

THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING WAS HELD BY THE VIRTUAL MEETING ZOOM PLATFORM AND IN PERSON ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2022, IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM AT 711 BIRKBECK STREET, FREELAND, PA. PRESENT WERE MR. KAVITSKI, MR. FISHER, MR. THOMAS (via Zoom), MR. TIERNEY II, THE TECHNICAL MANAGER, THE ENGINEER, THE ATTORNEY, AND THE SECRETARY.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

Moment of silence for Paul Thomas, who is recovering, Ray Clymer, who is in the hospital and Rich Lindsey's brothers passing.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

No citizens were present.

JOHN NONNEMACHER OF SNYDER & CLEMENTE – 2021 AUDIT

Mr. Nonnemacher called and needed to postpone presenting the 2021 Audit tonight. The Audit will be rescheduled for next month's meeting.

APPROVE AUGUST MINUTES

Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve the August minutes and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0.

APPROVE AUGUST PAID INVOICES

Mr. Fisher made a motion to approve the August paid invoices for the Water Division totaling \$117,063.73 and the Sewer Division invoices totaling \$149,757.43 and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0. (Ref. 2385-A).

CURRENT INVOICES

Mr. Tierney made a motion to approve payment of the current Water Division invoices totaling \$71,257.56, the Sewer Division invoices totaling \$81,027.34 and the Sandy Run invoices totaling \$153.23 and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2385-B).

FINANCIAL STATUS

The Secretary reviewed the Financial Status as outlined in Reference 2385-C.

The acceptance of the 2021 Audit tabled this month.

The 2023 Minimum Municipal Obligation Worksheet (MMO) for the Freeland Borough Municipal Authority Pension Plan is zero. Mr. Tierney made a motion to approve and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2385-D).

The Secretary requested United Concordia Invoice to be placed on the automatic payment list. Mr. Fisher made a motion to approve the request and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 4-0.

Chapter 102 Stormwater Annual Fee for \$500.00 from Pennsylvania DEP needs to be dissolved, the sewer expansion project was completed. Josh Fox of HRG, Inc. stated he received all information from the former engineer, Samantha Albert of Borton Lawson Engineering. Deed research is currently being completed by Attorney Fagan. Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve the payment and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2385-E).

Last month the Board approved Option #2 quote from Garland Communication Systems. After questions raised by the Office Manager, Mr. Kavitski reviewed Option #1 and Option #2 with Garland Representatives. The Authority would have adequate IT services with Option #1, which gives the Authority a savings. Mr. Kavitski made the motion to amend last month's decision for Option #2 and change to Option #1 with Garland, as our IT service and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0. (Ref. 2385-F).

SEWER DIVISION

Mr. Josh Fox of HRG, Inc. presented the Engineering Report. (Reference 2386-A).

Sewer Area

- SIUA and sampling stations** – Awaiting review of the documents by the Special Counsel, then approval by the Board and submission to EPA. Need official adoption of the approved local limits.
- Sewer Rules & Regulations** – Chris & Josh are reviewing the changes at this time and will have a draft for November meeting.
- NPDES Permit Renewal Work** – Waiting on WETT test results to finalize the permit. No new testing parameters have been added for the renewal.
- WWTP Final Clarifier Distribution Box** – Mobilization of Linde Corporation pushed back to next week. Crew to be on-site October 3rd pending finalization of the pre-cast structure. October 18th is the on-site conference and will provide update at next month's meeting.
- Sludge Dewatering Upgrade Project** – HRG anticipates final COSTARS purchase agreements can be executed at the Authority's October meeting.
- Headworks Evaluation** – DEP will require a Part II permit. Mr. Kavitski recommended waiting until Spring for this project. Ryan Smith, TM, said parts are ordered now which should help until that time.
- ACT 537 Special Study** – The grant application for the Sewage Facilities Grant Program administered by the Commonwealth Financing Authority was denied this afternoon. (Reference 2386-B). Possible meeting with Scott Novatnak of DEP hopefully decreases the number of rain events to help with cost prospective of the Special Study. The cost will be closer to \$200,000 based on the amount of flow metering which is needed. Foster Township should be given more of the cost, than what was in the original Task Activity Report, majority of the TAR is in Foster Township System Territory. Mr. Kavitski recommended Josh Fox to set up a meeting with Scott Novatnak of DEP and the rest of the Board agreed.

Water Area

- Pagnotti Water Storage Tank Project** – Internal meeting held yesterday, and survey for two acres scheduled towards the end of October. Base mapping will be complete by second week of November. Plan to have a mapped-out area for Mr. Brennan in November to show land for acquisition.
- UL Tank & Water Improvement** – No update for this month.
- Well 6 & Well 10 Treatment System** – All water quality data will be completed by September 23rd. Once data review a draft will be ready in October or November at the latest for completion of the study.
- ARPA Grant** – Final application submitted after review by Mr. Kavitski.
- LSA Grant** – Centre St Water Main Replacement – No activity since submission

PA American Water meeting was productive. The Special Study brought up and PAWC agreed with having the Authority, Josh Fox, and PA American Reps to all meet with Scott Novatnak of DEP.

Attorney Fagan said the Authority has fully executed copies of the Amended & Restated Agreements.

Radiation Meter – Cole Palmer is \$782.00. Mr. Kavitski recommended scanning the sludge containers prior to them leaving the facility due to low detection hits in the sludge. Mr. Kavitski made the motion to purchase unit and Mr. Fisher second. Investigate, if a unit could be placed into the SCADA system for record. The Board is authorizing purchase of two units up to \$1000 for radiation meters. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2386-C).

