

THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING WAS HELD BY THE VIRTUAL MEETING ZOOM PLATFORM AND IN PERSON ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2022, IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM AT 711 BIRKBECK STREET, FREELAND, PA. PRESENT WERE MR. KAVITSKI, MR. FISHER, MR. THOMAS, MR. TIERNEY II, MR. CLYMER (VIA ZOOM), THE TECHNICAL MANAGER, THE ENGINEER, THE ATTORNEY AND THE SECRETARY.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

For those who are still struggling with COVID.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

No citizens were present.

APPROVE JANUARY MINUTES

Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve the January minutes and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 5-0.

APPROVE JANUARY PAID INVOICES

Mr. Thomas made a motion to approve the January paid invoices for the Water Division totaling \$197,844.25 and the Sewer Division invoices totaling \$162,070.32 and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2345-A).

CURRENT INVOICES

Mr. Tierney made a motion to approve payment of the current Water Division invoices totaling \$75,092.43, the Sewer Division invoices totaling \$87,571.71, and the Sandy Run invoices totaling \$671.90, and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2345-B).

FINANCIAL STATUS

The Secretary reviewed the Financial Status as outlined in Reference 2345-C.

SEWER DIVISION

Mr. Josh Fox of HRG, Inc. presented the Engineering Report. (Reference 2345-D).

Sewer Area

-SIUA and sampling stations - All documents and NOV permits along with charges and fees are being developed. HRG is also putting together the specifications for the sampling stations to be installed at Citterio & PGA. All being sent to EPA after FMA approves the program. Mr. Fisher inquired if the program needs to be advertised and Mr. Fox explained this is an Industrial Program and not an ordinance. FMA does not approve ordinances only Freeland Borough does. Compliance monitoring will need to be completed to determine if the industry is an Industrial User. The industry must notify FMA if they change usage in their business. The Industrial Permit will provide all information to the industrial user. Citterio and PGA will both be issued permits. The timeframe to become compliant is immediately. FMA can give a timeframe for compliance if needed but both industries should already be compliant at this time. EPA will approve the enforcement plan too. Dental offices are also included in this Pretreatment Plan. The enforcement plan, penalties, fines, and costs will be provided at the March meeting. The timeframe for the plan to be approved by the EPA is approximately 90 days.

-WWTP Final Clarifier Distribution Box – HRG prepared bidding documents and posted the project for public bidding on PennBid. The documents were placed on February 15th of 2022 and bids will be received up until 10 AM on March 15th of 2022. HRG will distribute copies of the bidding documents to the Authority and provide recommendations after review of the opened bids.

-Sludge Dewatering Pilot Assistance – Two options were given to the Authority for the dewatering process. First option is to keep existing (Somat) & new equipment (Schwing) side by side. The new press is also a bigger size for compressing sludge. The concerns are this will take up too much space and both units cannot be running at the same time unless piping is redone. This will be too costly. Installation of new equipment only - will give a better layout & higher capacity which the Board were all in agreement to

new equipment option only. Support beams and hoist system would need to be designed too. Possible use of the pilot equipment until construction is complete which would be cheaper than hauling sludge. Design period first and equipment lead time with possible construction starting in 2023.

-Headworks Evaluation – The fine screen and grit removal system are not working as designed. HRG presented two options to the flex rake screen. HRG, Inc. will need to speak to DEP about this project. There have been two large rain events last year with “clear” water and FMA needs to implement the I & I plan to stop the inflow of stormwater at the WWTP. Option 1: a large screen at 4 million gallons per day but the current channel would need to be redone. The equipment must have a 2-foot channel for flow. The cost of the large unit & installation would be approximately \$300,000. Option 2: A smaller unit at 3 million gallons per day capacity the installation & unit approximate cost would be \$200,000. The Board were all in agreement for the smaller unit.

Mr. Kavitski stated the Authority will need to place an Inflow & Infiltration program to reduce the inflow of stormwater. DEP would like the CSO to be eliminated from the wastewater treatment plant.

Foster Township Sewer Rates – Mr. Thomas will reach out to Wilson Malloy, Foster Township Supervisor to schedule a meeting to discuss outstanding items with the township. Raising the rates for Foster Township Sewer Fees will be tabled until meeting with Wilson Malloy.

Attorney Fagan was contacted by Atty. Donald Karpowich regarding the Foster Township Pretreatment Ordinance wording. Minor changes from municipality to utility was the language that needed to be amended and Atty. Fagan did not have any issues if the wording changes due to the sale of the Foster Township West End Sewer System. Attorney Karpowich informed Attorney Fagan the Pretreatment Ordinance would be advertised this month and will be approved at the next Foster Township meeting.

