

THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING WAS HELD BY THE VIRTUAL MEETING ZOOM PLATFORM AND IN PERSON ON WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2024, IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM AT 711 BIRKBECK STREET, FREELAND, PA. PRESENT WERE MR. KAVITSKI, MR. FISHER, MR. THOMAS, MR. TIERNEY II, MR. CLYMER, THE ENGINEER, ATTORNEY FAGAN, ATTORNEY MALASKA, THE TECHNICAL MANAGER AND THE SECRETARY.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

A moment of silence for the less fortunate in this world.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

No citizens were present at the meeting.

APPROVE MINUTES

Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve the Special Meeting Minutes dated August 19, 2024, and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0.
Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve the August Meeting Minutes and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 5-0.
Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve the Special Meeting Minutes dated September 4, 2024, and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0.

APPROVE AUGUST PAID INVOICES

Mr. Thomas made a motion to approve the August paid invoices for the Water Division totaling \$171,023.95, and the Sewer Division invoices totaling \$176,973.65 and Mr. Clymer second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2534-A).

CURRENT INVOICES

Mr. Tierney made a motion to approve payment of the current Water Division invoices totaling \$82,292.27, the Sewer Division invoices totaling \$127,433.22, and the Sandy Run invoices totaling \$59.09, and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2534-B).

FINANCIAL STATUS

The Secretary reviewed the Financial Status as outlined in Reference 2534-C.

Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve the 2025 Minimum Municipal Obligation which is zero and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2534-D).

ENGINEERING REPORT

Mr. Brenden Miller of HRG, Inc. presented the Engineering Report. (Reference 2534-E).

Sewer Area

-SIUA and sampling stations – Attorney Malaska contacted the solicitors for Freeland Borough, Foster Township and Butler Township regarding their Sewer Use Ordinances. HRG is in the process of drafting/reviewing SUO consistency update document packages for these municipalities and will send them to both the Solicitor and Special Counsel once completed.

On 9/3/2024 HRG reviewed installation, calibration and initial operations documentation indicating that Citterio's new flow meter (including automated pH/temperature) has been running since July 31, 2024. HRG will review and confirm adequacy on compliance with final conditional authorization terms for Citterio's Sampling Station in the field during the 2024 inspection. There are a few items which need to be completed and email was sent to Citterio regarding – Flowlink Cipher (remote data management platform) HRG & FMA personnel to have proper site settings established; Citterio to arrange training session/live demonstration via certified representative to FMA Staff regarding collection of flow proportioned composite samples; Technical Manager provided personnel list requiring door card access to Sampling Station and protocols for camera security footage/log review were discussed.

Citterio Slug/Spill Control Plan which was drafted by Citterio and submitted to FMA on August 20, 2024. HRG reviewed, identified deficiencies, and issued a formal letter requiring revisions which are due back to FMA by October 12, 2024.

Mr. Kavitski stated Citterio needs to come into compliance with the Industrial Pretreatment Plan.

-Sludge Dewatering Project – HRG continues to review the submittals. Update for delivery of the equipment is: Screw Press estimated date is November 18th; Reaction Tank estimated date is December 2nd, and Control Panel estimated date is January 6th at this time. The contract will need to be extended due to the manufacturing delays.

-NPDES Permit Renewal – No update currently. Mr. Kavitski inquired what date the permit was filed with DEP. Brenden Miller of HRG stated he will follow up with Mr. Fox regarding this matter.

-ACT 537 Special Study – Meeting with PAWC on September 4th with HRG and FMA staff to walk through the interconnections so PAWC could update their GIS system. PAWC is supposed to have an internal meeting for a maintenance program and HRG has not heard anything after PAWC meeting. PAWC did contact the Office Manager requesting to be placed on the October Agenda for updating the Board on outstanding items.

-Sewer Rules and Regulations – HRG sent documents to Attorney Malaska and FMA staff, which were discussed at the meeting.

-Dynamic Separator – No update currently.

Water Area

-Oak Street Water Storage Tank – October 2nd is the tentative date for closing the loan with PENNVEST.

-Water Rules & Regulations - HRG sent documents to Attorney Malaska and FMA staff, which were discussed at the meeting.

