

CHALFONT-NEW BRITAIN TOWNSHIP JOINT SEWAGE AUTHORITY

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 27, 2015

The semi-monthly meeting of the Chalfont-New Britain Township Joint Sewage Authority was held on Tuesday, October 27, 2015, in the Authority's meeting room.

Present: Joseph Bonner, Chairman; William Rissinger, Vice Chairman; William Evans, Secretary; Donald Cameron, Assistant Secretary; Gustave Haun, Treasurer and Timothy Hagey, Assistant Treasurer. Also present were John Schmidt, Executive Director; Joseph Nolan, P.E.; Thomas Hauser, Superintendent; Joseph Bagley, Solicitor.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were present.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

There were no reports from officers presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

The Personnel Committee reported a recommended change in the status of Adam Vance to a supervisory position working on the collection system. The change would result in him becoming a salaried employee.

MOTION: It was **MOVED** by Mr. Haun and **SECONDED** by Mr. Cameron to approve the promotion of Adam Vance to a supervisory position, effective November 5th. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Thomas Hauser

Mr. Hauser reported that Treatment Plant operations were normal during the month of September.

Precipitation: 3.6 inches

Average Daily Flow: 2.41 MGD

Peak Day Flow: 3.27 MG

Process performance was all compliant. Routine maintenance was performed as scheduled in the collection system.

In the collection system, Authority equipment was maintained. Personnel excavated two (2) laterals on Farber Drive. They sealed a leak around a pipe on Farber Drive. They investigated a problem on Airy Avenue that turned out to be a homeowner's problem.

At the plant, routine maintenance was performed as scheduled. There was troubleshooting of the influent sampler. Repairs were made to the plant perimeter fence. Locks were installed on all doors throughout the plant. Personnel replaced bearings and seals on the dryer thermal fluid pump.

There was a discussion, and the Board asked questions, regarding the DEP inspection on September 2. A notice of violation was issued on the influent sampler. There was another notice of violation regarding biosolids. The Authority responded to such notices in writing to DEP. There was an extended discussion regarding the DEP inspection.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – John E. Schmidt

Mr. Schmidt presented a proposed resolution from VALIC restating the VALIC pension plan for the Authority.

MOTION: It was **MOVED** by Mr. Cameron and **SECONDED** by Mr. Evans to approve Resolution No. 2015-2 restating the pension plan. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Schmidt reported on the DEP payment. He referenced a memo from Paul Logan, Esquire. He reported that he had talked to Mr. Logan. The (lack of a) Pennsylvania State Budget was discussed.

MOTION: It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Haun to approve a settlement stipulation and accept \$65,193.76 from DEP. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Schmidt reported on a regulatory alert received regarding a draft nutrient impact assessment protocol for wadeable streams from Hall & Associates. There was a brief discussion regarding the protocol and its potential impact. A consensus was reached that there be further discussion of this issue at the next Board meeting if more information can be obtained.

Mr. Schmidt reported on his meeting with the insurance broker. Mr. Schmidt distributed materials to the Board consisting of a summary of health insurance plan proposals. Mr. Schmidt recommends a change to an Affordable Care Act Plan with Blue Cross referred to as the Bronze Plan. Medicare-eligible individuals would be re-instated onto a Blue Cross Medicare HMO plan. The proposed plans could save about \$20,000.00 over an Aetna renewal. There was a discussion regarding the potential benefits of the Bronze Plan. One advantage is that a cost savings actually benefits employees on the plan because they pay for 5% of the premium costs. Deductibles and co-pays will be continued to be covered by the Authority by way of a Health Reimbursement Arrangement.

MOTION: It was **MOVED** by Mr. Haun and **SECONDED** by Mr. Rissinger to approve entering into the Blue Cross plans for the coming year, effective December 1st. The Motion was unanimously adopted. There was a brief discussion regarding the relatively flat cost trending for health insurance plans of the Authority over the last twelve (12) years.

Mr. Schmidt reported that November 15 is the deadline to close out the Univest loan. A small amount remaining in the loan will be drawn down by November 15.

Mr. Schmidt recommended closing out Escrow No. 109 for 128 South Limekiln Pike which is an individual residence.

MOTION: It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Evans to close out Escrow No. 109. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Schmidt asked if there were any changes to the minutes for October 13. None were suggested.

Mr. Schmidt reminded the Board of the PMAA dinner on November 12.

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

Mr. Nolan reported that he had provided the final construction plan for Phase III to Mr. Schmidt. He expects one more meeting with staff to go over the plan. The Authority appears to be ready in terms of moving forward with Phase III. Mr. Nolan also provided a cost estimate for Phase III to Mr. Schmidt.

Mr. Nolan discussed the draft annual consulting engineer's report which has been provided to Mr. Schmidt and to the Auditor. Copies of the draft were distributed to the Board at the meeting.

Mr. Nolan briefly reviewed the Report which includes general information on the Authority, an update on all projects completed over the years, a specific reference to the Phase II Upgrade and Expansion completion, a reference to the design work for Phase III, the application for an increase in the capacity for the NPDES Permit, (Mr. Nolan noted the issue being on the DRBC docket for rerating of hydraulic capacity until 2019), a summary of the process and handling of sludge, a summary of treatment plant operators, reference to the annual inspection and other treatment plant operations.

The Report also details the cost of operation, revenues and cost sharing with BCW&SA, the division of flow allocation used to determine the cost split between the two (2) authorities, quarterly billing of BCW&SA and the payment owed to BCW&SA of about \$118,000 for the past year. The Report explains that there are no surcharges to either Authority this year. The Report also details budget information, expenses, revenues, rate charges and insurance.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Joseph Bagley, Esquire

Mr. Bagley noted a revised, proposed Sewer Use Ordinance has been received from New Britain Township and will be reviewed by the Authority staff.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Finance Committee agreed to schedule a meeting for November 5 at 8:00 a.m.

No other issues were suggested for the November 10 meeting agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

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 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Bagley, Solicitor
and Recording Secretary