

**CHALFONT-NEW BRITAIN TOWNSHIP JOINT SEWAGE AUTHORITY**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**November 27, 2012**

The semi-monthly meeting of the Chalfont-New Britain Township Joint Sewage Authority was held on Tuesday, November 27, 2012, in the Authority's meeting room.

**Present:** Joseph Bonner, Chairman; William Rissinger, Vice Chairman; Gustave Haun, Treasurer; Timothy Hagey, Assistant Treasurer; Donald Cameron, Assistant Secretary; and William Evans, Secretary. Also present were John Schmidt, Executive Director; Joseph Bagley, Solicitor; Joseph Nolan, Engineer; and Thomas Hauser, Superintendent. The Chairman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no members of the public present.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

There were no reports of officers.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

On behalf of the Personnel Committee, Mr. Evans scheduled a committee meeting for Wednesday, December 5 at 3:30 p.m.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Thomas Hauser**

Mr. Hauser reported that treatment plant operations were considered normal for the month of October despite the Hurricane. There were no SSOs. The generator at Pump Station No. 8 handled its needs and the diesel pump at Pump Station No. 6 handled that pump station. Generators were placed at Pump Station Nos. 2 and 4. The generator at the plant provided power for the plant.

Precipitation: 4.1 inches

Average daily flow: 2.93 MGD

Peak day flow: 6.8 MG

2.2 inches of precipitation were attributable to Hurricane Sandy.

Process performance was below limits except for phosphorous. The Superintendent indicated there was a pumping problem and the measurement for phosphorous could not be lowered enough by the time the month ended.

Routine maintenance at the plant was performed during the month. Glass components from the old UV system were removed for the contractor and the truck-loading conveyor was removed from the old silo.

In the collection system, inspections were conducted at the project site for Madison at New Britain. A couple of days were spent clearing manholes downstream of New Britain Square shopping center. A private contractor for the shopping center opened a grease blockage but the resulting residual waste littered the downstream sewer lines. The shopping center was sent an invoice by the Authority.

There was a general discussion about the grease blockage at New Britain Square.

The Authority laboratory received an award for laboratory excellence from the Eastern Pennsylvania Water Pollution Control Operators Association.

In response to a question, Mr. Hauser indicated that approximately 20-30% of the Authority's sewer lines had been televised.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – John E. Schmidt**

Mr. Schmidt summarized the status of his COSTARS vehicle search. Mr. Schmidt reported on the availability of a Chevy Equinox at Chapman Chevy in Philadelphia with a COSTARS price of \$24,018. Mr. Schmidt is trying to contact Fred Beans about a Ford Escape and to determine if they have a Chevy Equinox available under the COSTARS program.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Rissinger and **SECONDED** by Mr. Haun to authorize the purchase of a vehicle for the Executive Director's official use under the COSTARS program with the price not to exceed \$25,000. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Schmidt reported on St. James Church, which may be purchased by a non-profit community center. The Church had one existing EDU. The purchaser is looking to have 50 employees or people occupy the site. The not-for-profit is requesting a waiver of tapping fees. There was a discussion among the Board members regarding the general policy against waiver of tapping fees. The consensus of the Board was to not waive tapping fees for the non-profit.

Mr. Schmidt reported that a website announcement for the sewer rate increase is being worked on. Mr. Schmidt hoped to have it on the website by next week.

A general discussion ensued regarding the sewer rate increase.

Mr. Schmidt reported that the MunicIPAY face-to-face demonstration was postponed because MunicIPAY does not provide live demos. Instead, MunicIPAY provides a web demonstration on a conference call and does so only during the day. The Finance Committee will meet on a mutually agreed-upon date and time for an information gathering session with MunicIPAY.

Mr. Schmidt reported that the Authority will be doing the Give-a-Christmas donation again this year. Donations will be collected at the next Board meeting.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT – Joseph Nolan, P. E.**

Mr. Nolan provided an update on the Phase II plant expansion construction. The contractor continued work on the A and B tanks, cut out all the walls and formed up supports. The electrical contractor will be providing a schedule. Mr. Nolan indicated that the work so far is good.

Mr. Nolan reviewed with the Board that he had distributed the annual consulting engineer's report last meeting and asked for any comments. No comments were provided by the Board.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Evans and **SECONDED** by Mr. Rissinger to approve the consulting engineer's report. There was a brief discussion concerning insurance coverage for facilities and sewer lines. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Nolan reported that comments had been received from DEP on the Authority's Chapter 94 report for 2011. The review letter from DEP focused on SSOs and requested a comprehensive plan for infiltration investigation and removal. The Authority had 18 SSOs during 2011. Twelve (12) of the SSOs were related to Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee. Half of the remaining SSOs were on privately-owned land and not the responsibility of the Authority, the others have had the problems corrected. Mr. Nolan

is drafting a response which he will review with Mr. Schmidt. It was requested that a copy of the response be provided to each of the Board members.

There was a general discussion regarding DEP's new focus on the collection system now just as the plant and plant capacity are being expanded. There was a general discussion about the SSOs.

Mr. Nolan reported on the progress of the Silo Project. The silo manufacturer indicated that they will be onsite next week.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Joseph M. Bagley, Esquire**

Mr. Bagley distributed speaking points to the Board for the 2013 rate increase in draft form.

Mr. Bagley also reported on an email received from Mr. Logan indicating that a conference call was being arranged among counsel for the municipalities and the EHB to discuss the award of counsel fees.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

The report on the credit card demonstration, the Personnel Committee report, the six-month budget and the Superintendent's report will be placed on the agenda for the December 11 meeting.

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

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph M. Bagley, Solicitor

William T. Evans, Secretary