

THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING WAS HELD BY THE VIRTUAL MEETING ZOOM PLATFORM AND IN PERSON ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2024, IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM AT 711 BIRKBECK STREET, FREELAND, PA. PRESENT WERE MR. KAVITSKI, MR. FISHER, MR. THOMAS, MR. TIERNEY II, 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 people this holiday season.

CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

No citizens were present at the meeting.

APPROVE MINUTES

Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve the Executive Meeting Minutes dated October 2, 2024, and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0.

Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes dated October 16, 2024, and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 4-0.

Mr. Fisher made the motion to approve the Executive Meeting Minutes dated October 23, 2024, and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 4-0.

APPROVE OCTOBER PAID INVOICES

Mr. Tierney made a motion to approve the October paid invoices for the Water Division totaling \$311,700.95, and the Sewer Division invoices totaling \$159,770.82. and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2555-A).

CURRENT INVOICES

Mr. Kavitski made a motion to approve payment of the current Water Division invoices totaling \$241,309.20, the Sewer Division invoices totaling \$79,768.70, and the Sandy Run invoices totaling \$297.68, and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2555-B).

FINANCIAL STATUS

The Secretary reviewed the Financial Status as outlined in Reference 2555-C.

Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve the 2025 Solvency Fee in the amount of \$1,126.00 and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2555-D).

ENGINEERING REPORT

Mr. Brenden Miller of HRG, Inc. presented the Engineering Report. (Reference 2555-E).

Sewer Area

-SIUA and sampling stations – Chris Ferdik presented this portion of the Engineering Report.

HRG & FMA legal counsel remains in communication with solicitors from Freeland Borough, Foster Township and Butler Township on official consistency updates to municipal Sewer Use Ordinances (SUO). Special Counsel returned a review of the Foster Township SUO consistency updated document package on 10/28/2024 and will collaborate with the Solicitor to finalize and incorporate PAWC, as determined necessary. HRG completed draft-final SUO consistency/update document packages for Freeland Borough and Butler Township which was provided to FMA's legal counsel on 11/13/2024 for review. Citterio Inspection was on October 3, 2024. The finalized inspection report was reviewed with Ryan Smith and was sent to Citterio and FMA on 11/14/2024.

SIU Sampling Station for Citterio is now operational. A few minor correction issues need to be completed. Composite samples now can be done and split samples between Citterio and FMA. Citterio has not completed a revised Slug Plan. Three additional slug discharges occurred 10/15/2024, 11/07/2024, and 11/12/2024. NOV's have been sent regarding these issues.

Mr. Tierney questioned the different amounts for the Civil Penalties in the Engineering Report.

Mr. Ferdik stated the noncompliance of monthly reporting is lower amounts and the slug discharges are higher amounts due to violations of the permit. Special Counsel reviewing all Civil Penalties currently. In-person meeting for December 3rd with Citterio, FMA and HRG.

Cost Recovery Invoice received on 11/08/2024 in the amount of \$2,930.99 from Citterio.

The Annual IPP Report for the EPA will be due by 3/31/2025 and is done electronically on a web-based report. Mr. Ferdik is currently taking training courses regarding the web-based report.

Sent the two dental compliance packages out on 11/6/2024 and awaiting their return.

-Sludge Dewatering Project – HRG continues to review the submittals. Screw Press delivery date was November 18, and it has not been delivered, awaiting new date. The contracts will need to be extended due to the manufacturing delays and the contracts will be adjusted after the confirmation of the delivery date of equipment. Logan Jury will contact the company for a new delivery date.

-NPDES Permit Renewal – HRG last corresponded with DEP in February 2024. DEP has not taken any action on the permit yet.

-ACT 537 Special Study – Mr. Fox and Brenden Miller are waiting for PAWC to provide additional dates for another meeting.

-Dynamic Separator – No update currently.

-Wyoming Street PS Plug Valve – Plug Valve Replacement and PAWC to split invoice and they are aware of the project.

