

THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING WAS HELD BY THE VIRTUAL MEETING ZOOM PLATFORM AND IN PERSON ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2026, AT 6 PM, IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM AT 711 BIRKBECK STREET, FREELAND, PA. PRESENT WERE MR. KAVITSKI, MR. FISHER, MR. THOMAS, MR. TIERNEY, MR. KUKLIS, ATTORNEY MALASKA, BRENDEN MILLER OF HRG, CHRIS FERDIK OF HRG (via Zoom), THE TECHNICAL MANAGER AND THE SECRETARY.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

Matthew Krone and Michele Connors., who were present via Zoom, did not participate in the meeting. Christine Verdier, Chief of Staff for Senator Argall's office.

Krista Avillion 1170 Schwabe Street, Freeland inquired about an update on placement of a swale behind her property to help with stormwater.

Mr. Kavitski inquired with Ryan Smith regarding this matter.

Ryan Smith thanked Ms. Avillion for coming to the meeting. He stated that we spoke with Krista and David Maranki regarding the stormwater issue. Ryan Smith spoke with DEP regarding the matter with the property above Ms. Avillion. DEP is supposed to come out for compliance checks with the neighbor's property above Ms. Avillion. The joint effort between the Municipal Authority and the Borough is to correct the stream. The Borough is aware and we are awaiting for them to lead the project.

Mr. Kavitski inquired if there is a shed or something else in the way at the property.

Ms. Avillion stated Lorne Rish and Mr. DeStefano were both at the location. There is a shed there, but it is the neighbor's shed. She was inquiring about a time line for completion of the stormwater issue. She stated it was May of last year when it was discussed at a Borough Meeting and agreed upon.

Mr. Fisher inquired about the stormwater issue, and you cannot just change things, whether it is a stream or intermittent flow.

Ryan Smith stated that since the neighbor above Ms. Avillion cleared about an acre of land above her the flow seems to be constant and Ms. Avillion agreed.

Ryan Smith stated this falls under another class for DEP and you cannot reroute the flow. He is not sure if DEP has visited the site or not.

Ms. Avillion inquired if the Authority needed to obtain a permit from DEP to change it or divert it.

Mr. Kavitski stated the Authority does not control stormwater the Borough does.

Ms. Avillion stated the confusion is on who to contact to get the job finished.

Mr. Kavitski stated the Authority is assisting the Borough only and the Borough would need to obtain permits or whatever is necessary.

Ms. Avillion stated then the Borough needs to move forward with the completion and Mr. Kavitski agreed.

Ms. Avillion stated at the March Borough Meeting she was informed that Mr. Kavitski gave a report about this project, correct? Mr. Kavitski stated he does not recall that in the report and he would have to look.

Ms. Avillion stated at the February Meeting, Dave inquired if this was still going to be done and the Borough stated yes and she inquired who is excavating.

Ryan Smith stated it would be a Borough directed project with the Authority assisting only because it is stormwater which Freeland Borough handles.

Mr. Fisher inquired whose property this swale would be placed on, and Ms. Avillion stated it would be located on the "paper alley" behind her house and diverting the water onto the Water Authority property, which was voted on last May or June at a meeting., I believe.

Mr. Fisher inquired about the maintenance of the swale, and who would complete this.

Ms. Avillion stated it was never discussed and Dave Maranki stated that Dave Kavitski on May 6 of 2025, which I am sure you remember and agreed upon, that whole project.

Mr. Kavitski stated we discussed rerouting it but then all of these other issues changed with DEP getting involved because it is not an intermittent stream.

Dave Maranki 1170 Schwabe Street stated May 6, 2025, Meeting with Mr. Dave Kavitski, Rich DeStefano, and Josh Richie, we came to an agreement of installing a ditch on the "paper alley" onto the Water Authority property. It is in the Freeland Borough Meeting Minutes and also brought up at an Authority Meeting. Ms. Avillion stated we just want to know what changed.

Mr. Kavitski stated the stream conditions is what changed.

Ms. Avillion inquired about what is intermittent opposed to continuous because now it is dry.

Mr. Kavitski stated I hear it is continuous and next; it is intermittent then it is dry. I can never get a straight answer.

Ms. Avillion stated when we get a little bit of rain, it comes down continuously and excessively because of nothing catching it, up above. It ran from 12 to 14 days a month ago so now we have had dry weather and no rain, it is dry and we have not seen it dry in a very long time.