-Centre Street Water Main Replacement Project – Construction has begun on the main replacement project, currently Sikora Bros. is awaiting testing results for disinfection. The new main installation is complete. The cost of four (4) ADA Ramps will be presented to the Board tonight for approval through Change Order #1.

The Board questioned why so far into the Front and Centre Street intersection with the project. Mr. Miller informed the Board the existing line is located there.

Mr. Fisher inquired about the depth and amount of milling that will be done prior to paving and Mr. Miller stated he will investigate and obtain the information for the Board.

Manholes have not been received for the project to date.

-SRBC Water Conservation Grant – HRG continues to work with Bentley Staff with continued coordination with suppliers for the equipment manufacturers. HRG should have a proposal for the Board in the Fall of 2024, as well as a plan and Professional Services Agreement for work involved in the project.

-Sandy Run Corrosion Control Study – HRG submitted the Study to DEP on July 3rd and awaiting comments/updates.

-PFAS, Iron and Manganese Treatment – HRG met with manufacturers of PFAS/Fe/Mn Treatment Systems on July 10th to discuss the extent of the project. A list of water quality parameters (From AdEdge) was provided to Ryan Smith so the manufacturer can generate a preliminary treatment schematic, design, and cost. Ryan Smith and staff completed the water quality testing parameters requested by AdEdge; a meeting was held on September 17th to discuss before transmitting the parameters to AdEdge.

Once water quality data is fully approved, HRG will reach out to other treatment manufacturers to compare costs and treatment processes from various manufacturers.

HRG has begun seeking funding sources for this project and can proceed with these opportunities at the Board's request.

Ryan Smith is testing Wells 4, 6, & 11 in house, with Kirby, Hawk Mountain, and Suburban all running tests too. Mr. Kavitski is saying the coupon rack is showing manganese and Mr. Fisher would like to see the coupon rack tube scraped and sent out for analysis.

Mr. Kavitski explained to the Board that chlorine oxidizes iron and manganese.

Ryan Smith will have coupons weighed, scrape residue and complete iron and manganese tests in October or November.

-CFA Small Water & Sewer Grant – The Authority has not received any submittals from HRG or Sikora Brothers for the Centre Street Main Replacement Project yet.

SEWER DIVISION

Approve the PENNVEST Payment Request #6 in the amount of \$1,833.50 for the Sludge Dewatering Project – Mr. Clymer made the motion to approve and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 5-0. (Ref. 2535-A).

Addendum-Extension of the PA American Water Sewer Agreement to December 31, 2024 – Per Attorney Greg Malaska, he has not received any draft agreements from PA American Water. Attorney Malaska will send an email looking for a draft agreement prior to the next Authority meeting on October 16, 2024. Mr. Tierney tabled the extension at this time and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 5-0.

Discussion on the Sanitary Sewer System Rules and Regulations – The Board would like to have legal expenses added to the document. Brenden Miller of HRG will investigate the building code for venting sewer lateral outside.

WATER DIVISION

Sikora Brothers Paving Inc., Contract 24-05 Change Order #1 for the Placement of ADA Curb Ramps at Centre and Walnut Streets for the cost of \$20,215.00, Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve the change order and Mr. Clymer second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2536-A).

HRG Supplement #2 – Construction Phase and Resident Project Representative Phase Engineering Services – Rebid of Electrical Contract at the Cost of \$3,500.00; Construction Phase at the Cost of \$128,000.00 and Resident Project Representative Phase \$232,000.00 Brenden Miller explained this cost is budgeted into the PENNVEST Loan. Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve Supplement #2 and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2536-B).

The Deed for the land on the Oak Street Water Storage Tank Project Attorney Fagan informed the Board the Deed was mailed from Jeddo Highland and should be arriving at his office later this week. The closing of the land could possibly take place next week. The Board decided to table both contracts for the Oak Street Water Storage Tank until having ownership of the land.

Approve the General Construction Contract #24-03 to Linde Corporation for the Oak Street Water Storage Tank in the Amount of \$1,858,880.00, Mr. Tierney made the motion to table the contract at this time and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0.

