

## **REGULAR MEETING**

**September 2, 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 held Tuesday, September 2, 2025, at 6:00 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  
Larry Welfer, Board Member  
Jerome Alex, Board Member  
Derrick Backer, General Manager  
Matthew Billman, Wastewater Department Manager  
Patrick Bennett, Solid Waste/Recycling Dept/Flood Dept Manager  
Todd Kerstetter, Solicitor  
Patrick Burke, Engineer  
Kathy Paige, Recording Secretary

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

### **PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

Chairman Koch stated that nobody was present for public discussion. Chairman Koch welcomed Derrick Backer to his first Municipal Authority meeting.

### **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

Chairman Koch presented the meeting minutes from August 5, 2025. Mr. Welfer had a correction. The minutes listed the Water Department and it should be the Flood Department. Ms. Paige will make the corrections. On motion of Larry Welfer, seconded by Jerome Alex, the minutes were accepted with corrections pending. Motion carried.

Derrick Backer discussed the financial reports. Derrick stated the only thing that caught his eye was wastewater was in the red. Mr. Koch asked if it all balanced out in the end and Derrick stated it did. Thomas McBryan stated the Municipal Authority was able to get a 20-year treasury bond with an effective yield of 4.899.

## **WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Matt reviewed his report and discussed ongoing items since the last meeting. The Packer Street project start date will be the week of September 8<sup>th</sup>.

Matt stated the approved proposal for the FOG program submitted by Entech was provided to City Council for their review and comments.

Matt also stated the clarifier was taken offline, cleaned and wear items were replaced. When the other clarifier was taken down last year for maintenance, it was offline for a month. This year, the Wastewater Department got everything done in 2 weeks.

Jerome stated the City has questions regarding the FOG program including the fines and what role the City will play in the regulations and he asked Todd if anyone reached out to talk to him. Todd said nobody reached out to him yet. Derrick mentioned that there was a meeting held regarding the FOG program with the code office and another meeting with himself and the city's building inspector.

Matt reported there was a bidder on Municibid for the sale of Unit 6 which was for the minimum bid of \$10,000. The bidder had 2 weeks to contact Matt and no contact was made. Matt messaged the bidder on Municibid, emailed the bidder, and placed a phone call to the bidder. Once the 2 weeks had elapsed, Matt contacted Municibid to see what the options were. Their policy is that Municibid will contact the bidder and give them 2 days to respond back to the Municipal Authority. If no contact was made, Municibid voids the sale and the bidder is banned from Municibid. Matt will be placing Unit 6 back on Municibid and asked the Board if the minimum bid of \$10,000 is still acceptable. The Board had a discussion on other options to sell Unit 6. Todd is going to research the requirements for selling Authority property and let Matt and the Board know his findings.

## **SOLID WASTE, RECYCLING, & FLOOD DEPARTMENT MANAGER'S REPORT**

Pat reviewed the Flood Control Report. Flood closure #1 sill replacement grant is still pending.

Pat stated the CDSR 2026 grant award is still pending. The request amount is \$747,930.00. A supplemental addendum was sent requesting additional funding for the same project.

Pat reported that during the self-inspection of the flood system, there were actuator issues. The electric actuator at drainage 1 was not working. The electrical components had water get in them. The gate is functional so the Flood Department can close it by hand in an emergency. The Flood Department changed 2 capacitors. Pat called the company while troubleshooting the problem and they said it might be the 3<sup>rd</sup> capacitor, which is larger. The company gave Pat an estimate to repair the issue. The price to repair the existing unit, which is a generation 1, is \$7,472. The price to replace the existing unit with the newer generation 3 is \$14,972. Pat stated that Bill Moyer, from Moyer's Electronics, is trying to find a capacitor but if one can't be found, Pat wanted to bring the other two options for the Board to review. Pat will provide an update to the Board after he speaks with Bill Moyer.

Pat also reported while conducting the self-inspection and testing Motor 1 at Spring Run, the Flood Department found that phase 3 had very low amperage. Heims was called in to address the issue and it has been fixed.

Pat stated the Flood Department will be putting up the flood closures on September 25 in the morning with all the authority personnel and some people from the city, the fire police and PennDot. The flood closure at Sunbury monumental works will be at 9:00 am and the one behind the Vets at 10:00 am. The other ones will be done throughout the day.

Pat next reviewed the Solid Waste and Recycling Report. Pat reported the tonnage for August was 2709.38 tons. That was about 300 tons more than last August.

Pat reported on August 21<sup>st</sup>, DEP had the quarterly inspection with no violations.

Pat also reported no radiation hits for the month of August.

Recycling shipped out 22.47 tons of clear glass and 21 tons of brown glass as well as a full trailer of mixed goods to NH Kelman.

