

REGULAR MEETING

March 7, 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 7, 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:

Norm Koch  
Tom McBryan  
Larry Welfer  
Tom Krieger  
David Persing  
Tre Bittner, constituting Board Members in attendance  
Jason Neidig, Manager  
Mike Kerstetter, Sewer Department Manager  
Patrick Bennett, Solid Waste/Recycling Manager  
Jeff Lewis, Flood Department Manager  
Pat Ward, Engineer  
Michael Balducci, Solicitor  
Karen Campbell, Recording Secretary

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

There was no one present for public discussion.

Mr. Koch called on Jeff Lewis. Mr. Lewis discussed a meeting today with Senator Casey's aide. He said there is a chance for a one million dollar grant to go towards the toe drains at a 25% match. He said there is a possibility of grants from Senator Fetterman and Senator Mueser also. The Grants are separate and could come from all three. The Application will need to be submitted by next Friday. Mr. Ward estimated his fee at \$2,500 to submit the Application. On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Dave Persing it was moved to participate in the grant process and commit \$250,000 as the Authority's 25% match. Motion carried.

Mr. Koch presented the Minutes of the February 7, 2023 meeting and called for any additions or corrections. There being no additions or corrections, on motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Larry Welfer, the Minutes were accepted as presented. Motion carried.

## WASTEWATER DEPARTMENT REPORT

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

Mike and Jason are scheduled to meet on March 9<sup>th</sup> with EPA and DEP to tour the facility and pump stations. The purpose of the meeting is to try and renegotiate the current NPDES Permit to allow the Authority to go back to using the CSO pumps.

Mike would like to proceed with Phase Three of Heim's electrical maintenance and corrective actions. However since receiving a quote in 2022 the price has increased \$4,710 over the original \$33,900 quote due to wire pricing and labor. Following discussion, on motion of Tom Krieger, seconded by Tom McBryan, it was moved to go forward with Phase Three with the provision that the Authority keeps the old wiring. Motion carried.

Mr. Kerstetter is moving forward with the emergency portion of Phase 1 of the SCADA upgrade which will help to control the flows entering the plant during rain events. The cost for this portion of the upgrade is \$57,350. Allied Control was asked to submit a second bid but was unable to meet the time frame. Renegade Solutions will be installing the emergency equipment.

G & R Charles was awarded the bid for the Court Street project with a bid of \$89,148.

Mike submitted a Federal Funding Accountability & Transparency Act Sub-recipient Data Sheet as a part of the Covid-19 PA Small Water Sewer Grant.

LTS Plumbing was awarded the contract to install the new furnace in the employee's center. A new on-demand hot water heater was also purchased to replace the 150 gallon gas hot water heater. Mike wants to place the 150 gallon water heater on Municibid to sell.

A total of four camera suppliers were in to demo their equipment. Mike narrowed them down to two i.e. US Municipal and Aries. He is recommending Aries. Mike would also like to purchase a 12' enclosed trailer from North Point Trailer Sales at a cost of \$4,685 and personnel would dress it out in-house. He would also like to sell the current cube van. On motion of Larry Welfer, seconded by Dave Persing, Mike was authorized to purchase the cameras and the 12' enclosed trailer at a cost of \$4,685. Motion carried.

Mike distributed an Indemnification and Hold Harmless and Insurance Agreement which is sent to all vendors that was returned modified. Mr. Krieger suggested asking the vendor what part of the Agreement is a problem for them. He said by allowing them to take language out you are not holding them responsible for damage they cause the Authority and the vendor needs to be told unless it is signed the Authority cannot do business with them.

## SOLID WASTE/RECYCLING REPORT

Mr. Bennett gave a Transfer Station upgrade report.

Two 8 cu yd containers were sold on Municibid for \$4,200.

The baler repair is still ongoing. The 2022 Northumberland County Annual Recycling Report was submitted February 17<sup>th</sup>. The newest scale operator has received her Weighmaster License from the Department of Agriculture Bureau of Rides and Measurements.

Pat's report contained a chart of daily averages for Transfer Station tonnage. The highest day was February 27<sup>th</sup> with 120.83 tons and had an early closing at 2 p.m. Pat also provided February previous tonnages from 2018 thru 2023.

