

## REGULAR MEETING

June 18, 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, June 18, 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

Cory Fasold

Larry Welfer

David Persing

Thomas McBryan

Tre Bittner, constituting Board Members in attendance

Jason Neidig, Manager

Jeff Lewis, Flood Department Manager

Michael Balducci, Solicitor

Karen Campbell, Recording Secretary

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

There was no one present for public discussion.

Mr. Koch presented the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 21, 2024 and called for any additions or corrections. Mr. Lewis pointed out under his report that the Resolution # was not correct and should be corrected to 2024-04. There being no further additions or corrections, on motion of Tom Krieger, seconded by Dave Persing, the Minutes were accepted as corrected. Motion carried.

Jason reviewed the Financial Reports. He said there is nothing new with the Water Department. The Flood Department is still waiting on grant income. Chemicals for the levee are listed under system expenses. Mr. McBryan asked Jason to add a column to the list of investments showing the face value of bonds and their effective interest rate.

### WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT

Mr. Neidig reviewed Mr. Michaels's written report.

Personnel ran 250' of 2-inch PVC pipe on Cakewalk Alley to replace the old 2-inch galvanized line. The line serves 5 properties. The old 4-inch valve broke when it was being turned to shut it off. Brian is working on getting it fixed. Mr. McBryan said the valves need exercised on a regular basis.

The fire hydrant in front of the plant was fixed.

UNIVAR/USA conducted a jar testing class at the plant on June 4<sup>th</sup>. Jacob Peteraf started training with Bob Herman on how to operate the plant. He will be in training for 3 months.

The PADOT Hamilton Complex Brine Project is complete.

Personnel were called to 1210 Packer Street for a tree that fell from Authority property at the hill tanks onto the 1210 property. There are two other trees hanging over the homeowner's garage. Jason said a probable estimate to remove them is \$1,300 to \$1,500. Mr. Krieger told Jason to ask the City to remove them. Tom will speak with Jim Eister.

DEP was contacted to determine if the media filters needed to be sampled since the filters are three years old. The response was yes and sent a letter to that effect. Jason said the testing will be over a course of 3 years. It is estimated to cost \$1,900 for the sampling.

Fire hydrant flushing and exercising the valves will be done the week of June 24<sup>th</sup>

Mr. McBryan advised of a concern that there is a channel at the plant with pipes with elbows and the lowest pipe could go back in the clearwell if they are flooded. He told Jason someone should check it out.

### FLOOD DEPARTMENT REPORT

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

Jeff gave an update on Grant applications he submitted.

Jeff is meeting with the new engineer tomorrow to discuss the project design for the flood closure #1 sill replacement. He also reported he does not expect to receive the LSA Statewide Grant.

The City has submitted a formal request to the Army Corps to have the Shikellamy Pump Station included as an integral part of the flood protection system under Public Law 84-99.

Jeff is applying for one million dollars thru Senators Casey's and Fetterman's offices for the toe drain project. He received an email from Senator Fetterman's aide that they have forwarded his request of \$748,000 to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

As part of the City's Comprehensive Plan Derrick Backer advised Jason the Committee is exploring the idea of opening the wall up at a few locations to provide better access to the river.

The City received a grant to do curbing and sidewalks from Race to Packer. They are holding off until August or September to see if the Authority gets any grants. Jason said the City received a \$241,000 grant. Jason is trying to get with Joe Marciano, who oversees where the money goes.

## GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

The Board Room dedication will be held July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. It was decided that the Board meeting scheduled for that night will be rescheduled for July 9<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. Jason was asked to advertise the change.

Managers met with Pat Burke from Entech on June 10<sup>th</sup> to review all upcoming projects.

Jason reported PennDOT is assuming ownership responsibility from the City for South Second Street area considered to be part of the thruway project. The area from the bridge off-ramp to Second Street to the intersection of Second and Front Streets is scheduled for a complete mill and repave. The City obtained a \$241,000 grant on the Authority's behalf for storm water repairs in this area. Jason said he had a call with PennDOT to begin discussions on the project. He said PennDOT and the City have met previously to discuss the project but Jason was not made aware of the meetings. Mr. McBryan asked if a design is available and Jason said he would ask for one.

