

REGULAR MEETING

May 16, 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, May 16, 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  
Larry Welfer  
Tom McBryan  
Tom Krieger  
Dave Persing  
Tre Bittner, constituting Board Members in attendance  
Jason Neidig, Manager  
Scott Debo, Water Department Manager  
Jeff Lewis, Flood Department Manager  
Pat Ward, Buchart Horn  
Michael Balducci, Solicitor

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

Mr. Koch called on Tony Gagliardi of Klacik Associates to provide a report on the 2022 Audit performed for the Authority. Mr. Gagliardi indicated there were no findings and that revenue was up due to grants. There were no big changes in revenues and expenses. This year a single audit was performed and that is new because there was more than \$750,000 in federal grants. The single audit is performed to ensure compliance with grant requirements. Mr. Gagliardi stated that Klacik will file follow-up state reports as required. There was a follow-up question from Tom McBryan concerning the status of the pension surplus or liability of \$1.4 million and pension income of \$650,000 as shown on page 45 of the Audit indicating that we are overfunded. On motion of Tom Krieger, seconded by Tre Bittner, the Audit was approved. Motion carried.

Mr. Koch presented the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 18, 2023 and called for any additions or corrections. There being no additions or corrections, on Motion by Dave Persing, seconded by Tre Bittner, the Minutes were accepted as presented. Motion carried.

Concerning the financial reports, Jason Neidig stated that water income increased due to increased interest income. Mr. Neidig also indicated that chemicals were higher and power bills continue to be inconsistent. Depreciation is zero but will be adjusted later in the year per guidance provided by the Authority's auditors.

Concerning the Flood Department financials, Jason pointed out the check to the City in the amount of \$102,314 for the WPA flood wall expense. Like the Water Department's financial

report, depreciation at this time is zero. On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Larry Welfer, the financial reports were accepted as presented. Motion carried.

### WATER DEPARTMENT REPORT

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

The first item Scott reported on was a sink hole which appeared at Front and Church Streets due to a water leak and sewer break. Scott is going to fix the water main break. Jason presented a video of the sewer line showing the water gushing into the broken line. Much discussion followed on the handling of the broken line.

Scott reported on the status of the PennDOT brine line. He stated PennDOT is taking care of everything. There will be a meter pit on their property.

Scott reported on the installation of a new four-inch water line to serve the Shikellamy Football Stadium complex. They will do away with an existing two-inch line.

Scott next reported that he was in the process of obtaining an engineering quote for the sludge pond cleaning, but after discussion the consensus of the Board was for Scott to advertise directly for contractor quotes.

Scott reported that the fluoride committee met. Mr. McBryan stated that local dentists agree that fluoridation should continue. However, the recommendation is to convert to liquid since it is safer. On motion of Tom Krieger, seconded by Tom McBryan, it was moved to continue with fluoridation, but convert to a liquid system. Motion carried.

### FLOOD DEPARTMENT REPORT

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

Concerning the WPA stone wall replacement, Glenn Hawbaker was awarded the contract. Construction will begin in July and the contractor has ninety days to complete the project.

Concerning the PEMA grant application, Jeff indicated notice of approval will be given in May.

Jeff reported that the Spring Run Pump Station valve actuator has been ordered.

Jeff also reported on the heavy rains which fell the weekend of April 28<sup>th</sup>. Power was lost to the Regan Street Pump Station which caused the underpass to flood, but PPL had the issue fixed within an hour. Jeff also reported the Shamokin Creek gauge was off about 2.5 feet due to a silt blockage at the intake.

Jeff next reported that the grant for Flood Closure No. 1 sill replacement was submitted.

Lastly, Jeff reported on his request to Senator Culver for assistance to obtain funds for toe drain rehabilitation work. Jeff reported that Josh Funk, Senator Culver's Chief of Staff, directed him to a \$1 million grant called the Local Share Account – Statewide, which is not currently taking applications but will start taking them on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Jeff stated he will need assistance from the Authority's engineer for the purpose of drafting the grant paperwork.

## MANAGER'S REPORT

Jason reported on the Upper Augusta audit status and stated that he had received some responses. It appears that a couple of residential properties went from one EDUs to two EDUs. Also, it appears there may be other individuals who have not been billed for service.

