

THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING WAS HELD BY THE VIRTUAL MEETING ZOOM PLATFORM AND IN PERSON ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18, 2021, IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM AT 711 BIRKBECK STREET, FREELAND, PA. PRESENT WERE MR. KAVITSKI, MR. FISHER, MR. TIERNEY II, MR. CLYMER, THE TECHNICAL MANAGER, THE FOREMAN, THE ENGINEER, THE ATTORNEY AND THE SECRETARY.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

Prayers for all people trying to get out of Afghanistan.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

Mr. Jerome (Butch) Balas of 14 Foster Ave., was present at the meeting. Mr. Balas was upset for being told not to use the hydrant located at this property. Mr. Balas stated he has done a lot for the community, like allowing the Force Main through the parking lot at the old Fairway Building with no compensation to him and replacing the ditch between his building and PGA with no cost to the Borough. He stated that past employees always allowed this type of practice. He stated Billy, a former employee, was okay with Mr. Balas using the hydrant.

Mr. Thomas arrived at the meeting at 6:01 PM.

Mr. Balas stated Mr. Zoshak, a former employee, also knew of this practice. Of course, the employees and Board Members have changed since this time. He used this hydrant with his rock crushing equipment years ago.

Mr. Kavitski explained to Mr. Balas that even though the former employees and Board Members are no longer here. The proper thing to do would have been to call and request use of the hydrant, not just to connect as done in past practice.

Mr. Balas stated he was concerned that would it not have happened right away, and he needed the water for the cement work that was being done. Mr. Balas also stated he knows he needs to take care of the water line connection located at the Family Dollar store. He needs to go through rock to get it taken care of and it will be completed. Mr. Balas did not give a timeframe for the completion of the work.

Mr. Kavitski again stressed to Mr. Balas the importance of calling first prior to using a hydrant from now on. The Authority has hydrant meters for instances like this and the Authority needs to be notified. The Authority needs accountability on all water pumped for SRBC.

Mr. Balas thanked the Board for their time in this matter and left the meeting.

APPROVE JULY MINUTES

Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 5-0.

Mr. Kavitski questioned in the July Minutes about the PGA sample, which Kirby Labs could not obtain a BOD measurement. Chuck Madison stated this is a different sample than the one he was discussing with Mr. Kavitski.

APPROVE JULY PAID INVOICES

Mr. Thomas made a motion to approve the July paid invoices for the Water Division totaling \$ 169,788.57 and the Sewer Division invoices totaling \$ 131,541.70 and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2316-A).

CURRENT INVOICES

Mr. Tierney made a motion to approve payment of the current Water Division invoices totaling \$ 105,626.95, the Sewer Division invoices totaling \$ 92,803.85 and the Sandy Run invoices totaling \$ 58.61 and Mr. Clymer second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2316-B).

FINANCIAL STATUS

The Secretary reviewed the Financial Status as outlined in Reference 2317-A.
Mr. Kavitski asked the Secretary to reach out to PLGIT to obtain savings interest rates.

SEWER DIVISION

Mr. Josh Fox of HRG, Inc. presented the Engineering Report. (Reference 2317-B).

Sewer Area

-Significant Industrial Users Agreements and Sampling Stations – Mr. Anthony of PGA, Inc., called FMA & Mr. Fox regarding his certified letter. Mr. Anthony called FMA stating he did not understand what was outlined in the letter. FMA had Mr. Fox, Engineer, called Mr. Anthony regarding the letter. Mr. Fox called Mr. Anthony, who stated he did not have time to talk, and he would return the phone call. Mr. Anthony has not called back yet.

-HRG has updated drafts for the Pretreatment Development Program and Attorney Fagan will need to review the documents.

-WWTP Final Clarifier Distribution Box – Final drawings are done, and hardware has been ordered. Excavation & concrete work for the distribution box will be placed on PennBid.

-Sludge Dewatering Pilot Assistance – The Authority has requested the Engineer to contact other municipalities that have the Schwing machine to see if they are happy with the equipment. Are there any issues obtaining parts for the machinery? Where would the closest supplier be located?