### MANAGER'S REPORT

Jason had a meeting with T-Ross regarding the fencing and the poor workmanship. He also said there is a problem with the ramp. T-Ross wanted to do 10' but the plans call for an 18' ramp. Mr. McBryan said he has a problem with the blocks not being on a foundation. Mr. Ward said he believes the blocks are fine. Discussion followed regarding the issues. Mr. Krieger asked Pat to advise T-Ross about the concerns with the fence that could impact the retainage.

Jason said the interest rate at Northumberland National is 3%. Mr. McBryan suggested looking at PLGIT. Mr. Koch asked the Finance Committee to meet and make a recommendation to the Board.

Jason continues to follow CDC guidelines when an employee contracts COVID. Employees are required to be off work for 5 days following the first day of symptoms and must wear a mask for 10 days when they return. Attorney Balducci said he would take a look at the guidelines to see if anything has changed.

All cameras at the office, transfer station and recycling are installed and operating. Due to the dark area under roof at the Transfer Station Jason added two cameras at the rear of the building facing the scale house and one camera to the outside of the main office area to ensure complete coverage of the parking areas. The added cameras were about \$5,000 in change orders.

Elmer Danley has inquired about the fuel surcharge. Discussion followed. On motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Tre Bittner, it was moved to lower or raise the surcharge in conjunction with the landfill fee when the Transfer Station is finished. Motion carried.

Jason distributed a list of Committees and liaison assignments.

Jason said he is working to get natural gas rates. He also reported Terri English paid about \$800 on her bill. A trailer shell was left at the ballfield. He is waiting on a response from the police if they were able to find out who dropped it there.

Jason asked about the YMCA membership. Mr. Bittner said it was his opinion to pay and continue supporting the YMCA.

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

## ENGINEER'S REPORT

Pat had no information available on the capture rate. Figures should be available shortly.

Bid opening for the Court Street Stormwater Improvement project was awarded to G & R Charles based on their bid of \$89,148 subject to review. Reviews have been completed and have found G & R Charles an acceptable bidder. A notice of intent to award was forwarded to G & R Charles.

The aeration basin project was discussed. Mr. Ward suggested waiting one more meeting to decide if the Board wanted to bid. Discussion followed. On motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Tre Bittner it was moved to bid the aeration project. Motion carried.

Pat presented Application for Payment #6 from T-Ross Brothers for the Transfer Station project in the amount of \$186,517.86 and recommended payment. He said there would be about \$487,000 left on the contract. Mr. Krieger said Pat should strongly urge them to get ready for damages if the job is not completed on time. He said T-Ross was granted an extension in good faith and they now need to get people on the job and get it completed. On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Tom McBryan, Application #6 from T-Ross Brothers in the amount of \$186,517.86 was approved for payment. Motion carried.

In connection with the Transfer Station project Buchart-Horn is requesting an additional \$7,500. Discussion followed. On motion of Tom Krieger, seconded by Tom McBryan, it was moved to approve the additional fee of \$7,500 from Buchart-Horn. Motion carried. Mr. Krieger said the fee should be paid by T-Ross as a deduct.

Pat talked with DEP today regarding the Solid Waste Transfer Station General Permit. He said DEP does not like to issue the Permit until closer to the expiration date. Attorney Balducci asked Pat if it was possible to get a draft of the Permit.

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

## SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Balducci said he has not heard anything from Upper Augusta on the requested Audit.

Mr. Balducci said he continues work on revising the Drug and Alcohol Policy.

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

The list of expenditures from February 22, 2023 to March 7, 2023 was presented for payment. On motion of Larry Welfer, seconded by Dave Persing, the list of expenditures was approved for payment. Motion carried.

Mr. Bittner said he thought it would be a good idea if the Board would recognize employees on the anniversary of their employment with a card or letter. Mr. Koch asked Mr. Bittner if he would be willing to undertake the project and he said he would.

Mr. Koch announced an Executive Session at 9:10 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue and the meeting convened in Executive Session at 9:15 p.m. The meeting reconvened in General Session at 9:17 p.m. with no action taken.

There being no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Vice Chairman

Approved:

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Solicitor