WATER DIVISION

Mr. Kavitski gave out a graph with all the Wells showing rain, gallons per minute, static and pumping for the first nine months of the year. The month of July shows a drop off but August and September shows recovery. Well 9, 10, 11 & 17 the levels are rising and Well 12 the level probe is not installed at this time. The Authority is out of the low-level depths of the Wells based on the drought, which is good news. Need to watch the amount of rainfall for October and November, the levels could either increase or decrease depending on the rainfall amounts.

Mr. Kavitski stated Wells 4 & 6 need new level probes. The Authority has tried other probes from Martin Auman.

Keller quote for level probes which are specific to the well depths total \$2165.50, Mr. Tierney made the motion to purchase and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2386-D).

Modems for the SCADA system need to be updated for the end of this year. The Authority has 3G modems which will be obsolete at the end of this year. These modems are a priority and must be completed before end of the year. Martin Auman is in the process of purchasing the modems for the Authority. Order was received, but they were allotted for another company, and must be returned per Mr. Auman.

Portable Generator Quotes - The Honda is a much quieter generator. Mr. Kavitski made the recommendation to check prices with Valley Power Equipment in Wilkes-Barre. Mr. Kavitski made the motion to purchase the Honda Generator with a not to exceed \$3700.00 and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0.

MANAGERS REPORT

Ryan Smith presented the Technical Manager Report. (Reference 2387-A).

Ridge Street leak fixed. Ryan Smith would like to install a hydrant there.

Mr. Kavitski stated purchase a box of stainless-steel bolts/nuts for the gate valves. The soil is corrosive here in Freeland, which rots the bolts/nuts over time.

Mr. Fisher questioned two hydrants, and he was informed hydrants need repairs. Josh Fox stated timeframe for Mueller hydrant is 40 weeks. Mr. Kavitski stated to order two hydrants now.

Well 12-meter display unit being sent back to manufacturer for warranty repairs.

Mr. Tierney inquired about Brittany & Jose for the water licenses. They are attending classes first than need to sit for the test, after passing test it would be 2 years of experience to apply for the water license at DEP. Rich has passed his test but needs the experience prior to obtaining license, which by year end, he can apply for the license stated Ryan Smith.

Jesse is doing very well at the WWTP and learns quickly.

The quotes for the Walnut Street Manhole & 825/827 Walnut Street sidewalk repairs were discussed with the Board of Directors. Mr. Smith feels the employees would be able to handle the manhole project themselves. Transportation of the manhole to the project area will be a little difficult. Josh Fox states the Authority should inquire with Linde Corporation and Ryan Smith will contact them.

825/827 Walnut Street - Rich Lindsey will complete sidewalk area for the Authority. Rich will do pieces at a time or order a cement truck.

ENGINEERING INVOICES

Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve the following HRG invoices: #163551 \$530.00; #163552 \$12,400.85; #163553 \$1,142.00 and #163554 \$2,736.00 and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2387-B).

Maple Street area of the sewer main repairs, the road is starting to settle per Mr. Fisher.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Fagan explained the Dish Wireless preliminary design is to extend a fence & platform area in Upper Lehigh Tower Site. The design needs to be approved to start lease negotiations. Some equipment needs to be place on the ground which is the platform extension area. The Board is going to request up to \$500 for lease agreement. (Reference 2387-C).

PGA case documents were submitted by Attorney O'Donnell at the end of August. Attorney Malaska and Attorney Fagan reviewed what counsel submitted and there was no need to rebut anything in his counsel's statement.

The judge can start his review and the Authority will await his decision.

Attorney Fagan stated the status on the Johnson & Birkbeck Streets property, a week ago the realtor Tiffany Buchman was contacted to inquire if the Freeland Development Authority started the Phase 1 or if they have found the Midlantic Engineering report, which the Authority requested months ago. Attorney Fagan has not heard back from Tiffany Buchman at all.

Mr. Fisher inquired why is the whole process taking so long and Attorney Fagan said the Freeland Development Authority is trying to find the reports.

Mr. Kavitski stated the Authority has their offer on the table with an agreement regarding the tanks being their responsibility. The Authority purchases the land and Freeland Development Authority cleans it up if it needs to be cleaned up. This will be a condition of sale.

Mr. Fisher inquired about x-ray radar of the ground to see about additional tanks on property. Josh Fox of HRG, Inc. stated there are companies that do such things. Mr. Fox will make calls for this service. Mr. Fisher stated he would be willing to spend the monies to have the ground x rayed for all tanks.

Mr. Fisher made the motion to purchase the ground under the conditions discussed and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 4-0.

OPEN/OTHER ACTIONS

Mr. Tierney made the motion to hire Daniel Murphy as a Sewer Operator and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0.

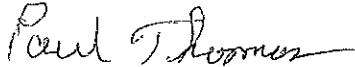
Sandy Run Property – The Sandy Run well was running 13 hours and the employees were checking for leaks in the village of Sandy Run. After checking the area of the previous break, Mr. Smith notice the residents of one property filled their inground swimming pool. At the time of the last leak, the pool was nearly empty. The office called the residents who said they had topped off the pool during the time of the well running. All Authority customers received a phone call regarding a drought watch advisory just a few days prior to the resident filling the pool.

The Board all agreed for the Authority to bill for the water used.

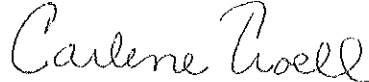
ADJOURN

Mr. Tierney made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 4-0.

These minutes are certified true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



Paul Thomas, Secretary



Carlene Troell, Non-Member Secretary