, seconded by Tom McBryan, the Minutes were accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Neidig reviewed the financial reports. Wastewater operating income is ahead of schedule. Water usage is up slightly. Solid Waste is ahead of schedule for revenue. The Hometown strike is hurting tonnage. Recycling is doing well. On motion of Larry Welfer, seconded by Dave Persing, the Financial Report was accepted. Motion carried.

## WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT REPORT

Matt reviewed his report and discussed activity since the last meeting. Matt reported the aeration tank is operational.

Matt received estimates from Entech for Packer Street and Sixth Street. The estimate for Packer Street to replace the sanitary sewer from Giugis Restaurant to Kreamer Avenue is \$365,987. There is a lot of grease in the current line. Matt will be meeting with Giugi's owner to discuss it. Mr. McBryan talked about how the line is full of grease. Attorney Balducci referenced the Authority's Regulations and said he will be discussing the issue with Attorney Kerstetter to see what the recourse will be. Mr. Kerstetter asked if the restaurant has a grease trap in their line. Mr. Krieger said Matt should work with the City's Code Office on installing grease traps.

Regarding Sixth Street, Entech's estimate for the Authority to do the work is \$253,750. Mr. McBryan's idea is to take a 15" line to Fifth Street and tie into the gut and he discussed the options. Matt said he would talk with Entech about Tom's idea.

Matt said he contacted the Code Office because the Dippels went to Code asking if someone from Matt's Department can install a backflow. Discussion followed. The answer was no to the Authority installing the backflow and to provide options. Mr. Koch asked Matt to have the Engineer look at Tom's idea and the options discussed by the Board. Attorney Balducci said the Engineer should put this project on the front burner.

## SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING REPORT

Pat reviewed his report and discussed activity since the last meeting. The hauler strike is still going on with Hometown.

The DEP inspection on November 3<sup>rd</sup> went well with no violations. The scales were right on.

A 902 grant was awarded in the amount of \$178,002. The cost of the new baler is \$197,090. The Authority will be responsible for the difference.

Amanda Jacobs started employment on November 12, 2024.

A trailer load of mixed goods was sold to Jeff's Recycling. on November 21<sup>st</sup>.

## WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT

Brian reviewed his report and discussed activity since the last meeting.

On Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup> the river line started leaking in front of the Field House. It was 8 ½ feet deep. A 16" clamp was used on it.

Personnel installed a 2" service and meter pit to WaWa. Personnel also fixed a leak inside a meter pit at 1035 E. Chestnut Street.

Motor Tech installed and aligned the river plant pump on November 25<sup>th</sup>.

Brian received an email from the State that the NPDES permit was reviewed and accepted.

Water Department staff did shut offs on November 20<sup>th</sup>.

Eric passed for his water operator's license as did Jason Neidig.

### FLOOD CONTROL DEPARTMENT REPORT

Jason reviewed Jeff's written report in his absence.

Jeff received word from Senator Casey's assistant that it looks good for a \$748,000 grant for the toe drain replacement. Mr. Krieger offered kudos to Jeff.

### MANAGER'S REPORT

DIR Solutions has ordered department security equipment and have targeted February 10<sup>th</sup> as the completion date.

City Solicitor Joel Wiest is handling the easement on South Second Street for access to the Weis parking lot. There is an in person meeting on Friday with PennDot and Weis at City Hall. Entech is reviewing the preliminary plans. Attorney Balducci said Entech and Attorney Kerstetter need to review the easement.

An Upper Augusta Township customer, Dennis Ziegenfuss talked with Jason regarding his concern about flat rate sewer billing. He feels the process is unfair. Attorney Balducci said the billing is legally valid.

DEP has issued a drought watch warning for this area.

The Board congratulated Jason on obtaining his water operator's license.

On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Larry Welfer, it was moved to approve the Managers' Reports. Motion carried.

### ENGINEER'S REPORT

Jason reviewed Pat's written report. The aeration basin No. 4 conversion project was discussed. Jason tried to get an itemized amount paid to Renegade for modifications that did not get done. JP Environmental approached Martz to complete the SCADA portion of the project using an alternate approach. Martz has been asked what they would charge for the alternate work. Jason said 18 PLC's are needed at about \$20,000 a piece. He has set aside \$184,000 for the project already.

Entech submitted a grant application on the Authority's behalf of \$587,435 for the purchase of a new flush truck.

Entech is proceeding with the completion of the final plans associated with relocating the WTP outfall to Shamokin Creek. Per the existing NPDES permit requirements, the final design plans must be submitted to PA DEP by November 1, 2025.

The estimate for stormwater, wastewater and water on Packer Street is one million dollars. Mr. McBryan asked for engineering estimates so a decision can be made at the next meeting.

Entech has identified a possible grant opportunity to finance the proposed tank mixers within the finished water tanks. Entech is assisting the Authority with submitting the grant application to SRBC. The due date for the application is January 30, 2025.

On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Dave Persing, it was moved to accept the Engineer's Report as presented. Motion carried.

### SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Balducci has a meeting scheduled with Attorney Kerstetter on December 6<sup>th</sup> to review the status of current and pending projects.

Mr. Balducci said the Authority should continue to withhold final payment on the Basin 4 project until the SCADA is working.

There is nothing new on the Lozada lawsuit.

Attorney Balducci thanked the Board for the opportunity to serve the Board for 42 years. He said you don't last 42 years in one position without working with good people.

On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Larry Welfer, Mr. Balducci's report was accepted as presented. Motion carried.

### ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Mr. Billman and Mr. Michaels presented language for overtime compensation and discussion followed. Following discussion, on motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Cory Fasold it was moved to accept the overtime compensation language, a copy of which is attached to and made a part of these Minutes. Motion carried.

Mr. Neidig presented a Sewer Department Resolution to discard old lab documents, including test results, bench sheets, and old reports. On motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Larry Welfer, it was resolved to approve Resolution No. 2024-07 to dispose of Sewer Department documents. Motion carried.

Tom Krieger advised the Board of his discussions with Scott Debo regarding a retirement plan. Following discussion, on motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Tre Bittner, it was moved to pay Scott's insurance through payroll until the end of the year and pay his wife's Cobra after Scott retires from January 2025 to

July 2025 when she will be covered by medicare. Mr. McBryan asked Jason to prepare a letter to Scott outlining the Board's action.

NEW BUSINESS

The list of expenditures from November 20, 2024 to December 3, 2024 was presented for payment. On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Dave Persing, the list of expenditures was approved for payment. Motion carried.

On motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Tre Bittner, Mr. Neidig was asked to cancel the December 17<sup>th</sup> meeting and advertise the same. Motion carried.

There being no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Chairman

Approved:

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Solicitor

## OVERTIME COMPENSATION

All Hourly employees shall be compensated for overtime work- time and one-half of the employee's regular rate for each hour worked over 40 in a work week. Sick hours are not considered hours worked for the calculation of OT hours. In addition, regular employees will be compensated at an overtime rate if they are called in to work for emergency situations, when authorized by a department manager or if directed to work on scheduled holidays. Exempt employees may receive overtime compensation during emergency events dependent upon Authority Board discretion.

Employees shall be paid straight time if they use sick time and have hours exceeding 40 hours in a pay period. For example, if an employee uses a sick day on a Friday for 8 hours and works Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday normal shifts and on Thursday works a 10 hour shift, for a total of 42 hours paid time, the employee will have those 42 hours paid straight time because sick time is not considered hours worked for the calculation of overtime.

**Holiday Pay-** An employee that is scheduled to work on a holiday will receive 8 hours of holiday pay and 8 hours of overtime for working that day.