Ryan Smith stated that it still classifies as an intermittent stream. Meaning it does not have continuous flow annually every day of the year.

Ms. Avillion inquired about the conditions under the state which would be DEP?

Ryan Smith stated yes DEP. If it was flowing continuously, none stop, and never runs dry, then it would fall under DEP Rules and Regulations. And if this is so, it would fall under the Borough's stormwater classification.

Mr. Kuklis inquired where on the Authority land was the water going to be placed.

Dave Maranki stated Mr. Kavitski had not drawn up the plans yet.

Mr. Kavitski stated he is not drawing up the plans, and what we said when we were going to do was which Dave Maranki interrupted.

Mr. Kavitski stated you need to listen very carefully to me; we sat in an informal meeting, we said we would look at placing a swale across the "paper street" and we brought it to the Authority. The Borough inquired if the Authority would agree to allow the water redirected onto the Authority property and the Board agreed and that is where it ended. This came up about DEP now and heard many different things regarding the stream. This is a Council decision; we are only here to help.

Ms. Avillion stated the Borough has been telling them, yes, it will be done, and Mr. Kavitski stated it needs to be coordinated with the Borough. Ms. Avillion inquired the Borough needs to lead this project and Mr. Kavitski stated yes, we do not want to step on any one's toes or do anything that we should not.

Ms. Avillion stated she understood. Ms. Avillion inquired if the Borough thinks this is a continuous stream, do we know?

Mr. Kuklis stated that their meeting is next Tuesday, you should attend.

Dave Maranki stated if the Borough agrees to it, who is going to tell them what to dig, what to do and how to move it, who will direct all of this?

Mr. Kavitski stated I guess the Borough would have to direct me to look at it, ok. All I know is the plan was to put a shallow broad swale across the "paper alley" and divert some of the water and it may not divert all of it, which I do not know. You have a mountain draining down into the swale.

Dave Maranki stated we have complained for years about it.

Mr. Kavitski stated he understood but the mountain drainage is in your area and it is directly at your home.

Dave Maranki stated there used to be a forest there, but it is gone now.

Mr. Kavitski stated that is not an Authority issue.

Dave Maranki stated it went from a trickle to a large monsoon.

Mr. Kavitski stated to talk with the Borough and if they coordinate with Ryan then we will look at it.

Ms. Avillion stated one last question, if we want to inquire about the project, we need to attend a meeting and Mr. Kavitski stated yes, you can attend anytime.

Mike Ritsko 200 Oak Street – He stated he was here at the Authority's request. He submitted a letter regarding a sewer blockage, which was a Main blockage near the 200 block of Maple Street. He inquired about a small claim process. Carlene called for a copy of the bill, which he submitted. There are questions about Jason Kaminski's bill. I am here to answer your questions.

Mr. Kavitski stated what we are looking at is the cost associated with the Main and what the Board is willing to pay.

Mr. Ritsko stated the total cost at this point is \$950, which is \$450 from Ravina and \$500 from Jason.

Mr. Kavitski inquired if that was all the work and Mr. Ritsko said yes, all work to identify it was the Sewer Main which was backed up. We had to dig on our property.

Mr. Fisher inquired when the manhole was opened how long did it take to open the Main; this is what we are interested in.

Mr. Ritsko stated Ravina did the jetting of the Main and he went out 75 feet into the Main.

Mr. Ritsko said no, not from the manhole but from where my lateral enters the Main. Mr. Ritsko stated his property was dug to enter the Main and we had no idea the problem was not on my property. Mr. Ritsko stated it is old Orangeburg pipe and has been in there for 75 years. The assumption was the Orangeburg pipe collapsed or was root bound. Jason and I dug until we got to a point where we thought the blockage was. We had Ravina out several years ago and he identified an area that had roots, but we were past that

area. The next day I had to have Ravina come because the Sewer lateral was not working. There is no cleanout outside of the house, only in the basement, if we opened it in the basement would have been flooded. If I knew it was the Main I would have called you guys right away. Jason and I dug past the previous blockage, but we went past that and once we got Ravina in that is when he identified he was out 75 feet in the Main that we figured the problem was in the Main. The direct cost is the entire thing in my opinion, I could see you not paying for the "t" because Jason installed for a cleanout. We can eliminate that from the bill but digging to and identifying what the problem was should be the Authority expense.