Water Area

-Oak Street Water Storage Tank – Pre-construction meeting was held 10/23/2024. Linde Corporation started clearing/grubbing the land. AFP #1 and the PENNVEST Payment Request #2 are on the agenda for approval tonight.

-Centre Street Water Main Replacement Project – Construction was completed for the project and has been considered substantially complete. CO #3 is the final adjusting change order of \$42,786.00 less. The funding reimbursement #1 was not submitted to CFA yet needed revision of the certified payrolls from Sikora Brothers, which were not notarized correctly.

-SRBC Water Conservation Grant – HRG had meetings with the manufacturers and suppliers. HRG recommends moving forward with Sensus AMI meters and 540 Industries noise loggers, with all to be tied into the SCADA System. Mr. Kavitski inquired if this will contain well-depth information and Brenden will check with Staci Hartz of HRG.

-Sandy Run Corrosion Control Study – HRG submitted the Study to DEP on July 3rd and awaiting comments/updates. Brenden Miller will contact DEP for follow-up.

-PFAS, Iron and Manganese Treatment – Awaiting the test results from the laboratories. The next round of PENNVEST Grant Funding, this project will be submitted.

-CFA Small Water & Sewer Grant – Both funding requests will be submitted at once. The certified payrolls from Sikora Brothers needed to be corrected first.

-Upper Lehigh Tank Demolition and Water Line Relocation – Grant application is due next week. The Grant Program max is one million dollars. HRG recommends two phases. 1st Phase is tank demo, cutting and capping existing lines through the woods and installing a blow off there, replacing two 6" lines which run parallel with one 8" line Brenden Miller stated. HRG has everything prepared for the grant submission.

SEWER DIVISION

All items covered during the Engineering Report.

WATER DIVISION

Sikora Brothers Paving Inc., Contract 24-05 Final Change Order #3 for Decrease Price of \$42,786.00 for Total Price of Contract \$419,326.00 Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve the change order and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2556-A).

Centre Street Water Line Replacement Project, Contract 24-05: General Construction Application for Payment #2 in the Amount of \$268,664.20, Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2556-B).

HRG Retainer Agreement in the Amount of \$4,950.00 for the Upper Lehigh Tank Demolition and Water Line Relocation for Grant Submission to the LSA Statewide Grant Program, Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2556-C).

Oak Street Water Storage Tank, Contract #24-03: General Construction, Application for Payment #1 – Linde Corporation in the amount of \$41,580.00; Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2557-A).

PENNVEST Payment Request #2 in the Amount of \$115,323.98 for the Oak Street Storage Tank Project, Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2557-B).

Birkbeck Street Tank Mixer – Kappe Associates quote for \$8,700.00, Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2557-C).

MANAGER REPORT

Ryan Smith presented the Technical Managers Report. (Reference 2557-D).

Concern about the drinking water due to the drought which is getting worse. The Authority notified the customers to voluntarily decrease water usage on November 6th. Will watch the rain event, which is coming with the snow, but this may not really fix the issue. A reminder may have to be sent to the customers to watch their water usage again.

There are a lot of quotes for this meeting: Fence Quotes-Tabled; Well House Motion Lights-Tabled; Birkbeck Street Tank Cleaning-Tabled need to fix the water quality coming in first; Ice Pigging-Tabled; Ductless Unit for UV Room need to purchase; Plug Valve for Wyoming St-Not Ready Yet; Wyoming Street Pump Station Grinder-Tabled; Ryan Smith stated PAWC wants the Authority to purchase before end of year. Mr. Kavitski does not want to piece meal the project. Franklin Miller Grinder with CW Controls on the muffin monster was done a few years ago. Ryan Smith is suggesting going with Derstine for the Grinder and controls, but Derstine is difficult to obtain return phone calls. Mr. Kavitski inquired if there is another distributor of the equipment. Filtrate Pump Upgrade at the Sewer Plant-Tabled; Ryan Smith said the pumps will not handle the new dewatering press flows, upgrade from ¾ HP to 1 HP pumps.

