

# CHALFONT-NEW BRITAIN TOWNSHIP JOINT SEWAGE AUTHORITY

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 12, 2021

The meeting of the Chalfont-New Britain Township Joint Sewage Authority was held on Tuesday, January 12, 2021, by Zoom electronic platform pursuant to Act 15 of 2020 during the Governor's Declared Health Emergency due to COVID-19.

**Present:** Joseph Bonner, Chairman; Donald Cameron, Vice Chairman; Gustave Haun, Treasurer; William Evans, Secretary, Timothy Hagey, Assistant Treasurer and Lawrence Nuesch, Assistant Secretary. 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.

### **BOARD REORGANIZATION**

The Solicitor assumed the Chair during elections and reorganization.

The Solicitor called for nominations for Chairman. Mr. Cameron nominated Mr. Bonner as Chairman. Mr. Haun seconded the nomination. The Solicitor called for any other nominations. None were made.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Nuesch to close the nominations. The Motion was unanimously adopted. Mr. Bonner was elected Chairman by acclamation.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Haun and **SECONDED** by Mr. Hagey to elect as Officers for 2021 the same Board Members to their respective positions as they were in 2020. The Motion was unanimously adopted. Mr. Cameron was elected Vice Chairman, Mr. Haun was elected Treasurer, Mr. Evans was elected Secretary, Mr. Hagey was elected Assistant Treasurer and Mr. Nuesch was elected Assistant Secretary.

The Chairman announced that Committees would remain the same until appointments for Committees and Chairs for 2021 were announced at the next meeting.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Bonner and **SECONDED** by Mr. Haun to reappoint the same professionals in 2021 as were appointed in 2020. The Motion was unanimously adopted. Mr. Bagley/Wisler Pearlstine was appointed as Solicitor, Mr. Nolan/CKS was appointed as Consulting Engineer and Bee, Bergvall & Company was appointed as Auditor.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Cameron and **SECONDED** by Mr. Nuesch to set the dates and times of Authority meetings for 2021 as distributed to the Board. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Evans and **SECONDED** by Mr. Cameron to approve the 2021 Fee Schedule as distributed to the Board.

There was a question about tapping fees. Mr. Schmidt and Mr. Nolan answered questions regarding the current tapping fee. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

The 2021 Fee Schedule as distributed to the Board was officially approved.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Evans and **SECONDED** by Mr. Cameron to approve the Minutes of December 8, 2020 as distributed to the Board. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

The only member of the public present was Supervisor Helen Haun who was providing electronic, technical advice to Treasurer Haun.

## **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

No reports of officers were presented.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Evans presented a report on behalf of the Personnel Committee. Mr. Evans reported that the Committee met last week and made a recommendation for raises in regard to Office staff, Management and Summer staff employees.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Evans and **SECONDED** by Mr. Hagey to approve raises for Office staff, Management personnel and Summer staff per the recommendation of the Personnel Committee as presented to the Board. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Thomas Hauser**

Mr. Hauser reported that Treatment Plant operations were greatly improved in December 2020 in comparison to the preceding few months.

Precipitation: 5.2 inches

Average Daily Flow: 6.39 MGD

Peak Day Flow: 13.8 MG

In terms of process performance, the Plant was well within limits. Mr. Hauser believes that the high ammonia in the effluent combined with increased feed of ferrous chloride in some way caused a chemical reaction resulting in the elevated fecal coliform measurements in preceding months.

Mr. Hauser reported that bearings on Aerator No. 1, shaft No. 3 were going bad with two sets of bearings ordered. The shaft is scheduled to be pulled as quickly as possible. The UV Channel No. 1 unit experienced problems with an electrical breaker randomly tripping. The breaker was replaced. The No. 2 DAFT control system was worked on. The No. 2 old RAS pump piping was pulled apart to remove a blockage. A removal and rebuild is planned for that pump. Pump seals were leaking severely. High flows on December 24-26 from rain and snow melt caused multiple Plant and pumping station high level alarms. Plant final effluent flow was greater than 20 MGD for nearly 14 hours and flows greater than 11 MGD for each of the three (3) days.