Mr. Kavitski inquired if Mr. Ravina had taken a video of the sewer line and Mr. Ritsko stated no.

Mr. Kuklis inquired if any of his lateral was replaced and Mr. Ritsko stated not yet but since it is dug up, I will be doing that, but it is 100 feet for my sewer lateral because it was two lots combined into one. I will be replacing 30 to 40 feet of it; I needed to remove trees because they are right over the sewer line. There was deformation of the pipe but not enough to block it. We did not know any of this until we saw it was blocked past this area.

Mr. Kuklis inquired if his lateral was blocked and Mr. Ritsko stated yes, it was blocked solid, but I have no cleanout other than in the basement. If I opened that, the basement would have flooded.

Mr. Kuklis stated so it was in the lateral and in the Main. Mr. Ritsko stated yes, but it was blocked in the Main which blocked my lateral. Mr. Ritsko explained he is only the second lateral on this Main were the Main starts.

Mr. Kuklis inquired if the neighbor was blocked and Mr. Ritsko stated no.

Mr. Kavitski stated the point is you are saying there is another house that is ahead of your home. If he was not blocked how was the Main blocked.

Mr. Ritsko stated the neighbor's lateral is up the road at least 100 feet from him. My lateral is about 90 feet from the manhole.

Mr. Kavitski asked for an Executive Session with the Board.

The Board returned from Executive Session.

Mr. Kavitski asked Mr. Ritsko to give Jason Kaminski's bill to Carlene and the Board will go through it.

Mr. Ritsko gave the bill to Carlene and thanked the Board for their time and left the meeting.

Mr. Joseph Petruce of Citterio USA stated he will stop by from now on until things are resolved. He wanted to say last week to the Board Members who were not there; we had the pleasure of having the EPA, Mr. Kavitski, Ryan Smith and HRG Representative, visit our facility. I thought it was a great visit and a pleasure having the group there to see what we do and how we have invested in this community. I wanted to say thank you and move forward to get where we need to go.

Mr. Kavitski stated Atty Malaska will correct me if I am wrong, but Atty Pompo will be getting the COA draft back to you this week.

Atty Malaska stated yes, this week we will be sending items to Atty McCaulley, the COA and the mechanics of the proposed changes.

Mr. Petruce stated we do take baby steps, but we will get back to you. We have to see what your thoughts are and then go over what our thoughts are; in order to get to the finish line.

Mr. Kavitski stated this will be the final one. We have gone through it with everyone, and it will be fair to you; asking for the flow and other things and we have spent a lot of time getting things finale.

Mr. Petruce stated we look forward to receiving it and hopefully it is something we can both work with.

This was the purpose of my being here at the meeting.

Mr. Kavitski inquired if there was anything else and Mr. Petruce responded no.

Mr. Petruce inquired if there was anything else going to be covered regarding Citterio and Mr. Kavitski stated no, the Attorney has the items to give to you which you should receive shortly, and I think it is pretty fair. Mr. Petruce stated he would not question that at all and thanked the Board for their time.

APPROVE MINUTES

Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve the Executive Meeting Minutes dated March 18, 2026, and

Mr. Fisher second. Vote 5-0.

Mr. Kuklis made the motion to approve Regular Meeting Minutes dated March 18, 2026, and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 5-0.

Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve Executive Meeting Minutes dated March 27, 2026, and

Mr. Tierney second. Vote 5-0.

APPROVE MARCH PAID INVOICES

Mr. Kuklis made a motion to approve March paid invoices for the Water Division totaling \$218,896.83, and the Sewer Division invoices totaling \$183,609.86, and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0. (Ref. 2739-A).

CURRENT INVOICES

Mr. Thomas made a motion to approve payment of the current Water Division invoices totaling \$133,352.69, the Sewer Division invoices totaling \$85,906.83, and the Sandy Run invoices totaling \$1,360.29, and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2739-B).

The Board questioned the 4-inch water meter on the current invoices and Ryan Smith informed the Board it is for Citterio USA.

FINANCIAL STATUS

The Secretary reviewed the Financial Status as outlined in Reference 2739-C.

ENGINEERING REPORT

Mr. Brenden Miller of HRG, Inc., presented the Engineering Report. (Reference 2739-D).

