

REGULAR MEETING

January 3, 2023

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, January 3, 2023, at 7:00 o'clock, P.M. at the Municipal Authority Administrative Building, 462 South Fourth Street, Sunbury, Pennsylvania.

The following were in attendance:

Charles Schlegel, Chairman
Norm Koch
Tom McBryan
David Persing
Larry Welfer
Tom Krieger
Tre Bittner, constituting Board Members in attendance
Jason Neidig, Manager
Mike Kerstetter, Sewer Department Manager
Pat Ward, Engineer
Michael Balducci, Solicitor
Karen Campbell, Recording Secretary
Matt Billman

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

There was no one else present for public discussion.

Chairman Schlegel called on Attorney Balducci to conduct the election of officers for 2023. Mr. Balducci called for nominations for the office of Chairman. On motion of Norm Koch, seconded by Dave Persing, Charles Schlegel was nominated for Chairman. There were no other nominations from the floor. Mr. Balducci next called for nominations for the office of Vice Chairman. On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Dave Persing, Norm Koch was nominated for Vice-Chairman. There were no other nominations from the floor. Mr. Balducci called for nominations for the office of Secretary-Treasurer. On motion of Norm Koch, seconded by Larry Welfer, Tom McBryan was nominated for Secretary-Treasurer. There were no other nominations from the floor. Mr. Balducci next called for nominations for the office of Assistant Secretary-Treasurer. On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Tom McBryan, Larry Welfer was nominated for Assistant Secretary-Treasurer. There were no other nominations from the floor. Mr. McBryan moved the nominations be closed. Mr. Welfer seconded the motion. Attorney Balducci then declared Charles Schlegel the duly elected Chairman, Norm Koch the duly elected Vice Chairman, Tom McBryan the duly elected Secretary-Treasurer

and Larry Welfer the duly elected Assistant Secretary-Treasurer. Mr. Balducci then turned the meeting back over to Chairman Schlegel.

Mr. Schlegel presented the Minutes of the December 6, 2022 meeting and called for any additions or corrections. There being no additions or corrections, on motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Tre Bittner, the Minutes were accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Jason reviewed the financial reports. Wastewater is still positive on operating income and nothing negative has come up. Solid Waste operating income is up about \$376,000 and recycling operating income is strong. On motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Larry Welfer, the financial reports were accepted. Motion carried.

SEWER AND SOLID WASTE DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Mike called on Matt Billman to give a report on operations at the Sewer Plant. He said they are no longer able to use pumps 5 & 6 to pump over the dike because of the change by EPA in the NPDES Permit. Mike and Matt passed around pictures showing water backed up during a recent storm. The procedure now is to turn pumps off, go to Spring Run to monitor flows and then go to pump station. Not being able to use the pumps is causing a problem to meet the 85% recapture rate if they wait too long. Mr. McBryan said they need to anticipate the storm and have someone at the plant. Mike said an automated valve at Spring Run is needed that can be operated from the plant. Matt said a new actuator for Spring Run will cost \$7,500 and said an EQ basin drain should be automated and should be variable. Mike noted that the line coming in is 27" and the line going out is 48". Mike said he is looking to collect half million gallons in the EQ basin. Jason suggested having EPA people in to actually show them the operation rather than seeing it on paper. The Board felt this was a good suggestion.

Mike next reviewed his report and discussed activity since the last meeting including an update on the Transfer Station upgrade where the frame work is up and the scale has been ordered. Jason discussed a column placed in the trench and talked with T-Ross. Mr. Krieger said a cricket could be put on it to drain water around the column. He also said there should be a reservation of rights to that column and the bolts.

No testing results from the oil samples taken from the three transformers have been received. Mike is still waiting for the new insulator to be delivered and be placed in the cabinet for pump 5.

Mr. Kerstetter announced that the Authority received approval of the \$50,000 USDA Grant he had applied for to be used towards the purchase of a new camera system for examining sewer lines. As part of the Grant Agreement he said the Board needs to acknowledge approval of several forms and provide a copy of the approval to Keith Lehman, the Area Specialist for Community Facilities Rural Development of USDA. Following discussion, on motion of Norm Koch, seconded by Tom Krieger, it was moved to ratify and approve all actions that have been taken to apply for the \$50,000 USDA Grant including the Grant Application; Grant

Agreement Form; Form RD 1942-46; Form RD 1940-1; Form RD 1942-8 and Form EFT 3881 and further authorize the proper officers to sign all forms requested. Motion carried.

Mike submitted the application on December 15th for a Covid 19 PA Small Water Sewer Grant. The Grant is for \$500,000 and will be used to off-set the cost of the new UV system. The Authority's share would be \$180,080.

Mike reported on UV unit problems during the frigid weather on December 23rd when a transformer malfunctioned on Church Street causing a brownout throughout the plant momentarily. This tripped a breaker in the UV system causing the unit to go offline. Mike believes the UC unit froze as a result of the brownout. He and Matt were able to get the UV system running in the hand mode. The unit was down for approximately two hours before operating. Mike sent DEP a text immediately outlining the UV incident and followed up with an email addressing the incident.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Jason said he is still waiting on Dave Wood for the Homeland Security report.

Jason provided an update to the Board on a letter received from Jay Alexander.

Jason brought up a question about the marijuana policy i.e. are there to be random testings for just marijuana or all drugs. Mr. Krieger said the policy should be that the Authority reserves the right to do the testing but it doesn't have to be exercised. All employees are subject to testing for all substances and across the Board. It was the consensus of the Board that three employees are to be randomly tested quarterly.

Interest earned on the Grant money was given back.

On motion of Norm Koch, seconded by Tom Krieger, it was moved to approve the Manager's Report. Motion carried.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

The information for the capture rate will be provided to Pat by Cammey and will be available on the next report.

Pat asked the Board's wishes on pursuing the Court Street Stormwater Improvement project. Mr. McBryan said it was his opinion that it should be rebid and also the aeration project but to wait on that project until the Court Street project is rebid. Discussion followed. On motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Tom Krieger it was moved to rebid the Court Street project using PennBid. Motion carried.

Pat presented Application for Payment #4 from T-Ross Brothers for the Transfer Station project in the amount of \$196,033.13. On motion of Norm Koch,

seconded by Tre Bittner, Application for Payment #4 from T-Ross Brothers in the amount of \$196,033.13 was approved. Motion carried.

The Transfer Station General Permit is ready to submit.

On motion of Norm Koch, seconded by Larry Welfer, it was moved to accept the Engineer's Report as presented. Motion carried.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Balducci's said he followed-up with Keefer & Associates and they will be on site tomorrow morning to do the survey work for the Giesen right-of-way.

Mr. Balducci said he is meeting tomorrow with Jason to discuss the Upper Augusta sewer audit request and the Drug & Alcohol handbook language.

Nothing further has been received from Mr. Jenkin's Attorney and nothing has been received from the Selective claims representative handling the threatened liability claim of Mr. Jenkins against the Authority. Nothing has been received either from the worker's compensation attorney.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

The list of expenditures from December 6, 2022 to January 3, 2023 was presented for payment. On motion of Larry Welfer, seconded by Dave Persing, the list of expenditures was approved for payment. Motion carried.

Chairman Schlegel announced an Executive Session at 8:55 p.m. to discuss an employee issue and the meeting convened in Executive Session. The meeting reconvened in General Session at 9:05. Chairman Schlegel appointed a Committee consisting of Jason Neidig as Chairman, Tom McBryan and Norm Koch to review the current vacation policy and report back to the Board.

There being no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Chairman

Approved:

Solicitor