

REGULAR MEETING

July 15, 2025

6:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Board of the Municipal Authority of the City of Sunbury, County of Northumberland, Pennsylvania, was held Tuesday, July 15, 2025, at 6:00 pm at the Municipal Authority Administrative Building, 462 South Fourth Street, Sunbury, Pennsylvania.

The following were in attendance:

Norman Koch, Chairman
Thomas McBryan, Vice Chairman
Cory Fasold, Secretary/Treasurer
David Persing, Asst Secretary/Treasurer
Larry Welfer, Board Member
Jerome Alex, Board Member
Jason Neidig, General Manager
Brian Michaels, Water Department Manager
Matt Billman, Wastewater Department Manager
Todd Kerstetter, Solicitor
Patrick Burke, Engineer
Kathy Paige, Recording Secretary
Lee Zeiger, Engineer
Jim Eister, City Council Member

Chairman Koch called the meeting to order and Jerome Alex led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Chairman Koch stated that nobody was present for public discussion.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Chairman Koch made an announcement. The Board held an Executive Session on Wednesday, July 9, 2025, from 3:30 pm to 5:05 pm to discuss a personnel matter.

Chairman Koch called on Lee Zeiger, Engineer from CES Engineering, to provide information on the Packer Street bid numbers. Jim Eister, City Council member, was also in attendance. Mr. Zeiger provided the Board with a list of costs involved with the Packer Street reconstruction project with various options of work and he explained the costs that would be incurred by the City and the Municipal Authority. Mr. Zeiger stated bids were opened for the Packer Street project last Thursday. It was set up with 2 base bids. Base bid #1 being the work performed from Susquehanna to 4th Street overall. Base bid #2 is the water main replacement from 3rd Street to 4th Street intersection and the sewer replacement from 4th Street to Kreamer Avenue. Mr. Zeiger also discussed several deducts for the project and how they would impact the project and the cost. Mr. Zeiger recommended the City and Authority move forward with Base Bids #1 and #2 at a minimum. The Board needs to make a decision on the various additional work and deducts. Thomas McBryan started a discussion on the sewer separation from 3rd to Kreamer Avenue. Cory Fasold asked Mr. Zeiger to explain what general conditions on the chart means. Mr. Zeiger stated that it's for bond costs and insurance costs which are approximately 10-15% of the cost. If the contractor fails to perform or

pay, the bond will cover the project. Cory asked who the lowest bidder was. Mr. Zeiger stated it was Mid State. Cory asked what the timeframe is for the project. Mr. Zeiger stated the project could start mid-August with total completion at the end of 2026. The Board will need to decide whether to use plastic or ductile for the water mains and also whether to include the sewer separation from 3rd to Kreamer Avenue. Discussion ensued on the differences between plastic and ductile water lines. Another decision the Board will need to make is the inspection part of the project. That decision does not need to be made at this meeting.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Thomas McBryan and seconded by Cory Fasold to use ductile pipes for the Packer Street project and the Authority will not do the sewer separation from 3rd to Kreamer Avenue. Motion carried.

Chairman Koch presented the meeting minutes from June 17, 2025. There being no corrections on motion of Jerome Alex, seconded by Thomas McBryan, the minutes were accepted as presented. Motion carried.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Jason reviewed the financial reports. All the adjustments for the audit are done. Jason discovered the pension portion problem with the numbers. It was with the Minimum Municipal Obligation done every year. It was not included in the calculations when the budget numbers were put in. Jason will be putting that number back in and the budget should be back on track.

WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT

Brian reviewed his report and discussed ongoing items since the last meeting.

Brian reported the Water Department installed a new catch basin line and capped an old 4-inch line at the plant to get ready for the paving project. The Water Department also potholed some holes for the city on S. River Avenue.

Brian stated a new meter was installed at 134 Chestnut Street. The Water Department replaced a meter at 1041 Line Street. The Water Department also replaced MXU's at various locations.

Brian next reported Jim Kurtz from Susquehanna Safety Solutions was at the plant on July 9th to provide training for the use of fluoride and proper handling.

Brian reported all the lights at the plant were installed in-house and made a big difference with how bright the plant is now.

Brian reported the results came back from the lead and copper testing. All the results were within limits.

Brian stated Motor Tech was at the plant on July 7th to do an Infrared scan and clean the electrical panels. The Water Department ran off the generator because Motor Tech shut off the power to the plant to clean the panels. This is the first time the generator has been run on full load for a while so the Water Department will now be running the generator once a quarter on a full load to make sure it's working properly in case of an emergency.

Brian stated the Water Department installed a new pump for the corrosion control. They tore apart the chemical meter and cleaned it out and made a new gasket for it. They also calibrated the filter turbidity meters.