Sewer Area

-SIUA and IPP Items – Chris Ferdik of HRG (via Zoom) discussed this area of the report. Citterio 2026 Inspection was completed along with EPA Region 3 with a site visit. There was an EPA conference on April 7, for additional information discussed and additional follow-up action is required by FMA & HRG. Key updates continuing working toward compliance, the COA will be sent to Citterio tomorrow which will include the capacity reserve agreement for the increased flows Citterio has requested. Citterio delivered a Corrective Action & Capital Improvements Plan (CACIP) on April 10th for review that is ongoing. Sanitizer Alternative Trial is still ongoing as far as we are aware. SPCC Plan, EPA requested additional information from Citterio. NOV 26-004 was just recently issued to Citterio.

IPP Report was submitted to the EPA by FMA on March 20, 2026.

IPP Headworks Analysis is still pending and waiting for the NPDES Permit to be finalized.

TDS Real-Time Data is still being collected and HRG, Special Counsel and the Technical Manager will continue to evaluate all applications of the TDS data sets in terms of DEP DMR and EPA Monitoring Workbook, etc.

Ryan Smith inquired with Chris Ferdik regarding the EPA Portal and if he had a chance to look into the matter. Chris Ferdik stated he has a contact he wants to reach out to for guidance on Portal.

-Sludge Dewatering Project – PA DEP sent approval on April 3rd for the closeout of the project.

Carlene informed Brenden Miller that the Authority received the Holdback monies just recently, but PENNVEST has not reached out any further to Close Out the Project.

HRG approved the Submittals for the Platform Extension prior to last month's meeting. JP Environmental has completed a site visit to verify measurements in April and HRG has not heard a date for the construction schedule yet.

-NPDES Permit Renewal – March 27, 2026, Technical Manager responded to an email from PA DEP, inquiring about the status of FMA's final 10-week retake sampling for Free Cyanide, which was answered. FMA's Final NPDES Permit will not be officially issued until early to mid-Summer 2026.

-ACT 537 Special Study – HRG is waiting for the PAWC Agreement to be finalized.

Water Area

-Oak Street Water Storage Tank – Job Conference was held April 2nd and both Contractor supplied an updated schedule, with no applications for payment this month. Both Contractors inquired about the Dark Fiber installation. HRG approved the Tank filling and testing plan by Linde.

Mr. Kavitski inquired when the Tank will be filled and tested. Brenden Miller did not have an exact date. Mr. Fisher inquired about the welding of the Cathodic Protection, is this completed and Brenden Miller stated they are completing that right now.

Brenden Miller stated HRG sent the email questions to the Paint Manufacturer. The Paint Manufacturer, Tnemec, has never heard of paint bubbling with Cathodic Protection. Brenden Miller stated other people within HRG has heard of waiting for a year to start the Cathodic Protection.

Mr. Kavitski inquired based on what and Brenden Miller stated the year inspection due to the Paint Manufacturer possibly saying a paint problem may be due to Cathodic System running and not the paint itself.

Mr. Kavitski stated all the years in the industry he has never heard of anything like this. He stated the Tank within the year could have potential to rust.

Mr. Thomas stated if we wait the year and then place the Cathodic Protection into service then what is the warranty.

Brenden Miller stated he will email all information to Mr. Kavitski once received.

Mr. Fisher inquired about the inspection of the tank after a year.

Mr. Kavitski stated it should be a full inspection inside the tank itself by dropping a camera. Mr. Kavitski also inquired about the Paint Warranty, what is the length of time and Brenden Miller stated it is definitely longer than a year and the Paint Manufacturer is stating if the paint is cured for the amount of time needed turning on the Cathodic Protection should not damage the paint itself.

Mr. Kavitski stated to have it placed into a report and send it to the Board.

Brenden Miller stated that the Ladder Gate which he provided last month no company will sell just the Ladder Gate without supplying the entire Ladder System. Brenden Miller supplied Linde with Fabricator Names: SFW and Drifton Precision Machine. Ryan Smith stated he will be meeting Mr. Maduro at the Tank tomorrow.

There was additional discussion on the Ladder Gate System.

Mr. Fisher inquired if the area is fenced in now and Brenden Miller stated the fencing around the Tank Area is complete.