Concerning the South Second Street Project update, Jason said he has been reaching out to Senator Culver for assistance in obtaining funds to renew water and sewer infrastructure, but he has not received a response as yet.

Jason next discussed the bill from Buchart Horn for \$7,500 for work in connection with the installation of scales at the new Transfer Station. Discussion on this was deferred.

Jason discussed a bill for \$8,100 from Buchart Horn for aeration basin work. The bill was for design and bidding which was within the approved contract amount. A discussion took place concerning the need to come to an agreement on engineering services for the construction phase of the aeration basin. The outcome was that Pat will submit a proposal on an hourly basis for construction phase engineering services.

Jason next presented a major problem with loading trailers at the Transfer Station. Evidently debris is being pushed over the sides of the trailer because the loader driver cannot see where the trailer is. Discussion followed concerning various possible solutions including deflectors or mirrors.

Lastly, Jason reminded the Board of the Authority's employees' picnic scheduled for June 30<sup>th</sup>. On motion of Tom McBryan, seconded by Tre Bittner, it was moved to approve the Managers' Reports. Motion carried.

## ENGINEER'S REPORT

Pat Ward briefly reviewed the items in his report which had been discussed during the meeting. On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Larry Welfer, it was moved to approve the Engineer's Report as presented. Motion carried.

## SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Balducci reviewed the status of the PPL Easements. He reported that PPL presented three Amended Easements to the Authority relating to old easements given to PPL. One easement is located on Market Street opposite Zimmerman Motors. Another easement runs across the bank of the large settling reservoir, and the third easement runs under the Snyderstown highway and up the steep bank toward the water tower. Attorney Balducci stated there were water and sewer facilities located underground in the Market Street easement area. The Snyderstown Road easement contains a ten-inch water main which runs to the water tower. Attorney Balducci expressed concerns that there is language in the Amended Easements that allows PPL to install underground facilities in the easement areas. The new easements also prevent the Authority from doing any work above or below ground in the easement areas. Attorney Balducci has communicated to PPL to remove language that allows PPL to have underground facilities and to remove the language which does not allow the Authority to do work within the easement areas.

Attorney Balducci indicated that since the Authority's last meeting on May 2<sup>nd</sup> nothing further has been heard from The Daily Item concerning its Right-to-Know request.

Lastly, Attorney Balducci reported that he had met with Jason and Emily to discuss the mechanism of implementation of the Marijuana Drug, and Alcohol Testing Consent process. He will be working on an outline to help Jason and Emily to implement the Consent process.

On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Tom McBryan, it was moved to approve Attorney Balducci's Report. Motion carried.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NONE

### NEW BUSINESS

Tre Bittner discussed an upcoming webinar sponsored by PMAA concerning Authority Teamwork. He indicated that it is \$45 per person and there are two sessions. The first session being scheduled for the following day, May 17<sup>th</sup>. Jason indicated he would handle the scheduling of this webinar for Authority employees.

The list of expenditures from May 2<sup>nd</sup> to May 16<sup>th</sup> was presented for payment. Upon motion of Dave Persing, seconded by Tom McBryan, the list of expenditures was approved for payment. Motion carried.

Mr. Koch announced an Executive Session at 8:58 to discuss legal and personnel issues and the meeting convened in Executive Session at 9:01 p.m. The meeting reconvened in General Session at 9:56 p.m. On motion of Tom Krieger, seconded by Tom McBryan, it was moved to pay the Authority's share of medical coverage for a full-time employee with at least thirty-five (35) years of service to the Authority who is retiring and who is under age 65, for a maximum of five months for the healthcare coverage which they had prior to retirement, and the employee will be required to continue to pay the amount they have been contributing to the Authority. Lastly, this process is contingent upon the approval of the Authority's broker at the time of the employee's retirement. Motion carried.

On motion of Tre Bittner, seconded by Tom McBryan, it was moved to pay Pat/Buchart Horn \$5,600 of the \$7,500 billed for the work performed in connection with the scales at the Transfer Station. Motion carried. The amount of \$5,600 was already paid to Pat, therefore nothing further would be payable by the Authority to Buchart Horn for this work.

There being no further business, on motion made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 10:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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Vice-Chairman

Approved:

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Solicitor