

REGULAR MEETING

October 15, 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 15, 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

Larry Welfer

Cory Fasold

Tom Krieger

David Persing

Tom McBryan

Tre Bittner, constituting Board Members in attendance

Jason Neidig, Manager

Brian Michaels, Water Department

Jeff Lewis, Flood Department Manager

Michael Balducci, Solicitor

Karen Campbell, Recording Secretary

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

There was no one present for public discussion.

Mr. Koch presented the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 17, 2024 and called for any additions or corrections. There being no additions or corrections, on motion of Dave Persing, seconded by Tom Krieger, the Minutes were accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Chairman Koch called on Mr. Neidig to open the bids for the Security System. The bids submitted were from DIR, Williamsport in the amount of \$39,954.40 and Unlimited Technologies of Exton in the amount of \$114,764. Discussion followed. Mr. Fasold suggested award be put on hold until Mr. Neidig does a detailed review of the bids. On motion of Tom Krieger, seconded by Cory Fasold it was moved to table the bids and have Jason reach out to the bidders for a 30 day extension. Motion carried. Mr. Persing commented to be careful about finding someone to service the equipment and Mr. Fasold said the bids should be reviewed for maintenance.

Jason next reviewed the financial reports. He said water revenue is to the good. Chemicals are behind budget but will catch up as the year goes on. Flood interest income is good with nothing else out of the ordinary. On motion of Tom Krieger, seconded by Larry Welfer, the Financial Reports were accepted. Motion carried

WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT

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

Personnel repaired a 3/4" service line at 124 West Street and hooked up a 2" service for the new McDonalds. Personnel also fixed a leak today at 7th & Masser Streets.

LB Water was in on October 11th and gave a training lesson on the data loggers to find the leak at 4th & Packer Streets. They were within 6" of locating the leak.

G & R Charles installed the new valves at Susquehanna Avenue & Packer Street

Meters were replaced at 120-122 N. 8th Street; 618-620 N 5th Street; the Goodwill's playground and at the River Plant.

On September 24th there was a lot of air in the filters. Pump 2 at the river plant was sucking air. The pump is at Motor Tech. Brian should have a quote back tomorrow. Mr. Krieger said he would like to see a price for new vs. repair and the availability to have a new one on hand.

On September 30th about 1000 fish died in Reservoir 4. DEP and the Fish Commission were contacted. They told Brian it was from low oxygen level in the reservoir. Water Department staff removed the fish and algae. The reservoir was not being used when this occurred.

Department staff helped the office with red tags and shut offs.

Derrick got all the lead and copper information done and uploaded to the State. Brian gave him a major thank you. Mr. Bittner asked Brian to inform Derrick the Board acknowledges his hard work.

Pat Burke plans on going out Monday to inspect the river intake.

Brian's report contained an Operations Report for the month of September.

FLOOD DEPARTMENT REPORT

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

Jeff gave an update on the various grant applications he submitted. He has heard nothing on the FEMA Grant. Flood Closure #1 Sill Replacement is waiting on Appropriations. Jeff received a phone call from Representative Stender regarding the LSA Statewide Grant.

A local contractor was hired by Norfolk Southern to repair the damage the pesticide company did at the base of the levee slope beside their tracks near the VFW on Shikellamy Avenue.

Jeff discussed flood control fees and how they are based on the County property assessment.

As part of the State rebuilding South Second Street, UGI is updating and relocating some of the Weis gas service lines that come off the 10" and 6" mains

that run parallel with the levee toe. The Army Corps and the State are aware of this project and are in contact with the UGI engineer in charge of the project to insure that everything is done properly to protect the levee.

The Army Corps of Engineers inspected the flood system on October 7th. No negative remarks were given.

Tre said the new BRIC Grant is coming out with funding opportunities next week. A Letter of Intent must be submitted to PEMA for approval. The Letter of Intent must have a project estimate. Jeff needs a revised project cost from Schnabel with Entech to begin the work involved in submitting a complete grant application by December 21st. On motion of Tom Krieger, seconded by Tre Bittner it was moved to have Schnabel provide an updated cost estimate for construction and engineering for the toe drain project at a cost not to exceed \$12,000. Motion carried. On motion of Tom Krieger, seconded by Tre Bittner it was moved to have Entech provide services to complete and submit a grant application through FEMA/PEMA BRIC program to do the entire toe drain project at a cost not to exceed \$12,000. Motion carried.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Jason has budgeted \$250,000 more per year for 2025 and 2026 for the 2nd phase of the Susquehanna Avenue project. Jason is waiting on Lee Zeger of CES Engineering who is working to provide estimates for the cost of Water, Wastewater and Stormwater systems for the Packer Street project.

Discussion was had on the requirement of having laborers go to school to get their CDL licenses as part of their employment. Pros and cons were discussed. Following discussion, on motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Tom Krieger, it was moved to change the current requirement to provide that laborers are not required to get CDL licenses as a part of their employment. Mr. Bittner opposed the motion. Motion carried.

Jason reported a current health insurance surplus for 2023 claims of \$38,464 with the broker, Benecon.

The Code office tracked down two guys from Ohio that CVS hired to fix the cutout in the street at CVS.

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

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Jason reviewed Pat's written report. The NPDES effluent discharge relocation study is due November 1st. Entech does not foresee any delay that would result in missing that deadline.

Entech is inspecting the river intake on Monday.

There is no change with the Little Shamokin Creek Improvement Project. Entech can assist the Authority with designing replacements for the

existing sluice gates and guide the efforts necessary to remove the blockage inside the overflow pipe.

Jason is waiting for the pump supplier to submit a quote for the 2025 budget.

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

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Balducci reported he has not heard or received anything further on the Lozada lawsuit since receiving correspondence referring the lawsuit to the Selective attorney.

Mr. Balducci met with Attorney Kerstetter on October 8th to familiarize him with important Authority agreements and other important items. Mr. Balducci asked if it would be appropriate for Attorney Kerstetter to be paid for attending November and December meetings.

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

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

There was Board discussion regarding GIS with Managers. Mr. Krieger said the Board is taking the position that GIS has to be used and we expect it to be done. It is a Board directive and if you don't know how to use it, it doesn't get put on the shelf, you ask for help.

Mr. Fasold discussed the hiring process with the Personnel Committee recommending hiring to the Board and the Personnel Committee handling problems with employees. He said the hiring process needs to be simplified. He said he feels the managers should do the leg work and when the manager gets down to two guys then go to Mr. Neidig with Jason then going to the Board with a recommendation to hire. Discussion followed.

On motion of Tom Krieger, seconded by Tom McBryan it was moved to accept the recommendation of the Personnel Committee to hire Matthew Vrona for the open laborer position for the Sewer Department.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. McBryan asked Jason to check rates at Mifflinburg Bank.

Mr. Welfer discussed a fluoride article that appeared in *The Daily Item* on October 8th and also an article on privatization in the *Authority Magazine*.

Mr. Fasold discussed accounting changes and he and Accountant agree two words Jason won't have to use is accrual and depreciation. He said depreciation has nothing to do with the budget. He said a new line to be added to the budget is anticipated capital expenses.

The list of expenditures from October 2, 2024 to October 15, 2024 was presented for payment. On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Larry Welfer, the list of expenditures was approved for payment. Motion carried.

There being no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted:

Chairman

Approved:

Solicitor