Mr. Fisher inquired about the sealant around the building for waterproofing and the sump pump.

Ryan Smith thought the sump pump was installed.

-SRBC Consumptive Use Mitigation Project (Digital Twin) – A training meeting had been completed with the Authority on April 1st. The intention of that training was for FMA Staff to be able to use WaterSight in day-to-day operations. HRG is working with Bentley to generate an informational video on the WaterSight Software. FMA has asked for the types of questions they will be asking for the video. A list of items will be compiled and sent to the Authority stated Brenden Miller.

Mr. Kavitski inquired if the Board is interested.

HRG has a Retainer Agreement for WaterSight Project on the agenda for tonight. HRG is inquiring about the amount of help the Authority would like toward the future with the Software. HRG is looking at Power BI through Microsoft for the compiling of graphs and other things for the software. HRG was looking to supply a monthly graph with the Engineering Report every month and also assist FMA.

Ryan Smith thought 540 Technologies provides a monthly report and thought it is part of the agreement.

Mr. Fisher inquired about the Cloud Based Software and the security of it.

Mr. Kavitski stated Garland, our IT people, has all kinds of protection and this system is only data not the SCADA System itself.

-Sandy Run Corrosion Control Study – DEP is still reviewing.

-Iron and Manganese Treatment – Grant application submitted in November 2025, and it will be a while before decision on the grant awards and awaiting the PFAS information.

-CFA Small Water & Sewer Grant – The grant for the Water Piggings Project was awarded to the Authority, which is only a partial of the total grant application. HRG and FMA will need to meet to see exactly what can be done for the amount awarded which was \$245,851.00. HRG had a meeting with the Contractor on March 11th to discuss the scope of the project and there is a 3-year time frame to complete the project.

-CFA Small Water & Sewer Grant – A grant application was prepared and submitted for the Fe/Mn Well Project in November of 2025. HRG will report to the Board when a decision is made by CFA on the application.

-SRBC Grant Application – The application for the meter procurement was submitted in January 2026, and awards are anticipated to be announced in May or June 2026.

Mr. Fisher inquired about the odor at the Wastewater Treatment Plant, what is the cause and what can be done to alleviate the odor.

Brenden Miller stated it has to do with Sludge Age.

Ryan Smith stated the Sludge Age is young right now, so we have a capacity issue in the Digesters not enough capacity to hold enough sludge with current wasting cycles.

Mr. Kavitski asked for further explanation. Brenden Miller stated pulling the Sludge straight out of the Digesters it may not be giving the bugs enough time to age it.

Mr. Kavitski stated FMA did not have this problem with the other press. Brenden Miller stated we need to investigate things to be clear.

Mr. Kuklis inquired about air monitoring being placed at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Ryan Smith stated we have Confined Space Monitoring Equipment and it does not show any harmful levels of hydrogen sulfide.

Mr. Kavitski stated it is an ammonia smell and Ryan Smith stated yes, but we do not have equipment to monitor ammonia.

Mr. Kavitski stated the chemicals that Citterio is using to sequester the ammonia levels, is it possible that it is unsequestering it and released into the atmosphere down at the Plant. Maybe we should check there first because we did not have this prior.

Mr. Kuklis stated we need air monitoring for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The Board agreed to have the Plant obtain air monitoring company for two weeks, Mr. Kavitski made the motion and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 5-0.

Mr. Fisher inquired if Ryan Smith was happy with things at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and Ryan Smith stated it will be covered in his report.

SEWER DIVISION

200 Oak Street – Discussed during the Citizens Participation Section and the Authority will gather all the information and inform the customer at a later date.

Resolution 2 of 2026 for Formal Adoption to Impose Sewer Tapping Fees based on the Sewer Capital Study provided by HRG, which was approved by the Board at the Monthly Meeting on February 21, 2024, Mr. Thomas made the motion for adoption and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 5-0. (Ref. 2741-A).

Lincoln Street Settlement – Mr. Fisher stated that the one area is still bad. Ryan Smith stated FMA checked one area by cutting a square. Mr. Fisher stated that area has not settled any more since the backfill.

Mr. Fisher inquired why the issue and remaining Board Members are thinking the cause was the frost in the ground and it was a very bad cold winter.

Mr. Kavitski informed Ryan Smith to have the guys saw cut the additional area to check on things there.