Approve the Electrical Construction Contract #24-04 to G. R. Notot Electrical Construction Inc., for the Oak Street Water Storage Tank in the Amount of \$93,000.00, Mr. Tierney made the motion to table the contract at this time and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0.

Discussion of the Water Rules & Regulations – Attorney Malaska had additional comments on the Rules and Regulations which included owner/tenant occupied properties. The Water Services Act is for owner occupied properties. Tenant occupied property are different due to the Utility Services Tenants Right Act, the owner should be notified first, in seven days the owner must turn over all names of the tenants in the property, the owner must provide the information to the Authority. After seven days, the notice must be sent to the tenant. The tenant must have 30 days to pay the bill.

Mr. Kavitski inquired about tenant changing during this disconnect notice. Attorney Malaska stated a subaccount would need to be created. Mr. Fisher inquired about multi dwelling units, how do you contact every tenant and if a building has only one water meter the tenants would need to figure how and who will pay the bill if the owner does not.

Attorney Malaska may need to revisit the entire Water Rules & Regulations regarding the USTRA. This would create a lot more work for the office staff. Mailing notices to all tenants should be additional costs to the owners.

The Office Manager explained to Attorney Malaska that through the years there have been disgruntled customers who have called the PUC, which in turn calls the Authority, PUC asked if they govern the Authority. When the PUC finds out they do not govern the Authority, they call the customers and inform them the PUC cannot get involved.

The Technical Manager inquired about the single service line which feeds two homes. Mr. Kavitski explained for everyone to have their own service line, Freeland Borough and Foster Township would need to pass an ordinance requiring single service lines.

MANAGER REPORT

Ryan Smith presented the Technical Managers. (Reference 2536-C).

Borton Lawson Mapping did not show the line which Sikora Brothers broke during construction of the water main replacement on Centre Street and this created the water boil advisory. The subsurface radar apparently did not show the line either.

Well 6 VFD cooling system is continuing to run hot monitoring the unit closely. Looking into a replacement for the cooling system.

Ryan Smith is looking into prices for chemicals from a company called Chemstream.

Looking at a new safer thawing machine – the Authority made the decision not to thaw customer service lines years ago due to liability reasons.

Main control valve at the Wyoming St PS for old pump station and by-pass have failed. PAWC notified and currently seeking replacements.

Sewer Ops are having problems with the progressive cavity pumps. Investigating the option of rotary lobe style pumps.

Mr. Kavitski said the project designed with the pumps the Authority has now and it is working. He is requesting data and comparison for the request.

Mr. Tierney stated this needs to be investigated further. Mr. Thomas stated the project designed with the pumps the Authority has now, and things should not be changed.

Ductless Units – revisit next month.

Low Flow Phase at the Wastewater Treatment Plant – Ryan Smith is suggesting a shorter compliance schedule for Citterio when HRG finalizes the Civil Penalties Assessment to help the plant perform better during these times.

Mr. Fisher inquired about the chemical usage going down during the Low Flow Phase.

ENGINEERING INVOICES

Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve HRG Invoice #185672 \$962.50; Invoice #185673 \$547.50; Invoice #185674 \$2,750.00; Invoice #185675 \$14,290.68; Invoice #186001 \$470.50; and Invoice #186002 \$2,076.00 and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0. (Reference 2537-A).

ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Malaska covered all aspects of the work for the month throughout the meeting.

Attorney Fagan stated the deed for the property covered earlier in the meeting and will be filing seven liens tomorrow.

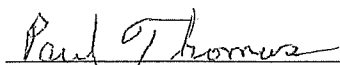
OPEN/OTHER ACTIONS

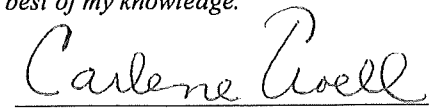
Rainfall was 1.08" for the month.

Mr. Tierney made the motion to continue this meeting on Tuesday September 24, 2024, at 10 AM for the purpose of approving the General Construction and Electrical Construction of the Oak Street Water Storage Tank and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 5-0.

Executive Session to follow for legal reasons.

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


Paul Thomas, Secretary


Carlene Troell, Non-Member Secretary