

REGULAR MEETING  
February 20, 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, February 20, 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:

Norman Koch, Chairman  
Thomas Krieger via telephone  
Cory Fasold  
Larry Welfer  
David Persing  
Thomas McBryan  
Tre Bittner, constituting Board Members in attendance  
Jason Neidig, Manager  
Scott Debo, Water Department Manager  
Jeff Lewis, Flood Department Manager  
Michael Balducci, Solicitor  
Karen Campbell, Recording Secretary

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

There was no public discussion.

Mr. Koch presented the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 16, 2024 and called for any additions or corrections. There being no additions or corrections, on motion of Larry Welfer, seconded by Tre Bittner, the Minutes were accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Mr. Neidig reviewed the Financial Reports. Water revenue is as expected for the first month. Flood grant income is off until the grant comes in. On motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Dave Persing, the Financial Report was accepted as presented.

WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT

Scott reviewed his report and discussed activity since the last meeting. Craig Ferry gave notice of leaving the Authority. His last day will be February 23, 2024.

Scott received information from PennDOT on the brine project. PennDOT will basically do all the work and Scott will do the inspection. The connection fee is \$1,000 plus an inspection fee of \$140.

The new Square D motor control for air compressor #2 was installed on February 8, 2024.

PPL informed Scott on January 18, 2024 that the Authority would not get the Business Energy Efficiency Grant because there would not be enough energy saved.

L/B Water quoted \$57,919.44 for the piping and valves for the sludge lagoon bypass line. Scott discussed the project with Tom McBryan, his liaison. In future capital budgets Scott had listed to change the sludge lagoons and install drying beds. It was suggested to Scott to remove the drying beds from future capital budgets.

Scott updated the Board on visits to two sites that use liquid fluoride. Both plants provided valuable information. Scott said he can use the existing fluoride room to install the new system. Steel support will need to be added to the existing steel floor grating so the tank can be placed. Once Mr. Ward reviews the plans Scott will need to get a permit modification for the required equipment.

The new truck was delivered January 31, 2024 at a cost of \$47,761.

Scott next discussed the log jams on Shamokin Creek. Senator Culver asked to meet Ron Perry and PADOT on site. The log jams are disrupting the normal flow of the creek near the #5 reservoir and if not addressed the integrity of the reservoir bank will eventually be threatened. Scott met with Logan Hile from the Northumberland County Conservation District on February 7, 2024. Senator Culver is setting up a meeting on site and then at the Authority Office. Representative Stender, Upper Augusta Township, PADEP, PADOT, the Fish and Boat Commission, Army Corps of Engineers, Conservation District and Shamokin Creek Watershed Alliance are invited to attend. Attorney Balducci expressed concern and said he considered this project an emergency.

### FLOOD DEPARTMENT REPORT

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

Jeff said he has to submit more information for the FEMA Grant. He is asking the County to recognize the hazard and he will need a Resolution that the Authority accepts the County Mitigation Plan.

The Authority has been awarded the Grant for the Flood Closure #1 Sill Replacement project.

Jeff gave an update on his meeting with Representative Meuser and his aide. He has 10 million in appropriations to give out and told Jeff to submit for the toe drain project,

The LSA Statewide Grant was not awarded. The next CFA Board meeting is expected to meet in the summer.

Jeff discussed the Shikellamy Avenue Stormwater Pumping Station. The Army Corps does not consider it a part of the flood control system and owned by the City which considers it a part of the flood system. Jeff is working with the Army Corps to get this station put under Federal PL 84-99 which will make it a part of the federal flood control project.

On motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Tre Bittner it was moved to approve Jeff's Report and approve Resolution 24-02 on an emergency basis. Motion carried.

### GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Jason updated the Board on his visit to the Wyoming Valley Sewer Authority to review their newly updated security system. Jason has met with a number of suppliers to get their feedback and recommendations for equipment needed. Jason said he is thinking about splitting the gate out on a separate bid. He is developing an RFP to obtain formal quotes.