Christine Verdier, Chief of Staff from Senator Argall's Office stated she had DEP out for what they thought was a mine subsidence. DEP informed her the drought that we have had in the last two years was causing a lot of underground depressions.

Mr. Kavitski thanked her for the information.

J Leiphart Construction Quote for Chestnut Street Sewer \$21,800.00 – Mr. Kavitski and the Board Members have decided not to proceed with the quote.

WATER DIVISION

SmartSights – WIN 911 SCADA Callout Software Renewal, Mr. Tiernay made a motion for a 3-year renewal for the cost savings and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2741-B).

Resolution 3 of 2026 for Formal Adoption to Impose Water Tapping Fees based on the Water Capital Study provided by HRG, which was approved by the Board at the Monthly Meeting on February 21, 2024, Mr. Kuklis made the motion for adoption and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2741-C).

The WaterSight Retainer Agreement with HRG was tabled until next meeting. Atty Malaska stated he had no issues with the agreement, but the Board will review it for next month.

Iron & Manganese Discussion – Mr. Kavitski stated FMA is awaiting the PFAS Settlement Information, but the iron and manganese is a big problem for the Authority. Well 6 is a major culprit of iron and manganese. Mr. Tierney stated the Authority should contact Mr. Eachus regarding the PFAS situation. Atty Malaska stated he will reach out to Counsel.

Brenden Miller stated Well 10, the Authority will probably need additional land for the blowoff to be placed there. Mr. Kavitski stated the Reservoir Building here is the main concern right now.

Brenden Miller stated the system size information we already have.

Fix Ridge Street Settlement – the large leak undermined Ridge Street, the Authority needs to determine how much of the road will need to be fixed by saw cutting the road and investigating.

Mr. Thomas inquired if the stormwater was finished in this area. Mr. Kavitski thought it was.

Ryan Smith wants to camera sewer line from Carbon up to Ridge to be sure the line is good and dye test catch basin at the intersection there and the empty lot.

Mr. Kavitski stated the catch basin over by St. Michael's Bowling Alley also should be done.

Mr. Thomas inquired if it could be mine subsidence there and Mr. Kavitski stated that it could.

Ryan Smith stated he wants to put the base in and inquire with Foster Township if they could pave it for the Authority.

Mr. Kavitski explained how the fines dry out and then water washes it away which creates voids and I predict by end of the Summer, we will be in a drought.

Ryan Smith stated he will take care of Ridge Street.

MANAGER REPORT

Ryan Smith presented the Technical Manager report. (Reference 2742-A).

He discussed the missing data from the SCADA 1 computer which created a violation from DEP.

Mr. Kavitski stated the violations from DEP are non-forgiving and the penalties and fines regarding Citterio should be dealt with the same way. Atty Pompo and you need to figure out fines that need to be paid and placed into escrow prior to appealing. If the money needed to be placed in escrow, this whole thing would not have drug out so long.

Atty Malaska inquired if Mr. Kavitski meant the fixed violations in the COA or something else.

Mr. Kavitski stated the violations which are in the IPP itself. If the money is in escrow and it is ruled in their favor all money would be returned to them but if found in Authority favor the Authority would keep the money and this is what the EPA explained to the Authority, and it needs to be put into place.

Discussion regarding the areas of the frozen service lines which showed the Authority's lines are deep enough at 965 Chestnut and 1009 Chestnut. 1005 Chestnut needs to be investigated yet. The Authority is not going to excavate on Washington Street or Ridge Street because there are newer roads there and the tap cards show the Authority is deep enough at the Main but on the customer end it is shallow. 942/944 Burton Street needs to be lowered.

Mr. Kavitski informed Ryan Smith to place all information in a report at the end of the investigation on a nice clear table - all the depths and addresses so the Authority can explain it all. I explained at the Freeland Borough Council Meeting we send out Robocalls informing people to run their water 24/7 and if they choose not to, we cannot do anything about that.

PenTeleData Dark Fiber Quote for the Oak St Tank - Garland, Keystone Eng., and PTD were all informed regarding the project in a conference call. The installation and linking of the dark fiber at the cost of \$2,450.62 one-time charge, Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2742-B).

Well 6 Pump Replacement - Ryan Smith stated a 12-inch gap between the VFD and the Sensor, should be used so there is no interference with the Sensor for the depth at Well 6. The research that I have done, and the Well case is 8-inch, and the recommendation is that any power cable be 12-inches away from the sensor line to limit interference.

