

REGULAR MEETING

November 18, 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 called to order Tuesday, September 16, 2025, at 6:10 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
Thomas Krieger, Board Member via phone
Jerome Alex, Board Member
Mike Thomas, Board Member
Derrick Backer, General Manager
Brian Michaels, Water Department Manager
Todd Kerstetter, Solicitor
Kathy Paige, Recording Secretary
Francis Scarcella, The Daily Item

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

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Chairman Koch stated that nobody was present for public discussion.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Chairman Koch stated Mike Thomas, new Board member, was sworn in at the special board meeting.

Chairman Koch presented the meeting minutes from October 21, 2025. There being no corrections on motion of Cory Fasold, seconded by Thomas McBryan, the minutes were accepted as presented. Motion carried.

WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT

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

Brian reported that the Water Department staff fixed two 4-inch leaks in the 400 block of Packer Street. Brian stated it's going to cost about \$30,000 to run a new 4-inch main down Packer Street. The work can be done in-house starting around March. The Water Department fixed a leak on Grant Street that was found using the data loggers. The Water Department also ran a new ¾ service to 901 S. 2nd Street.

Brian discussed the Filter Plant Performance meeting with DEP. The Water Department received a Commendable rating from DEP which is the highest rating you can get. It was a total team effort. The last one

was in 2021 and there were 18 things DEP wanted to be changed and all but 1 got done. DEP wants to see the plant run longer. Erik will start coming early in the morning to slow the plant down. Brian went over a couple of things DEP would like to see changed which are listed in the report he distributed to the Board.

Brian stated Erik and the Water Department staff did filter evaluations on all 10 filters. The staff also replaced the Soda Ash line that was clogged up.

Brian reported that the Water Department got the permit back from DEP on the tank mixers. Brian is in contact with MB Harbor to get the project moving along. They should be here by December.

Brian also reported the Water Department staff helped the office with red tags and shutoffs. Derrick asked the Board how they wanted to handle shutting off individuals water in the winter for non-payment. Jerome asked what the average of red tags and shutoffs are for each month. Brian stated around 10-15 shutoffs a month and over 100 red tags a month. Cory explained how a civil suit would work if individuals did not pay their bill. Derrick stated he's in the beginning stages to see if we can do a program from outside grant funds locally and to work with the United Way. The Board discussed giving a 30-day notice, then another 30-day notice before shutting off the water and an individual can come talk to the Board if they need an extension.

Cory asked Brian why there is almost 5 million gallons of water unmetered. Brian stated it is due to leaks.

On motion of Jerome Alex, seconded by Cory Fasold, it was moved to hire Braden Aston for the Water Department. Motion carried.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Derrick started by reporting he spoke with Senator Culver and Representative Stenders offices and since the budget has been passed, they will start looking at the grants to award them. Derrick is hopeful that either the Small Water Sewer or the Statewide LSA will be awarded by the end of this year and the other one by the beginning of next year. Derrick advocated for anything they could do.

Derrick went to Harrisburg for the Blueprint Community Graduation. DCED is looking at putting more resources into Sunbury which involves helping with development and redoing some homes which in turn helps the Municipal Authority with more rate payers. Derrick explained the program to the Board. Derrick went through 18 months of training and there were 6 communities that work with a nonprofit out of Pittsburgh that partners with DCED and their main street program. The individuals that go through this training come up with a strategic plan for downtown and DCED helps meet those goals but also give some funding along the way for smaller projects and come up with a proposal for bigger projects. The one project they are looking at is the old police station and then the various buildings next to it. They would like to turn that into a downtown manager office with some rentals above it. Mike asked Derrick if the blueprint program was paying for the downtown manager. Derrick said they were paying it for the first year. Derrick stated they came up with a plan for sustainability of the position.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Derrick reviewed the WTP NPDES discharge relocation on the report Pat Burke submitted to the board. The PA DEP has agreed to extend the deadline for submitting the final design plans to February 15, 2026. Anything past this date would have required an official amendment to the permit.

Derrick reported that Entech was informed not to do any cost estimates for the river intake.

Derrick stated that Entech notified the Municipal Authority they were no longer going to be our engineer effective December 10, 2025, so Derrick questioned whether the Board wanted to let Entech do the fluoride removal permit application or have another engineer do it. Tom Krieger recommended having Entech do the permit since they know the process.