Jason provided an email from Brian Betz asking for reimbursement in the amount of \$1,520 for a bill he paid to Eaton for work at his home which was found to be caused by an Authority blocked sewer line. Jason said Mr. Betz called in Eatons first rather than contacting the Authority. Mr. Koch asked the Board to review the information and to discuss it at the next sewer meeting.

Jason is working with the City to schedule a City cleanup which is expected to have a large turnout.

Jenn is working on the Authority website thru SBA at Bucknell to include Spanish.

Interviews will be held on the 26<sup>th</sup> for the open position at the Water Department.

Jason provided an organization chart of the Authority to the Board.

On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Larry Welfer, it was moved to accept the Water Department and General Managers' Reports. Motion carried.

### ENGINEER'S REPORT

Jason reviewed Mr. Ward's written report with the Board.

On motion of Dave Persing, seconded by Cory Fasold, it was moved to accept Mr. Ward's written report. Motion carried.

### SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Balducci said he reviewed the Clinton County/Wayne Township Solid Waste Contract. He said the services do not have to be bid so the Authority can negotiate with Wayne Township. Notice of termination must be given by the end of June 2024. Mr. Koch will appoint a Committee at the next sewer meeting.

The RFP for engineering services is ready to proceed. Mr. Koch appointed a committee of Tom McBryan, Tom Krieger and Tre Bittner to review the RFP.

Mr. Balducci will review the Agreements with the City and the cover letters with the Committee of Tom McBryan, Tre Bittner and Cory Fasold and then Mr. McBryan will deliver the docs to Councilman Eister.

On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Tom McBryan, it was moved to accept the Solicitor's Report. Motion carried.

### ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Following discussion, on motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Tre Bittner, it was moved to give the City the Ready Rock for the City's Sweep project. Motion carried.

### NEW BUSINESS

Jason discussed the pre-bid meeting for the Susquehanna Avenue Phase 1 project. Eight contractors were present and two were on line. Jason said his concern was with the Authority's cost for storm & sewer lines and water main. He said there could be 1.1 million in additional costs with no potential for grants. Jason will keep the Board advised of the bid opening.

Jason next passed out information for the current connection fees and proposed connection fees for sewer connections and the same for water and fire lines which contained his recommendations for adjustments . He met with the managers and discussed the fee set-up. On Wastewater up to a 6" line not exceeding 20 lineal feet would be \$1,000. Over 6" line \$1,000 fee plus actual additional expense and exceeding 20 lineal feet \$50/foot and connection inspection fee \$140. On water up to a 1" line not exceeding 20 lineal feet \$1,000 to include ¾" meter at \$300, ¾' service materials (20 feet) \$530 and labor at 4 hours for 4 men \$480. There would be no inspection fee if Authority personnel put the line in but \$140 if outside contractor. On motion of Dave Persing, seconded by Tom McBryan, the changes to the fee schedules were accepted. Motion carried. Copies of the new fee schedules are attached to and made a part of these Minutes.

Jason next discussed the electric pricing. The current contract expires in January 2025. The broker is suggesting locking in the current price for 2025 and beyond as natural gas futures have dropped in recent weeks. The Authority's current rate is \$.07150 and pricing in the 36 month term is \$.07597. Discussion followed. Mr. McBryan said the Board should look at the rate again in April.

Mr. McBryan called attention to an article in the Authority Magazine on privatization.

Mr. Fasold asked about an investment that matures next week. Jason said it will stay parked at Janney-Montgomery and will be listed for discussion at the next Board meeting.

Mr. Bittner said the tribute to Mr. Schlegel will appear in the "My Turn" section of The Daily Item. Mr. Bittner read the tribute which was very moving and well written.

The list of expenditures from February 7, 2024 to February 20, 2024 was presented for payment. On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Larry Welfer, the list of expenditures was approved for payment. Motion carried.

There being no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:

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Chairman

Approved:

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Solicitor