WATER DIVISION

Jay Lynch of Meiser & Earl will investigate the Upper Lehigh area for a new well. He will do fracture analysis and recommend well sites. DRBC process will take less time, approximately 9 months for a new well test plan. The Secretary will forward all information from the prior company, GHD, on the test wells. Jay Lynch will develop a feasibility study with expenses within the next week to propose to the Board via a phone vote for approval.

Mr. Thomas inquired how much water does the Sandy Run well produce. Ryan Smith stated the well is a very good water producer. Mr. Kavitski said this area may also be considered but it would also require a lot of piping to get the water up to the Freeland water system.

Well #10 was discussed with Mr. Lynch due to the drop off in pumping capacity. Jay Lynch did state the records from years prior show this well can produce more than 80 gallons per minute. Mr. Kavitski stated the Authority will provide Mr. Lynch with the LGH records for continuous levels, flows and level where the transducer is set. Mr. Kavitski also inquired if SRBC grandfathered the Authority’s wells and Mr. Lynch stated he is still awaiting word from SRBC.

Centre Street Water Line Replacement – Mr. Fox of HRG is reviewing documents from the Authority. He stated he needed to contact Borton Lawson for additional files. HRG will submit for a LSA grant for the Authority which would be a no matching funds grant. The area will be above Front St to Chestnut St. main replacement with laterals, curb stops and curb to curb paving. Grants have a lead time of 3 years to spend the monies. The Board were all in agreement for HRG to develop project description and approximate costs to submit for grant.

Mr. Fisher inquired if the Authority applies for this grant would it impact Freeland Borough from obtaining grant monies too. Josh Fox of HRG, Inc. stated the Authority, and the Borough are two different entities, and this would not impact either party from obtaining grant monies. Mr. Fox stated the Authority should know if grant was approved by July of 2022.

Upper Lehigh Water Project & Water Model System – Josh Fox of HRG is looking at many things for the water model system. Water quality with regard to water age. Chlorine testing to compare water age throughout the system. Upper Lehigh has a standpipe tank and Harding St is an elevated tank. Need to find placement of a new tank that would float off the tanks and levels to keep constant with fire flow volume. Proposed spot for a new tank would be the Crescent Road or Oak Street area. This area would

give the best water age quality and enhances water movement throughout the Borough and fill both tanks equally. The tank project should happen before but better if done together. Upper Lehigh Water Main Improvement Project and removing UL tank would be an estimated \$1.445 million and a new tank at the Oak Street area would be an estimated \$2.75 million. The Authority would need to look at PennVest or possible Infrastructural funding for this project.

The possibility of new customers in the Charlwood Area for water service is a consideration. Mr. Thomas suggested Charlwood Area may want to consider sewer service too. Mr. Thomas will make a few contacts with people to see how they feel about this proposal. Josh Fox stated this would probably increase the project by another \$1.5 million.

Attorney Fagan will reach out to Pagnotti Enterprises for a conversation on easement/right of way and possible land purchase around Oak Street prior to submitting the Upper Lehigh and New Tank project.

Water Line Between Balas & PGA to Hydrant – Need to investigate and look at because of the gas line throughout the area.

MANAGERS REPORT

Ryan Smith presented the Technical Manager Report. (Reference 2347-A).

Mr. Kavitski stated UV bulbs are needed at the WWTP. The quote from Enaqua is for both bulbs and fuse holders. Mr. Smith was told to order bulbs only at this time.

Mr. Fisher inquired if there is a water meter change out history. The Secretary explained there is a meter changeout history in each account history, but there is no one report with all meter change outs listed. The Secretary will make inquiry with inHANCE software to see if they can customize a report showing this history.

ENGINEERING INVOICES

No invoices at time of meeting.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Fagan will call Atty. Karpowich authorizing him to change wording to utility from municipality on the Pretreatment Ordinance.

OPEN/OTHER ACTIONS

Discussion for summer part time help to cut the grass, paint well houses etc. and to use the Authority equipment. One person, up to 32 hours per week at \$15.00 per hour. The Board all agreed.

The Board all agreed to investigate VOIP with Verizon with two landlines as backup.

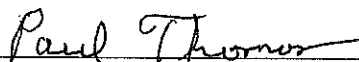
Shed for the Boro lawn tractor was tabled at this time. Mr. Fisher and Mr. Tierney will discuss with the Streets Department first.

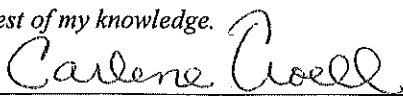
Mr. Tierney made the motion to hire Robert Fulton for the WWTP with a start date of February 28, 2022 and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 5-0.

ADJOURN

Mr. Clymer made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Kavitski 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