Mr. Kavitski stated the sludge dewatering press is not here yet. New Sludge Netzch Progressive Cavity Pumps Installation Quote-Martin's Electrical Service; WWTP Generator Block Heater Failure with Low Coolant Temp Alarms-Mr. Kavitski inquired about the age of the generator. Staff thought it was installed during the sewer treatment plant upgrade.

Mr. Kavitski stated the following quotes will be voted on this month:

-Ductless UV Room Quote – Zola's Quote for 24,000 BTU for \$7228.00, Mr. Fisher made the motion to approve and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2557-E).

-Installation of the Sludge Pumps from Martins Electrical Service for \$2,450.00, Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2557-F).

-Generator Quotes – Mr. Kavitski stated at other places there are occasional problems with generators but nothing major. The Authority has had a lot of issues with the generators, many things have gone wrong. The Authority should look at surge protection but need to research which is needed.

Mr. Fisher stated the controller should be protected.

Mr. Kavitski stated the Authority has older 3-phase at Well 10, Well 4 and the office area and the Authority needs to fix this problem.

Ryan Smith stated the Office needs a main control panel and surge protection. Forschner Wireworx Quote for \$11,151.50 for replacing the control board and install surge protection Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve and Mr. Kavitski second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2557-G).

-Sewer Plant Generator – Mechanical Service Company Quote for Block Heater with installation for \$2,980.00 plus shipping, Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2557-H).

Ryan Smith mentioned Biros was at Lift Station to clean the CSO at the WWTP, the generator was in alarm too.

Mr. Thomas mentioned calling to find other generator repair companies. Ryan Smith would like to have Modern Power service the generators again.

Bio-Chem price analysis – Mr. Kavitski would like to take a closer look at the analysis prior to making changes.

ENGINEERING INVOICES

Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve HRG Invoice #187116 \$834.50; Invoice #187117 \$6,102.00;

Invoice #188243 \$2,036.00; Invoice #188252 \$443.50; Invoice #188253 \$2,180.50; Invoice #188299 \$3,498.50; Invoice #188300 \$12,365.66; Invoice #188301 \$19,085.83 and Invoice #188302 \$25,983.08 Mr. Thomas second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2558-A).

ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Malaska is working on the 2nd draft for the PA American Agreement will be sent by end of week for Board Approval, extension is to the end of the year.

Mr. Fisher questioned the improved project for the Sewer Division and shared cost with PAWC.

The Sludge Press Equipment should be a shared expense with PAWC.

Citterio USA, along with higher officials within Citterio, are willing to meet with the Authority and HRG for discussion of the IPP. Attorney Malaska recommends speaking to Citterio USA without an attorney being present. The goal is to build compliance with Citterio USA.

OPEN/OTHER ACTIONS

Rainfall was .73" for the month.

ESRI Annual Software Renewal is \$2,396.00, Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2558-B).

AllMax Annual Software Renewal is \$5,093.00, Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2558-C).

2025 Health Insurance Renewal-Highmark Insurance and Vision Insurance staying with the current plan from 2024, 11.11% increase for the year. Mr. Tierney made the motion to approve and Mr. Thomas second. Vote 4-0. (Reference 2558-D).

Dental Insurance will be tabled until next month. The Office Manager needs to speak with the employees to check if their dentists will accept SunLife Dental Insurance.


Work at Home Non-Union Employees-Inclement Weather – This is for non-essential employee workers; this does not apply to the Union Personnel. Mr. Fisher inquired how this is done, and Mr. Kavitski explained some employees have remote desktop capabilities with VPNs and it is secure. Mr. Kavitski made the motion for approval which will be added to the Employee Handbook and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0.

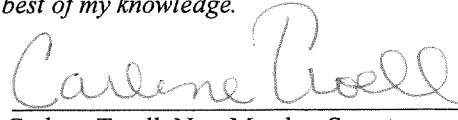
Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve \$50.00 for the Freeland Chamber of Commerce for the 2025 Membership Dues and Mr. Tierney second. Vote 4-0.

Mr. Thomas made the motion to approve \$100.00 for the Freeland Recreation Board for 2025 Donation and Mr. Fisher second. Vote 4-0.

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