Brian started a discussion on the Tank Mixers for the plant. \$120,000 was set aside in the budget for the Tank Mixers. The Authority requested a grant but it was denied. Pat stated there is nothing in this calendar year to be able to submit for another grant. The money set aside for the Tank Mixers should cover the cost. The mixers will be running 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

After some discussion, a motion was made by Thomas McBryan, seconded by Jerome Alex, to proceed with installing the Tank Mixers and prepare the public water permit. Motion carried. Brian will get a quote for the electrical work.

Brian also reported the water department staff helped the office with red tags and shutoffs.

Brian stated he received a phone call from Steve Welker that they are paving Linden Street from Front Street to Second Street. There is a 1-inch galvanized forensic line that runs across Linden on South River. The Water Department will go down next week and get it off Linden Street and run about 80 feet of brand new 2-inch plastic pipe.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Jason started by stating the PMAA Conference in Bethlehem is September 7th – 10th and if any Board Members wish to go, let the office know. Cory stated that the Board voted Jason as the authority to vote at the Conference so another vote will need to happen with Jason's departure.

Jason sent the budget information, including staff budgets, to the department managers on July 8th. Jason has been answering a number of questions since sending it out. Cory asked if any of the managers are struggling with the budget. Jason said some are struggling and questioned the necessity of the managers working on the staff budget.

Jason emailed Steve Welker and Jim Eister for an update on the list of dig-out repairs he sent to them. Jason still has not received a response.

On motion of Thomas McBryan, seconded by David Persing, it was moved to accept the Managers' Reports. Motion carried.

Thomas McBryan asked Jason if the Treasury Bond's were purchased. Jason said he did purchase 4 Treasury Bonds, but let the Board know for future reference, when buying a \$1 million Treasury Bond, the Authority can sell any portion of the bond. The Authority does not have to purchase four different bonds.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Pat Burke submitted his report to the board. Pat started a discussion on the fluoride removal. Pat was in contact with some vendors getting a cost to retrofit a dust collection system onto the existing powder fluoride. To complete the renovations that would need to be done in order to get a dust collection system working within that room, the cost would be somewhere around \$50,000. The cost of the equipment is around \$27,000. If the Authority went to liquid fluoride, the cost would be more because everything would need to be re-piped and a public water supply permit amendment would need to be done. That cost would be estimated to be around \$65,000.

Pat stated he spoke with the DEP environmental engineering manager on Monday. Public notification for the removal of the fluoride will need to be done prior to the Authority applying for its removal. Pat wrote up some language for the notification and the notices can be started going out to

the public immediately. The Authority must make 4 different forms of notification. Medical professionals need individual letters sent to them. Pat will get clarification from DEP on what they consider a medical professional. Pat looked at how long it took other entities to retire the fluoride and it usually took around 8 months. Chairman Koch stated that the Authority voted to remove the fluoride and now that we have the retrofit cost estimate, we can get started on the process. Pat will let DEP know the Authority is moving ahead with the removal of fluoride and is making the public notices. Cory asked Jason if he could have one of the office staff identify the medical professionals from the customer database. Pat will find out if the letter can go to the clinic or if it needs to be addressed to each individual doctor.

Pat also stated he's moving forward with the water treatment plant driveway restoration and that should be out for bids on Friday.

Thomas McBryan asked for a status on the intake out the river. He also asked if we could rehab that before the pipe work is done. Pat said that can be done separately and the cost would be in water control. Thomas stated we would coordinate the project with putting the bags down in the fall.

On motion of Larry Welfer, seconded by David Persing, it was moved to accept the Engineer's Report. Motion carried.

Thomas McBryan asked a question about the outlet for the Shamokin Creek. He asked where it was going to be moved to. Pat stated they are looking at extending it to the other side of the Little Shamokin Creek and running the pipe down that way. There is concern if it's done by gravity in that berm area between the two dams, we could go down too deep and jeopardize the integrity of the berm. Pat will talk with Brian on alternate pipeline locations.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Kerstetter reported that he received notice that Manor Care is declaring bankruptcy. They filed a motion with every utility service. Manor Care is putting money into an account to ensure the Authority will get paid. The bill may be a little delayed with payment.

On motion of Cory Fasold, seconded by Jerome Alex, it was moved to accept the Solicitor's Report. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

COMMENTS

Chairman Koch thanked Jason for his years of dedication to the Municipal Authority.

The list of expenditures from July 1 – July 14, 2025 was presented for payment. On motion of Thomas McBryan, seconded by Larry Welfer, the list of expenditures was approved for payment. Motion carried.

The Board convened in Executive Session at 7:30 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue. No action was taken upon reconvening into General Session at 8:10 p.m.

There being no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Recording Secretary

Approved:

Chairman