

REGULAR MEETING

March 19, 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, March 19, 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. Persing led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

There was no public discussion.

Mr. Koch presented the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 20, 2024 and called for any additions or corrections. There being no additions or corrections, on motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Dave Persing, the Minutes were accepted as presented. Motion carried.

WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT

Scott reviewed his report and discussed activity since the last meeting. Department staff have completed the quarterly filter evaluations. Staff also attended a flagger and work zone safety training class on March 14, 2024.

Scott was in touch with his PADEP sanitarian to see if there is anything he can do in-house to get the permit modification process going ahead of June. He was told that the application needs to be completed by a professional engineer. Scott will need Modules 1 and 12, the Plan, specifications, the engineer's report and an application fee based on the size of the system.

The three water tanks will be inspected the week of March 25th by a remote operated vehicle which will be properly disinfected and lowered through the

dome hatch. The inspection will take a day to complete each tank. Scott can use this testing to decide if a complete wash out is needed. The cost of the inspection is \$1,800 for all three tanks.

Scott next discussed the log jams on Shamokin Creek. A meeting was held on March 8th. Attending the meeting were Senator Culver, Representative Stender, Upper Augusta Township, PADEP, PennDOT, the Fish and Boat Commission, Army Corp of Engineers and the Conservation District. Senator Casey and Congressman Meuser are also aware of the log jam issue. Senator Culver asked to have a local contractor provide a cost estimate to remove the jams. Zartman Construction submitted a cost of \$958,867 and T-Ross submitted a cost of \$861,008. Jason said he is working with Upper Augusta Township and Senator Culver's office for available grants and emergency funds.

FLOOD DEPARTMENT REPORT

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

Jeff discussed the Shikellamy Avenue Stormwater Pumping Station. Pump #1 at this Station is powered by a diesel engine which was rebuilt in 2002 and which is connected to a right angle drive rebuilt in 2005 which operates the 47,500 GPM flood pump which was rebuilt in 2005. Pumped water flows thru a 48' back-flow valve. Jeff said the Station was built around this valve because of its size and weight. The valve has never been rebuilt in over 45 years but still works well except for a few leaks at the swing arm. Jeff ordered packing for the swing arm and personnel will replace it as soon as it arrives. Lead time for the packing is 6 to 8 weeks.

Jeff is applying for one million dollars thru Senator Casey's office for the toe drain project. He noted this is a 25% matching funds grant. Jeff said he is also working with Senator Culver and Senator Fetterman.

Jeff said he was contacted by Councilman Barnhart on who is responsible for the steps which lead to the abutment. He said the Authority is to take care of it. The steps have historical value for the carvings which are on the steps.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Jason did some research and found that in 1982 the then Board appointed Attorney Michael Balducci as its Solicitor at a rate of \$2,500 per year. Current Recording Secretary was also appointed at that time at \$50 a month.

Jason next discussed the upcoming meeting on March 21st on the Susquehanna Avenue project. Mr. Debo doesn't think he will have much work because of the work done previously for the meter installation. Mr. Krieger said it was his opinion that it is not worth the Authority's labor time to replace the lines. Mr. Fasold suggested getting with G & R Charles and obtain prices per lineal foot and depth. Mr. McBryan felt the lines should be televised and then decide if the

line needs to be replaced and then offer the homeowners to supply the material. Discussion followed. On motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Tre Bittner, it was moved to provide 4" pipe and connectors with G & R Charles to do the work. Motion carried. Jason was asked to get a cost per lineal foot from G & R Charles.

Jason will ask for a re-quote on electric pricing in April.

The engineering RFP was discussed. Jason said he is trying to stay within a one hour base. Jason talked to engineers before requesting quotes from Buchart-Horn, Gannett Fleming, Mid Penn, HRG, Larson Design and RETTEW. Mr. McBryan asked Jason to confirm if the Authority has a project out of the engineer's expertise that the Authority can go elsewhere for that particular issue. Quotes are to be received by April 15th.

The Finance Committee will be meeting with Matt Connelly from PLGIT. Mr. McBryan suggested purchasing a 20 year treasury bond paying 4.6% and lock it in for 20 years. No action was taken.

Jason is going thru applications for the water labor position. Mr. Fasold suggested contacting the VoTech school.

The Personnel Committee will be meeting with Todd Kerstetter on March 25th at 2 p.m.

A meeting has been scheduled with the Authority auditor and Mr. Fasold for Wednesday, March 27th at 9 a.m.

The old bakery has a part owned by the Church and Sunbury Realty owns a part which has the water shut off. Sunbury Realty owes \$43,000 for a flat rate monthly fee. Jason and Scott will be meeting with Sunbury Realty,

On motion of Larry Welfer, seconded by Tre Bittner, it was moved to accept the 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 renewal letter and will be meeting with Jason to review with him and then prepare an amendment. Mr. Balducci talked about a non-compete clause.

Jason and Attorney Balducci will also be meeting to review the employee handbook.

Attorney Balducci is waiting on feedback from the City on the revised Agreements.

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

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Mr. Fasold discussed the financial report accounting and pointed out several items as they appear on the balance sheet and stated his disagreement on how they should be handled. Jason will set up a meeting with the auditor and Mr. Fasold to discuss the way items are handled in the accounting.

The Authority picnic was discussed. Jason requested money from the Board for give-aways. He was asked to come up with a gift idea and the cost.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Koch referred to an article in the Daily Item and pointed out the increase in rates when a municipality sold its system to a private entity.

The list of expenditures from March 6, 2024 to March 19, 2024 was presented for payment. On motion of Cory Fasold, seconded by Tre Bittner, the list of expenditures was approved for payment. Motion carried.

There being no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Chairman

Approved:

Solicitor