The dryer developed a belt tracking problem which caused dewatering/drying operations to stop while the problem was worked on. Technicians from the manufacturer have been summoned and will be working on the problem. In response to an inquiry, Mr. Hauser confirmed that the dryer has otherwise been operating normally.

In the collection system, routine maintenance was performed. 50.5 inspection hours were incurred involving the Mill Ridge Project. An additional 44.5 inspection hours were incurred at the New Britain Meadows Project. A new pump coupling was installed on the Godwin backup pump at Pump Station No. 6. The Vactor truck was used to "soft dig" and locate gas mains on Barry Road in connection with the Pump Station No. 4 relocation design.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Schmidt presented Resolution No. 2021-1 approving legal fees and interest on behalf of the Authority for 2021.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Evans to approve Resolution No. 2021-1. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Schmidt reported on the delivery of the new work truck after nearly a year.

Mr. Schmidt announced that the Collection System Supervisor, Rich Heverly, reached his 10-year anniversary with the Authority in December.

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

Mr. Nolan presented Requisition No. 217 for Capital Expenditures in the amount of \$1,324.97 for computer replacements.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Haun and **SECONDED** by Mr. Evans to approve Requisition No. 217 for Capital Expenditures in the amount of \$1,324.97. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Nolan next presented Requisition No. 260 in the amount of \$12,060.00 for engineering and legal expenses in connection with the Pump Station No. 4 relocation.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Haun and **SECONDED** by Mr. Hagey to approve Requisition No. 260 for engineering and legal expenses in connection with the Pump Station No. 4 relocation in the amount of \$12,060.00. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Nolan provided an update on the Pump Station No. 4 relocation project. Mr. Nolan reported that after review of the design by Mr. Schmidt and Mr. Heverly, revisions have taken place and revised plans will be provided to both. The Authority has been notified by DEP that a certain amount of Act 537 planning will be required for the Project in the form of a special study. CKS is in the process of preparing the special study. That will need to be approved prior to issuance of a construction permit.

Mr. Nolan also reported that the Solicitor has been provided with an easement plan. A proposed easement has been forwarded to the County. CKS has finished the easement plan and legal descriptions and they will be provided shortly to the Solicitor. A "soft dig" for the gas line crossing was performed on Barry Road.

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

Mr. Bagley reported that he submitted a proposed easement to the County Solicitor and the New Britain Township Solicitor. The County Solicitor responded with very few substantive changes

and the County appears to be ready to proceed. An email has been sent to the Township Solicitor asking for comments.

**TREASURER’S REPORT – Gustave Haun**

Mr. Haun reviewed the General Operating Expenses for the month of \$307,526.98. He reviewed the previously-approved Capital Expenditures and Capital Improvements as well as the Fund 3 payments towards the loan of \$73,304.25 making the total expenditures for the month \$394,216.20 and he recommended approval.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Haun and **SECONDED** by Mr. Hagey to approve the total expenditures of \$394,216.20. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Haun next reviewed escrow disbursements in the amount of \$9,098.37 and he recommended approval.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Haun and **SECONDED** by Mr. Nuesch to approve the escrow disbursements of \$9,098.37. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

The Chairman called for other business. Mr. Nuesch reported that he has been reappointed by Chalfont Borough on October 12.<sup>1</sup>

**AGENDA - JANUARY 26 MEETING**

Following discussion, there was a motion to cancel the next Board meeting.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Cameron and **SECONDED** by Mr. Haun to cancel the January 26 Board meeting. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

**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 5:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph M. Bagley, Solicitor  
and Recording Secretary

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<sup>1</sup> Mr. Schmidt subsequently obtained a copy of page 2 of 3 of the Chalfont Borough Council meeting minutes for October 12, 2020 which reflected that Mr. Nuesch was reappointed to the Authority on that date.