Mr. Kavitski inquired who said this and Ryan Smith stated this was information from a Google search.

Mr. Fisher stated that cannot be done with the 8-inch pipe. Mr. Kavitski stated forget Google search.

Ryan Smith stated the galvanized pipe could also be contributing to the interference so maybe we should go with CertaLok pipe for Well 6. I believe this is the problem, but I am not 100% confident and everyone I spoke with could not guarantee anything would work.

Mr. Kavitski stated we should install the CertaLok Pipe and install the Sensor and see if we get the readings, if not then we know the galvanized pipe has nothing to do with the interference of the depth reading sensor.

Mr. Thomas inquired if the CertaLok holds up just as well as the galvanized and Mr. Kavitski stated yes, it is meant for a Well and it is heavy duty.

Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve the Modern Pump Quote for \$27,610.50, for the pump, motor, CertaLok and Shielded Cable, and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2742-C).

Ryan Smith discussed the filament problems at the Wastewater Treatment Plant along with the digester settling problems. We are going to compare flows to BOD.

Mr. Kavitski inquired about the FTM, is this being completed every day, if not it should be. A COD reactor should be done too.

Ryan Smith stated the Authority does not have one. We have a spectrophotometer.

Mr. Kavitski stated if you have a heater block with that you can do the COD, if you have the reagents.

Ryan Smith stated he will look into this further to purchase the reagents.

Mr. Kavitski stated we need data in an organized form so we can look and see what is going on and be able to refer to research at later dates. Notate the smell or anything else that is going on during the specific time.

Mr. Murphy should be able to note these things.

Ryan Smith explained that the bugs are stressed when not receiving the food source from Citterio.

Mr. Kavitski stated there are still other sources of food.

Ryan Smith stated the I & I create problems at the plant too and we have inconsistent loadings.

Mr. Kavitski stated that is something we need to stress to PAWC regarding the I & I from their system.

Ryan Smith stated he purchased 50 lbs. of the accelerator to help with the bugs right now because we needed to do something.

Mr. Kavitski stated that is like throwing money away and the I & I needs to go. How much did the two pails of the accelerator cost.

Ryan Smith stated \$800.00 and Mr. Kavitski stated once you put it in, the money is gone.

Mr. Fisher inquired if there was a way to surcharge PAWC for the accelerator.

Mr. Kavitski stated that is where the surcharge for I & I comes in and we are talking about increasing their flows based on Citterios agreeing to what we said. What PAWC meters, and they cannot identify the sewage then it is I & I.

Ryan Smith stated the historical data would give the Authority an idea of the type of flow PAWC should have.

Mr. Fisher inquired if the Authority ever did I & I through Freeland.

Ryan Smith stated the last I & I was with the Lead & Copper Inventory and inspected basements and cracking down on floor drains and sump pumps. We have not been in every home, but it eliminated a lot.

Mr. Kavitski stated the I & I is coming from Woodie's and Carlene stated Community Bank too.

Atty Malaska inquired if they have a spring in the basement.

Mr. Kavitski stated these two places' sumps run all the time and we need them to get rid of the I & I from the sewer but at the same time where are they going to place the I & I.

Ryan Smith stated the Borough needs to be involved and get stormwater in this area.

Atty Malaska inquired how do they get rid of the I & I.

Mr. Kavitski stated piping it into a stormwater box in the street, but this is a State Road, and no one wants to apply for a permit. In a year or so, the street may need to be paved again because the paving from the State seems to only last a year or so, lately.

Ryan Smith stated maybe we should just get a permit to take care of it.

Mr. Kavitski stated no, stormwater is not for us to take care of even though it is a problem. The Authority should not have to pay for everyone else's problems.

Ryan Smith explained the Digester issue at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Shut down press to increase the Sludge, problem is the Digesters do not have enough capacity to do this and coupled with the overflow and when you waste into them, you get waste from the Primary and Secondary Sludge Tanks into the Digesters, and the Sludge comes in and goes right back out. It just keeps recycling through the plant and trying to get a longer Sludge Age is difficult to do. My idea is to isolate a specific Digester to hold the water and not have it flow back into the Plant. I am trying to think of a solution here.

