

CHALFONT-NEW BRITAIN TOWNSHIP JOINT SEWAGE AUTHORITY

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 28, 2017

The semi-monthly meeting of the Chalfont-New Britain Township Joint Sewage Authority was held on Tuesday, November 28, 2017, in the Authority's meeting room.

Present: Joseph Bonner, Chairman; Timothy Hagey, Assistant Treasurer, Donald Cameron, Vice Chairman; Gustave Haun, Treasurer, Lawrence Nuesch, Assistant Secretary and William Evans, Secretary. Also present were: John Schmidt, Executive Director; Joseph Bagley, Authority Solicitor, and Thomas Hauser, Superintendent. Joseph Nolan, Engineer, was absent.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were present.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

There were no reports of officers.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

On behalf of the Finance Committee, Mr. Haun presented a report. The Finance Committee met and discussed the current finances of the Authority. It is the recommendation of the Finance Committee that the current sewer rental rates should be increased each of the next 3 years. It was discussed that it has been 2 years since the rates were last increased. Doing so would allow revenue to finally catch up to debt service. Currently debt service is being partially funded by reserve funds.

There was a discussion about the relative values of the increases in terms of other municipal rates. The proposed increase would amount to approximately \$21.00 per year for the average customer. For 15,000 gallons of quarterly residential consumption, the rate for Chalfont-New Britain will be \$108.85. According to survey figures compiled by Warrington Township, the Bucks County Water and Sewer Authority rate for the same gallonage is \$173.50. Also according to the Warrington survey, which ranked 33 municipalities and authorities in Bucks and Montgomery counties, Chalfont-New Britain would still be 29 out of 33 after a 5% increase.

The Finance Committee recommends the 5% increase, and Mr. Schmidt and Mr. Bagley will note in their calendars the issue of the Authority considering a 5% increase next year as well.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Haun and **SECONDED** by Mr. Hagey to approve a 5% increase in the sewer rental rate in accordance with the new rate table provided, effective January 1, 2018. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Thomas Hauser

Mr. Hauser reported that treatment plant operations were considered normal for the month of October.

Precipitation: 5.30 inches
Average Daily Flow: 2.69 MGD
Peak Day Flow: 6.63 MG

Process performance was within all limits and Mr. Hauser specifically noted excellent removal of phosphorous.

Routine maintenance was performed on the Plant including greasing aerator bearings, lubricating aerator coupling and UV lamp replacement. A problem developed with the No. 1 thickened sludge pit sensor in the DAFT. It has not yet been determined whether the problem is a sensor or a pump problem and it is still being worked on. Mr. Hauser reported on the fabrication of baffle board brackets which were discovered to be in bad shape by the contractor. New brackets were fabricated out of scrap aluminum in the possession of the Authority, saving money and keeping the project moving. The Truck Barn roof was painted by a contractor. Dewatered sludge was continued to be sent to the composing facility while the dryer is still being activated.

In the collection system, pre-construction meetings were held for Rolling Ridge subdivision and for the CHOP expansion.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – John E. Schmidt

Mr. Schmidt presented the executed pump and haul agreement with Toll PA XIII, L.P. Mr. Schmidt explained that the pump station has already been approved but Toll Brothers delivered the executed agreement to the Authority nevertheless.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Evans and **SECONDED** by Mr. Hagey to approve the pump and haul agreement with Toll PA XIII, L.P. and to authorize Mr. Schmidt to execute the agreement on behalf of the Authority. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Schmidt next presented a sewage capacity approval form for 81 Woodside Avenue in New Britain Township.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Haun and **SECONDED** by Mr. Nuesch to approve sewage capacity for 81 Woodside Avenue. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

There was a discussion regarding an email packet for the Board for the November 28 meeting.

Mr. Schmidt informed the Board that employee Chuck Vance will retire in the middle of December. Mr. Vance has been employed for 44 years by the Authority.

Mr. Schmidt noted that Mr. Nolan is on vacation. Mr. Hagey commented that it was the best engineering report in years.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Joseph M. Bagley, Esquire

Mr. Bagley had nothing to report.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman called for items for the December 12 meeting. The Chairman informed the board that he would be absent from the December 12 meeting and Mr. Cameron will chair the meeting. The second meeting in December has previously been cancelled.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Haun and **SECONDED** by Mr. Hagey to adjourn the meeting. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Bagley, Solicitor
and Recording Secretary