Pat stated the new baler was installed with no issues. The Recycling Center only had to be closed for one day on Wednesday, August 20<sup>th</sup>. Pat explained to the Board all the safety features with the baler.

On motion of Thomas McBryan, seconded by Cory Fasold, it was moved to place a container at the John O Long softball field for the girls softball tournament in September. Motion carried.

#### **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT**

Derrick stated that PennDot and the City are waiting for an update from the Municipal Authority for the walkway on the levy involving the toe-drain timeline in the area. Both PennDot and the City have projects they want to do on North Front Street so they are looking for a timeline.

Derrick mentioned the Packer Street project is planned to start the week of September 8<sup>th</sup>.

Derrick stated he met with all the Department Managers and the majority of staff members and did department tours. He had conversations with the staff about the positives, the challenges, and their overall perspectives.

Derrick next discussed the LSA grant for the toe drain project. The grant is open for any project. It opened yesterday and it goes to November 30<sup>th</sup>. The minimum amount for the grant is \$25,000 and the maximum is \$1 million. Derrick said there is plenty of need whether it's a project or equipment. Derrick believes the Municipal Authority could get between \$250,000 to \$350,000 for the toe drain project. The Board discussed different options for the LSA grant money and will continue going for the grants for the toe drains. Tom McBryan mentioned using the LSA grant money for the rehab of the raw water intake in the river.

On motion of Thomas McBryan, seconded by David Persing, it was moved to accept the Manager's Reports. Motion carried.

Thomas McBryan restarted the discussion on the toe drain timeline and that the Board will need to make a decision to use the money and try to accommodate the City with the walkway on the levee.

### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Pat Burke submitted his report to the board. Pat discussed the toe drain grant funding efforts. Entech has been working with Senator's Fetterman and McCormick's office on the congressional discretionary spending grant funding requests. Senator Fetterman's office is advancing the funding request in his budget proposal. Senator McCormick's budget did not include the toe drain project, but further discussions with his staff are ongoing and they are still receptive for potentially advancing the project. Entech also submitted grant funding requests to PEMA/FEMA.

Pat next discussed Closure Structure #1. Schnabel Engineering has been going back and forth with the Norfolk Southern engineering department. Schnabel Engineering was able to determine that Norfolk Southern is going to be the one that's going to dictate the terms and identify the extensive nature of the approval application. Schnabel's original proposal submitted in late May was for \$25,000 time and expense proposal to complete 30% engineering which is required by the Norfolk Southern engineering application program. Norfolk Southern has 7 submittal levels and they won't tell Schnabel what they are going to require until the application is made. Schnabel's original proposal of a time and expense not to exceed \$25,000 is to get through the approval process. Pat explained there is a closure structure there and it won't seal. Pat stated if the Municipal Authority wants to advance the project, Schnabel is going to have to make a 30% submission on the Municipal Authority's behalf to Norfolk Southern engineering.

On motion of Thomas McBryan, seconded by Jerome Alex, it was moved to proceed with Schnabel Engineering's proposal for the 30% submission in terms of engineering at a cost not to exceed \$25,000 for closure structure #1. Motion carried.

Pat discussed the Susquehanna Avenue Reconstruction Phase 2 Project. CES reached out to Pat to indicate that DEP is requiring the project to undergo an Act 537 planning approval. Entech reached out to DEP Williamsport and asked what is needed in terms of a planning update. DEP stated Entech needs to do a special study on the project limits area. That will probably take about 9 months to complete. Entech put together a proposal to complete the special study with time and expense not to exceed \$19,700. Eventually Entech will have to go to the city because the city will be the one that has to approve it. The Municipal Authority will be paying for the study.

On motion of Thomas McBryan, seconded by David Persing, it was moved to proceed with Entech's proposal to complete the Act 537 Planning Study at a cost not to exceed \$19,700 for the Susquehanna Avenue Phase 2 project. Motion carried.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Attorney Kerstetter stated that things are pretty quiet. Attorney Kerstetter will take a look at the disposition of personal property and send an email to the Board with his findings.

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

#### **ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

Cory asked Pat if Entech provides a service of evaluating values of all the Municipal Authority's structures. Derrick stated it would be an industrial appraisal report. Pat stated he would check on that and would report back to Derrick as soon as he gets an answer.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

#### **COMMENTS**

Cory asked when the Board would like to meet to discuss the insurance policy. The Board decided to meet at 5:00 pm before the next meeting for a special meeting regarding insurance.

The Board had general discussion about right to know and citizen input requirements. The Board will review with Solicitor.

The list of expenditures from August 19 – September 2, 2025, was presented for payment. On motion of Cory Fasold, seconded by Thomas McBryan, the list of expenditures was approved for payment. Motion carried.

There being no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

---

Recording Secretary

Approved:

---

Chairman