Mr. Kavitski stated you are speaking about a thickener. I would try what you suggested to isolate the one Digester and use it as a thickener but if you have a non-settling sludge, it will not matter anyway.

Ryan Smith stated he has the laboratory results of the sludge and Mr. Kavitski asked for them to be emailed to the Board.

Mr. Kavitski stated the manhole at School Street needs to be checked because it looks like it is flared wrong. The pitch seems to be going into the manhole not away from.

Ryan Smith stated he will investigate but needed to purchase an offset riser for the manhole maybe need another riser to bring up a little higher.

Sewer Quotes for Maple Street – Core & Main Quote for 500 Feet is \$4,150.00 and have it listed as COSTARS, Mr. Kuklis made the motion and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2743-A).

Mr. Kavitski stated to always have at least 10 lengths of pipe for spares.

Discussion on the sewer line by the YMCA alley since the road will be paved possibly increase the size to an 8-inch pipe.

Excavator Rental Quote from Cleveland Brothers, a monthly rate, is \$3,832.00, and a trench box quote will be coming next month, Mr. Tierney made the motion to rent the excavator for one month and Mr. Kuklis second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2743-B).

The two Netzsch pumps at the Sewer Plant, would like to place on MunicibiBid, and what reserve price should be placed on them. They are used, and brand new are around \$13,000 each and place the pumps for sale at \$6,000 and the Board agreed.

Mr. Kuklis inquired about the status of Well 12.

Ryan Smith stated the RTU panels are being built and are about 80% complete, and I anticipate around the end of May. Ryan Smith stated he will test the Well prior to placing it back in service.

Mr. Kuklis stated the Water Division is short a guy and maybe the third one in the Sewer Division should be brought back here to Water.

Ryan Smith stated there is maintenance in-house to be completed in the Sewer Division. I have three and three with a rotation schedule in place right now and the On Call Phone works out equally this way.

Mr. Kuklis stated the Water Division seems to always be short a guy here, that is the way I look at it.

Ryan Smith stated I have the On Call Schedule all worked out to the end of the year and if I mess with it now the guys will be upset.

Mr. Fisher inquired if we are advertising for another person. Mr. Thomas inquired about reaching out to the Career Center at Hazleton Area School District. Mr. Kavitski stated maybe inquire with Lincoln Tech or Johnson Tech. Ryan Smith will reach out to some of the colleges too.

Jonathan Stish is coming for a tour of the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

ENGINEERING INVOICES

Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve HRG Invoice #206924 \$5,640.00; Invoice #206925 \$13,911.00 and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2744-A).

ATTORNEY REPORT

Atty Malaska stated we have discussion things in Executive Session however if you want to speak about things regarding the Borough just call.

Mr. Kavitski stated not right now. There are too many other things going on currently.

OPEN/OTHER ACTIONS

Rainfall for the month was 3.70"

Huntress Strategic Security from Garland Communication, which is another level of security, mainly cybersecurity, it would cost approximately \$232.00 per month but can change depending on the number of computers online. The Board has decided to revisit this next year.

Ryan Smith stated he wanted to test the collection system, at the cost of \$400, which would check for filaments, this would be a one-time cost. The Board agreed.

Mr. Kavitski inquired about Manhole 107, is it built up with grease again.

Ryan Smith stated it was not completed yet; the flowmeter needs to be done first and then it will be cleaned and watched.

HRG Marketing Video for Digital Twin at PMAA Conference was discussed earlier.


Hire Edward Graaf as Meter Reader, Background and Driver's License History are both good, physical scheduled and awaiting results. Mr. Tierney made the motion to hire contingent upon test results, and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0.

Mr. Fisher inquired about him taking a part time job and Carlene said he is interested in a Full Time Position but at the time of his application, there were no full-time openings. Carlene stated maybe he can paint the hydrants and take some extra things off the other staff.

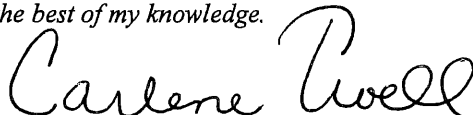
Mr. Thomas inquired about the stone at the Authority Building which is falling off; are there any plans to take care of the issue. Ryan Smith stated he spoke to Rich, who said he can do the work.

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

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



Paul Thomas, Secretary



Carlene Troell, Non-Member Secretary