On motion of Thomas Krieger, seconded by David Persing, it was moved to have Entech perform the fluoride removal permit application NTE \$5,000. Motion carried.

Derrick also reported that PA DEP has issued the Public Water Supply permit for the installation of the tank mixers and Entech completed its review of the material submittals sent by the contractor.

Derrick stated the permit Entech is working on for the Susquehanna Avenue project is anticipated to be completed and to PA DEP by December 10th.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Kerstetter reported that he is working with Jenn on our water shutoff policies to make sure they are done the right way. Attorney Kerstetter is also going through some of the delinquent accounts and focusing on some of those that owe larger amounts of money. Derrick asked Attorney Kerstetter to explain the time frames for the red tags and shutoffs. Attorney Kerstetter explained individuals have to be 30 days delinquent before we can start the water shut off process. Individuals could be almost 2 months behind before the water could be shut off. There is nothing wrong with giving someone more time to pay the bill, we just can't give them less time. Attorney Kerstetter said that what we are currently doing is making sure the individual is delinquent for 30-days and then we put a red tag on their door that says they have 10 days to pay the bill or their water will be turned off. We updated the red tags notices as well to make them a bit more clear. You can give more days to pay but you can't give less than what we are now doing.

ACCEPTANCE OF REPORTS

On motion of David Persing, seconded by Cory Fasold, it was moved to accept all reports. Motion carried.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Derrick asked the Board if they wanted to continue looking into donating toothpaste and toothbrushes. The Board discussed giving some toothpaste and toothbrushes to the dentist and keeping some at the Authority building. It wouldn't start until after the fluoride is stopped. Cory stated he's not opposed to buying fluoride tablets and giving them to the dentist to disperse. Derrick will get some more information for the next meeting.

Derrick discussed the Municipal Authority's website. He received information from 7Mountains Media to redo the website. Mike stated that they have done a great job with his company's websites. The cost would be \$4,000 for 7Mountains Media to create a 4 page design of the website. Derrick will get more information if we are able to combine the flood website with the new website instead of having 2 websites. After the initial fee, there is a \$600 yearly fee to keep up the website.

On motion of Cory Fasold, seconded by Jerome Alex, it was moved to proceed with 7Mountains Media to create a website for the Municipal Authority, at Derrick's discretion, for 2026. Motion carried.

Derrick next discussed the flood wall/toe drain situation. Derrick is going to have the Municipal

Authority meet with the City but is waiting for the new member to be selected before setting up the meeting.

Derrick discussed the health insurance options for 2026. Derrick got a proposal from Geisinger and it is cheaper than Capital so the broker will be making a comparison as far as what everybody normally uses on a more regular basis. Derrick also asked the broker to go back to Capital and Geisinger to see if they would give us a better rate.

Derrick next discussed the insurance appraisal. MIB sent a proposal to complete the insurance appraisal for \$9,500. They could start in mid-January and would take approximately 2-3 months to do everything. The other appraisal was \$18,360. These are the only 2 companies that complete insurance appraisals.

On motion of Tom Krieger, seconded by Cory Fasold, it was moved to have MIB complete the insurance appraisal. Motion carried.

Derrick started a discussion on the Engineer termination. Entech terminated their service with the Municipal Authority effective December 10, 2025. Tom Krieger had a discussion with the Vice President of Entech about their pricing and other issues. Entech has 2 projects still outstanding but both should be completed by December 10th. Entech will still do work for the Municipal Authority but they will charge by the hour.

On motion of Jerome Alex, seconded by Mike Thomas, it was moved to solicit RFP's for engineering. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Jerome asked a question if there are cameras up throughout all the flood control areas. Tom Krieger believes they are done and Jason and Jeff were the only ones that had access. Jerome asked if they are all NDAA compliant cameras. Derrick will check to see if they are NDAA compliant and who has access to those cameras.

Jerome also asked Todd if we needed to do any advertising when we make ordinances. Todd stated that we do not make ordinances, we have rules and regulations so we do not need to advertise.

COMMENTS

Tom Krieger thanked Mike for joining the Board.

The list of expenditures from November 4 – November 17, 2025 was presented for payment. On motion of Cory Fasold, seconded by Dave Persing, the list of expenditures was approved for payment. Motion carried.

Chairman Koch announced an Executive session at 7:25 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue and the Board convened in Executive Session at 7:26 p.m. The meeting was reconvened into General Session at 7:41 p.m.

There being no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Recording Secretary

Approved:

Chairman