

REGULAR MEETING

March 21, 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, March 21, 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:

Larry Welfer
Tom McBryan
Tom Krieger (via phone)
David Persing
Tre Bittner, constituting Board Members in attendance
Jason Neidig, Manager
Scott Debo, Water Department Manager
Jeff Lewis, Flood Control Department Manager
Pat Ward, Engineer
Michael Balducci, Solicitor
Karen Campbell, Recording Secretary
Derrick Backer

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

Mr. McBryan called on Mr. Backer. Mr. Backer informed the Board that the Susquehanna Avenue project went from a five million dollar project to a twelve million dollar project. He talked with PennVest regarding a loan program and available grants. An application for information has to come from the Authority. Mr. Backer is asking the Authority to apply for eight million dollars in a loan or grant in the Authority name for the Susquehanna Avenue project. Mr. Backer said the City is looking to put the project out to bid in November or December with work starting February or March 2024. Some of the work will benefit the Celotex site. Following discussion Mr. Backer left the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

Mr. Koch presented the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 21, 2023. There being no additions or corrections, on motion of Larry Welfer, seconded by Tre Bittner, the Minutes were accepted as presented. Motion carried. There were no financial reports to review.

WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT

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

On February 28th Scott and Rich Shipman along with Fire Chiefs Rupp and Long had a meeting with William Bekanich a Field Representative of Insurance Service Offices regarding the Authority's distribution system and fire hydrants.

Scott will be setting up a meeting with the Fluoride Committee shortly.

A purchase order was delivered to Zimmermans for the Unit 3 replacement. Delivery is expected to take six to eighteen weeks. Unit 3 was placed on Municibid.

The 2023 Little Shamokin Creek Watershed creek clean up will be held April 15, 2023. Scott asked permission to use Authority equipment to assist in the cleanup. The equipment will be operated by Authority employees volunteering their time. On motion of Larry Welfer, seconded by Tre Bittner, Scott was granted permission to use Authority equipment for the cleanup to be held April 15, 2023. Motion carried.

Scott had an Operations Report for February 2023 attached to his report.

FLOOD CONTROL DEPARTMENT REPORT

Jeff reviewed his report and discussed activity since the last meeting. Notice of award for the BRIC Grant will not be given until May.

Jeff has submitted an appropriations request for the maximum allowed for \$1,000,000 thru Senator Casey's and Senator Fetterman's offices for the toe drain project. The Authority's match would be \$250,000. Notice of approval will be given in Spring or Summer of 2024. Jeff said he received good letters of support from Sunbury businesses and the Army Corps. He now plans to look for available State funds.

GES has completed the modifications to the waterway telemetry stations.

Actuators have been ordered for the Spring Run Pump Station.

Jeff gave an update on the Authority's computer virus detection program by Endpoint Security.

MANAGER'S REPORT

The 1992 flush truck was sold on Municibid for \$37,100. Scott's pickup was listed on March 13, 2023 and the auction will end on March 31, 2023.

Jason gave a report on his attendance at the Public Employer Relations Advisory Service Conference on March 15th thru March 17th. He attended sessions on the Fair Labor Standards Act, ADA, Drug and Alcohol Testing, Medical Marijuana, Right-to-Know Issues and Innovative Retention Strategies.

Jason and Tom Krieger viewed the fence at the Transfer Station. Tom said it was his opinion that the Authority did not receive what was paid for and

that more steel should be added to the fence. Mr. Ward was asked to inform T-Ross to get the fence fixed according to Authority's specifications.

The Transfer Station had a radiation detection incident last week with a Hometown load. The driver was extremely upset being held up three hours until the landfill sent someone down to check the load. Jason would like to purchase a hand held scanner so drivers do not have to sit and wait during a radiation incident. The cost of a hand held scanner will range between \$8,000 and \$15,000. Discussion followed. On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Larry Welfer it was moved to allow Jason to explore the cost of a hand held scanner and proceed with the purchase at a not to exceed cost of \$17,000. Motion carried.

The cost of a bag drop off at the Transfer Station is \$3.00 and Jason is recommending a \$.25 increase to cover the latest tonnage increase. Discussion followed. On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Larry Welfer, it was moved to increase the cost of bag drop-offs by \$.50 per bag. Motion carried.

DEP and EPA will meet at the Transfer Station on March 30th.

The Region 5 Spring meeting is scheduled for May 18th.

Jason gave the schedule of rates with PLGIT but cautioned PLGIT is not FDIC insured. Following discussion, on motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Dave Persing, it was moved to transfer three million dollars from Northumberland National Bank to PLGIT prime. Motion carried.

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

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Pat and David Highfield made a visit to the Water Plant where there has been an issue with the formation of small mud balls in the filters. Operations were going well during the visit and no mud balls were observed.

Pat advised Scott to wait on any action on the relocation of Reservoir #4 Outfall until he receives a clear picture from DEP.

In addition to the grant applications to Senator Casey and Senator Fetterman which Jeff reported on, Pat said they are attempting to apply to Representative Meuser as well.

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

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Balducci said Upper Augusta has acknowledged receiving the request for an audit but a reply has still not been received.

Because Jason brought back more information from the convention he attended Mr. Balducci is going back to work on the Authority's Drug and Alcohol

Policy. Attorney Balducci said it would be a good idea to go back through the entire handbook and update policies

The marijuana policy was scheduled to be started April 1st but Mr. Balducci is recommending postponing the start to May 1st. On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Larry Welfer, it was moved to postpone the start of the marijuana policy to May 1, 2023. Motion carried.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. McBryan asked Mr. Debo to check with Aqua Water to see what they are doing with fluoride. Pat said he knows of one plant that has switched to liquid fluoride.

Mr. Backers's request was again discussed. On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Dave Persing, it was moved to apply for a PennVest loan for approximately Eight Million Dollars with the stipulation that the application is nonbinding and exploratory only and the Authority is not committing to the City of Sunbury or PennVest that the Authority will obligate itself to a loan in any amount from PennVest for the City of Sunbury's Susquehanna Avenue project. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

The list of expenditures from March 8, 2023 to March 21, 2023 was presented for payment. On motion of Dave Persing, seconded by Larry Welfer, the list of expenditures was approved for payment. Motion carried.

Mr. McBryan announced an Executive Session at 9:26 to discuss a personnel issue and the meeting convened in Executive Session at 9:26 p.m. The meeting reconvened in General Session at 10:00 p.m.

There being no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Secretary-Treasurer

Approved:

Solicitor