-Foster & Butler Townships – Volume Surcharge Calculations at Peak Events – HRG has compiled all information, will send to Attorney Fagan to review to make sure this billing can be put into place. Average daily flow is 390,000 gpd and in the agreement a clause must be placed to allow instantaneous peaks for excessive flows and to address the exceedance of flows. Extra sewer cost is approximately \$2200.00 per event, cost per gallon to convey and treat the wastewater. Need to check on Municipal Agreement & Authorities Act and then Resolution & Recovery costs. Additional recommendations would be to place the billing procedure – monthly, quarterly, or annual basis in the Resolution.

Water Area

-Upper Lehigh Tank & Water System Improvements – Modeling is underway, and update will be provided at next meeting.

Foster Township I & I issue is a big problem and the Authority has been trying to obtain answers from the Supervisors on what they are doing to correct this problem. Also, their Pretreatment Ordinance must mirror Freeland Borough's Pretreatment Program this has not been corrected to date. Board Members and Attorney Fagan will attend next Foster Township meeting. Attorney Fagan sent a letter to Attorney Donald Karpowich and Gerald Brogan regarding this matter. (Reference 2317-C).

PGA poly drum on-going issue. PADEP was contacted again regarding barrels left out in the open to all weather and being so close to the well fields of the Authority. PADEP stated they will re-visit PGA again.

Maple Street Paving – Mr. Clymer made a motion to approve the trench work and Maple Street repair at the cost of \$19,150.00 and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2317-D).

Mr. Thomas made the motion for John Gera General Contracting to repair manhole at Centre & Luzerne Streets, for \$3,400.00 and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2317-E).

Mr. Madison stated he contacted PennDOT regarding this manhole. PennDOT is going to be paving Centre Street and gave the Authority the clearances to repair the manhole with no HOP.

JOHN NONNEMACHER OF SNYDER & CLEMENTE – 2020 AUDIT

Mr. Nonnemacher thanked the Board for allowing the firm to complete the 2020 Audit. He also thanked office staff for all the cooperation and compiling all the information needed for the audit. A yellow book audit was done this year and all policies, procedures and controls are in place.

Mr. Nonnemacher stated they found no discrepancies with the Authority and was very pleased with the audit. He did explain the audit was presented 1 month later than anticipated due to waiting on reports from Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System (PMRS). Mr. Nonnemacher did state the Authority is solvent with the Pension Plan, which is very good, a lot of other municipalities are not so fortunate. (Ref. 2317-F).

WATER DIVISION

Attorney Fagan sent a letter to Mr. Balas which was discussed earlier with Mr. Balas directly. (Reference 2318-A).

Hazleton City Authority sent a letter to Citterio USA regarding the approval of the fire protection by the Freeland Municipal Authority. Billing for the protection will start next month. (Ref. 2318-B).

Water blasting for the paint removal on South Street will not be completed due to the cost of the job.

ENGINEERING INVOICES

No invoices currently.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Fagan stated all letters and items were discussed earlier in the meeting.

OPEN/OTHER ACTIONS

The Manager Report was reviewed by the Board. Mr. Tierney stated the surge protectors need to be done ASAP. Chuck Madison stated he is waiting on the electrician and will place a call to him tomorrow. (Reference 2318-C).

Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve Ahlborn Enterprises for a rolling cabinet, fixed cabinet, washer, and dryer hookup total cost \$4,290.00 and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2318-D).

Arc Flash Study Proposal - Breakers and settings in panels should be coordinated and cabinets have arc flash stickers, panels label NEC at all sites including the WWTP with software calculations. This will include training and the training will be with the type of protection that is required. The safety equipment Class "O" was already purchased by the Authority. Mr. Fisher made the motion for approval of the Curtis Latzo proposal for \$23,250.00 and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2318-E).

Call Out Phone Upgraded – Mr. Tierney made the motion to upgrade the phone to a Rugged Smartphone CAT S48C for \$149.99 and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 5-0.

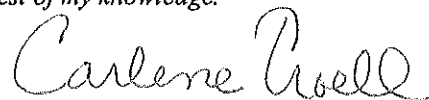
Mr. Kavitski stated an executive session for personnel reasons will take place after the meeting.

ADJOURN

Mr. Tierney made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0.

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


Paul Thomas, Secretary


Carlene Troell, Non-Member Secretary