

CHALFONT-NEW BRITAIN TOWNSHIP JOINT SEWAGE AUTHORITY

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 27, 2020

The semi-monthly meeting of the Chalfont-New Britain Township Joint Sewage Authority was held on Tuesday, October 27, 2020, in the Authority's meeting room.

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

The Chairman opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No members of the public were present.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

No reports of officers were presented.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

No Committee reports were presented.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – John Schmidt

Mr. Schmidt inquired whether there were any comments on the October 13 minutes. Mr. Haun indicated that it took a long time for the minutes to reach him by U.S. Mail.

Mr. Schmidt reviewed with the Board the letters received from the two (2) Authority consultants regarding rates in 2021.

Mr. Schmidt inquired whether there was a consensus to cancel or postpone the Holiday Dinner this year. A consensus was reached to do so.

Mr. Schmidt reported that there was a staff meeting prior to today's public meeting where the staff made a list of maintenance items for the Plant and assigned tasks to have such maintenance items completed. The staff also discussed the various tasks to address the aerators.

A Board member asked whether Eastern Environmental could be used to install the aerator equipment as quickly as possible. Mr. Hauser responded that they had already been on-site once and he will call tomorrow to have Eastern Environmental appear on-site on Monday for installation.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Thomas Hauser

Mr. Hauser reported that Treatment Plant performance continued with little change during the month of September due to the low dissolved oxygen levels in the process.

Precipitation: 4.35 inches

Average Daily Flow: 3.133 MGD

Peak Day Flow: 5.25 MG

Mr. Hauser reported that process performance was subpar for CBOD, NH₃ and total phosphorous for the month of September. Mr. Hauser also reported that fecal coliform was approximately 900 which was better than in August but not good enough to meet permit.

Mr. Hauser also reported a broken drive wheel was discovered on the grit and grease traveling bridge and two (2) new wheels were ordered. All of the quartz sleeves and lamps in the No. 1 UV channel were replaced during the month. The remaining aerator shafts that needed to be repaired immediately were lifted out. The Authority utilized Eastern Environmental to assist on the bearing plate anchoring repairs. The Authority distributed biosolids to two (2) area farmers for land application during the month.

In the collection system, routine pump station maintenance was carried out. One-calls were marked and weekly flow meters were read. Personnel were televising with the TV truck. The deduct meter list was read. There was various jobs with the jet truck, some assisting the Township. Oxbow Meadows and Butler Avenue were marked for upcoming water main replacement. Manhole lids on Patriot Drive and Independence Way were opened for inspection prior to paving.

Mr. Hauser gave an update on the aerator issues. The aerator shafts were set for the No. 1 aerator today. New bearings have been put in place and new coupler hubs are in place. Mr. Hauser expects two (2) aerators to be in operation by next week. The Authority is waiting for two (2) shafts to be delivered by next week. Eastern Environmental will be brought in to assist.

Ozonias is coming in Thursday to work on the UV System. Mr. Hauser discussed the potential impact of the ammonia and phosphorous readings interfering with the fecal coliform process performance.

A Board member asked a question about whether the Ozonias lamps are now being purchased. Mr. Hauser answered in the affirmative.

A Board member asked a question about the status of the four (4) large aerators. Mr. Hauser responded that two (2) aerators should be running in two (2) weeks. The No. 3 aerator has been running continuously since problems first occurred. That aerator will be shut down in the Spring to examine it.

Mr. Schmidt commented that having two (2) aerators running is marginal for operations, so having two (2) operating in two (2) weeks should greatly improve the process performance.

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

Mr. Nolan met with representatives of the Township at the site to discuss the Pump Station No. 4 Relocation Project. A new alignment running along the perimeter of the park was shown to the Township and was generally accepted. Mr. Nolan will revise cost estimates. The acquisition of easements was discussed. Five (5) residential properties appear to be involved.

Mr. Nolan reported that discussions with DEP were ongoing regarding the DEP Permit. More sampling will be undertaken.

A Board question was asked about where the sampling takes place. The response was that the sampling takes place after discharge.

Mr. Nolan discussed the annual report he has prepared. A copy was sent off to the Auditors and one or two comments were received and revised. Mr. Nolan reviewed the various sections of the report including general information, history of construction programs, Plant operations, cost sharing with other municipalities, sludge handling tanks completed, summary of Authority staff, training programs, Plant performance, laboratories, flow summary reports, monthly and quarterly maintenance, improvements and cost sharing between municipalities. Also discussed was the reconciliation with Bucks County Water & Sewer Authority for the past year. The report also contains a calculated 2020-21 payment for Bucks County Water & Sewer Authority. The report will be sent to BCW&SA.

There was a question raised to discuss insurance coverage for catastrophic failure of equipment. The discussion involved casualty loss versus ordinary wear-and-tear.

MOTION: It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Nuesch to accept the Engineer's Report. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT – Joseph M. Bagley, Esquire

Mr. Bagley reiterated that he met with Mr. Schmidt and Mr. Nolan to discuss easement acquisition for the Pump Station No. 4 Project.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman called for items for the agenda of the November 10 meeting. None were offered.

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 5:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph M. Bagley, Solicitor
and Recording Secretary