On June 13<sup>th</sup> Jason met with members of the City for a discussion on the upcoming Packer Street project. Jason asked Pat from Entech to review water, sewer and stormwater in the area. An estimate for the work is in the area of \$350,000 to \$400,000 but the City says \$900,000. Mr. Fasold gave a report from the meeting. He said the cost of curbing and sidewalks will be on the property owners. Cory also said the Authority should be using Mr. Backer for help getting grants for Authority projects.

Jason received an email from Mayor Brosious asking for financial information. It was thought the Mayor wants the information to determine the valuation of the Authority.

Discussion followed on setting up a capital reserve account. The consensus was to put 3 to 6 months of expenses into the operating account and then after that by motion the funds could be designated to a capital reserve account.

Jason received permission to discontinue the \$190 flexibility test.

Jenn Kremer attended a meeting on overtime vs. comp time. She and Jason will work with Attorney Balducci on the employee handbook.

It will cost about \$3,000 to get the furnace at the sewer plant repaired.

On motion of Tom Krieger, seconded by Tre Bittner, it was moved to accept the Managers' Reports. Motion carried.

## ENGINEER'S REPORT

Pat said Entech is preparing a cost estimate for the Water Department fluoride project and a full explanation of the project.

Pat gave an explanation of the "bumping" with the Water Plant valves. The staff have been investigating the issue. Buchart Horn contacted DeZurik and provided staff with contact information for one of DeZurik's field service supervisors.

Pat presented Payment Application #3 in the amount of \$19,712.50 from JP Environmental for the aeration basin #4 project and recommended payment. On motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Tre Bittner, it was moved to approve Payment Application #3 in the amount of \$19,712.50. Motion carried

Following discussion it was recommended to reach out to JP Environmental regarding the sticky valves.

On motion of Cory Fasold, seconded by Tom McBryan, it was moved to accept the Engineer's Report. Motion carried.

### SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Balducci discussed a call he received from the Solicitor of the Redevelopment Authority concerning billings for Authority charges on properties taken over by the Redevelopment Authority.

Clinton County signed the Solid Waste Contract Renewal with no changes except the \$1 increase per ton on solid waste on January 1, 2025. On motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Tom Krieger, it was moved to approve the Solid Waste Contract Renewal and authorize the proper officers to sign the Contract. Motion carried.

Attorney Balducci reviewed the Consulting Engineer Agreement. He sent comments and revisions to Entech's proposed contract and received their reply on June 6<sup>th</sup> while he was on vacation. The contract runs from July 1<sup>st</sup> to the end of the year and must be renewed on January 1, 2025. Following discussion, on motion of Cory Fasold, seconded by Tom McBryan, it was moved to accept the Contract with Entech. Motion carried.

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

### ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Jason discussed the natural gas auction results. The current rate with NRG is 5.504. The base rate now for 12 months is 6.038. The 24 month rate is 6.79. Snyder Brothers rate for 12 months is 6.48 and for 24 months is 6.65. Mr. McBryan and Mr. Bittner both suggested it would be better to go for 36 months. Following discussion, on motion of Cory Fasold, seconded by Tre Bittner, it was moved to accept a 2 year rate. Motion carried.

### OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Fasold discussed the outstanding accounts. Ed Miller was receiving billings but the property is in his Dad's name. Following a discussion

with Dale Rearick on a property at Church and Awl Streets it was found that water was never hooked up.

NEW BUSINESS

Jason discussed a concern from a citizen of water running at the OPG Playground. Rich & Jason checked the toilets and found no leaks. Rich was asked to look at the pool and other City properties.

The list of expenditures from June 5, 2024 to June 18, 2024 was presented for payment. On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Dave Persing, the list of expenditures was approved for payment. Motion carried.

There being no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 9:33 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:

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Chairman

Approved:

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Solicitor