

REGULAR MEETING

October 1, 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, October 1, 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

Thomas Krieger

Cory Fasold

Thomas McBryan

Larry Welfer

Tre Bittner, constituting Board Members in attendance

Jason Neidig, Manager

Matthew Billman, Wastewater Department Manager

Patrick Bennett, Solid Waste/Recycling Manager

Michael Balducci, Solicitor

Karen Campbell, Recording Secretary

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

Chairman Koch called on Mr. and Mrs. Dippel from 141 N. Sixth Street, Sunbury, who were present to discuss sewer backing up into their basement during rain storms. They indicated they tried removing the rain spout and installed a back flow preventer which they said isn't working. They came to the meeting seeking help. The Board indicated they will look into correcting their problem.

Mr. Koch presented the Minutes of the September 3, 2024 meeting and called for any additions or corrections. There being no additions or corrections, on motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Larry Welfer, the Minutes were accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Chairman Koch called on Jason for the Financial Report. Jason said nothing stands out with regard to the Financial Reports. He said he is working on giving quarterly reports rather than each month. Mr. Fasold indicated he will be working with Jason and the Authority accountant on changes to the budget categories. On motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Tre Bittner, the Financial Report was accepted as presented. Motion carried.

WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT REPORT

Matt reviewed his report and discussed activity since the last meeting. Matt's report contained a chart of NPDES and Reported Values monthly averages for C BODS and TSS which he reviewed.

The subcontractor for the SCADA system, Renegade, has offered to have another company come in to work on it because Renegade can't get it figured out and the work needs to get done. Discussion followed. Mr. Balducci said he wants to review all the documentation. Mr. Fasold asked if the Authority could go after the subcontractor and Mr. Balducci indicated he needed to review the documentation first. Mr. Krieger asked to review the contracts himself. Mr. Bittner asked if this issue was because the Authority's former engineer did not do it correctly and Mr. Krieger said it was his opinion yes. Matt was asked to give an explanation of the valves. Attorney Balducci will schedule a meeting with Jason and Matt.

The Susquehanna Avenue project was updated. The storm line boring across Front Street is complete. The storm line is now being installed up Packer Street. The new sewer main on Masser Street is being installed and the sewer lateral is being installed for the easement.

The First Reformed Church at Second & Chestnut Streets is having storm water problems during heavy rains. Matt said the storm line needs to be put back into the sanitary line. In the meantime Matt recommended that the down spouts should be cleaned out.

Koby Schmidt's last day with the Authority will be October 11th.

SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING REPORT

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

The total tonnage so far this year is 609.89 tons more than in 2023 at this time. September tonnages were short because of the hauler strike.

The internet at the scale house went down on September 7th resulting in the use of hand tickets from September 7th to the 12th. The issue was with the transition networks media converter which was replaced.

The seal coating scheduled for the Transfer Station and Recycling Center has been postponed until Spring because of recent weather conditions.

Pat sold 23.56 tons of clear glass to Recycall and another trailer load of mixed goods to Jeff's Recycling. A load of plastics was sold to N.H. Kelman.

Pat's report contained a chart of daily averages for Transfer Station tonnage in September. He also provided September previous tonnages from 2018 thru 2023.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Neidig said the pre-bid meeting was held yesterday for the department security. Bid opening will be on October 15, 2024.

Jason attended a meeting recently on South Second Street project. He is waiting for the calculations from the PennDOT engineer on stormwater flows in the area. Pat Burke will review these findings and offer his opinion. Jason is looking for something better for the cleanout at Weis. An easement with Weis may need to be discussed.

G & R Charles should be done with digouts by the end of the year.

Jason discussed items impacting the 2023 budget i.e. Packer Street, Phase 2 of Susquehanna Avenue and the river intake. Mr. McBryan said City Council will be looking for \$250,000 for 2025 & 2026 and another \$250,000 for Packer Street and suggested budgeting a half million for 2025. Discussion followed. Mr. Fasold said he didn't think Jason had to worry about budgeting money in the 2025 budget for the river intake.

Jason requested a 30 day extension on the right to know request on the Lozada lawsuit. Attorney Balducci advised Jason to call the Authority's defense lawyer and discuss the right to know request with her.

An article on fluoride was handed out.

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

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Jason reviewed Mr. Burke's written report.

Entech received and reviewed the WQM Part 2 Permit application and design engineers report from Buchart Horn to better understand the design intent. Entech plans to continue assisting staff with WWTP start-up and developing a high-flow operations plan.

All other items on the report were covered by the Managers.

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

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Balducci has received nothing further since receiving the referral correspondence referring the Lozada lawsuit to the attorney referred to by Selective.

Attorney Balducci discussed the SCADA issues and a resident incident concerning backed up sewage/backflow with Jason.

A meeting has been scheduled with Attorney Kerstetter on October 8th. Mr. Bittner made a request to have Attorney Kerstetter attend the meetings in October, November and December.

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

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

The Board discussed GIS and the current staff struggling to update and use it. Mr. Billman said the catch basins on Susquehanna Avenue can still be done. Mr. Fasold said the Board stands behind Jason and if staff is not going to use GIS then perhaps another job will need to be found. Mr. Krieger suggested bringing the managers in to a meeting with the Personnel Committee. Mr. Balducci said the Board needs to strongly push GIS.

Insurance policy costs from Purdy Insurance were discussed. Jason said overall there is an approximate 10% increase with substantial jumps in workman's comp, general liability including cyber, business auto and boiler and machinery. Chairman Koch asked Jason to inform Adam Purdy that the Board needs more than 2 or 3 days notice before policy renewal. On motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Tre Bittner it was moved to renew the insurance policy with Purdy Insurance. Motion carried. On motion of Cory Fasold, seconded by Larry Welfer it was moved to request another quote for the Authority's insurance. Motion carried.

On motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Tre Bittner it was moved to pass Resolution 2024-06 to allow Entech to move forward on a grant amount up to \$800,000 to purchase a flush truck. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Fasold asked how the issue with the Dippel residence at 141 N Sixth Street can be resolved. Mr. McBryan suggested sealing the floor drain. Different options were discussed. Cory said the Dippels should be asked if the Authority would supply a different type of valve can you have it installed by a professional certified plumber. The bill could then be submitted to the Board for a decision.

The list of expenditures from September 17, 2024 to October 1, 2024 was presented for payment. On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Larry Welfer, the list of expenditures was approved for payment. Motion carried.

Chairman Koch called for an Executive Session at 9:58 p.m. to discuss a legal issue and the Board convened in Executive Session at 10:00 p.m. The meeting reconvened in General Session at 10:31 p.m. with no action being taken.

There being no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 10:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Chairman

Approved:

Solicitor