

CHALFONT-NEW BRITAIN TOWNSHIP JOINT SEWAGE AUTHORITY

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 9, 2021

The meeting of the Chalfont-New Britain Township Joint Sewage Authority was held on Tuesday, February 9, 2021, by Zoom electronic platform pursuant to Act 15 of 2020 during the Governor's Declared Health Emergency due to COVID-19.

Present: Donald Cameron, Vice Chairman; Gustave Haun, Treasurer; William Evans, Secretary 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. Joseph Bonner, Chairman was absent. Timothy Hagey, Assistant Treasurer entered after the meeting began. Also present was Sandra Pierce who was the host for the electronic meeting.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was **MOVED** by Mr. Cameron and **SECONDED** by Mr. Evans to approve the Minutes of January 12, 2021 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

No committee reports were presented.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Thomas Hauser

Mr. Hauser reported that Treatment Plant operations were normal for the month of January.

Precipitation: 2.3 inches

Average Daily Flow: 4.82 MGD

Peak Day Flow: 9.76 MG

Process performance was within all limits. Mr. Hauser characterized the effluent as “very clean”. Routine maintenance was performed on the Plant as scheduled. Work continued on the No. 2 DAFT unit with a problem controlling flow. A new pinch-valve was ordered. Parts for the influent screen compactor were received but their new part design will not work in the existing unit. Parts were re-ordered. The No. 2 DAFT thickened sludge pump was re-built, replacing seals, lobes and wear plates.

Gryphon Environmental was on site on January 14 and 15 as a result of the Authority experiencing problems starting up the dryer following the belt tracking issue from December and January. The dryer would shut down as it was turned on. Gryphon addressed some wiring and programming issues remotely. The belt tracking problem has been corrected for the time being. There were some minor problems experienced with dryer alarms, but they were resolved due to a condenser issue.

In the collection system, personnel marked One Calls. Flow meters and the cycle B deduct/consumption meter list were read. There were 15.5 inspection hours at the Mill Ridge Project. Personnel inspected 5 new tie-ins to the collection system. A dead pine tree was removed and cut up which was leaning on a chain-link fence. Personnel took delivery of the new road crew truck and transferred tools from the old truck. A new lateral camera was picked up at Cues Inc.

A Board member inquired whether the belt tracking issue was something that the Authority can repair itself. Mr. Hauser responded that they received input from Gryphon and that Gryphon made some changes remotely. Mr. Hauser described a situation in which the air cylinders are affecting the belt and they were not supposed to. Routine checks are going to have to be made for tension of the belt. Mr. Hauser described issues with the belt from its original installation and photographs that he has regarding same. He stated that a dialogue has begun with the manufacturer about the manufacturer providing a spare belt at its partial cost for the Authority to keep on hand.

Mr. Evans questioned that if the belt was installed improperly whether the manufacturer should be paying the entire cost. A discussion ensued about the manufacturer paying for the entire cost of the belt.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Schmidt asked the Board to review the contact/information sheet distributed to the Board and provide him with any new information. Mr. Schmidt also asked for a volunteer to come to the Authority building to sign checks. Mr. Evans volunteered.

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

Mr. Nolan summarized the status of the Pump Station No. 4 Project. The design of the Project is nearing completion. DEP has requested that an Act 537 Special Study be prepared.

Mr. Hagey entered the meeting at approximately 5:17 p.m.

Mr. Nolan has provided a draft of the Act 537 Special Study to Mr. Schmidt. When finalized, the Act 537 Study will be sent to the Township Planning Commission for review and approval and subsequently to the County Planning Commission for review and approval.

The Township staff has indicated that the Authority should obtain approval from DEP before requesting any type of land development waiver. The Act 537 Study will then have to be advertised and submitted to DEP. Mr. Nolan reminded the Board that the Authority already has sewer planning approval for the entire area except for this relocation of the pump station.

Mr. Nolan presented Requisition No. 218 for Capital Expenditures in the amount of \$0.

Mr. Nolan next presented Requisition No. 261 for Capital Improvements in the amount of \$9,366.50 representing engineering and legal fees related to the Pump Station Project.

MOTION: It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Nuesch to approve Requisition No. 261 for engineering and legal fees in the amount of \$9,366.50. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT – Joseph M. Bagley, Esquire

Mr. Bagley advised that he and Mr. Schmidt have been working on a Bill of Sale and Deed of Dedication in regard to a pump station and related facilities for the New Britain Woods Subdivision, which will likely be on the agenda for the Authority's March meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Gustave Haun

Mr. Haun presented the General Operating Expenses for the month of \$226,597.36 and referred to the previously-approved Capital Improvements of \$9,366.50 along with payments to the Fund 3 payments towards the loan of \$73,304.25 making the total expenditures through February 9, 2021 \$309,268.11 and he recommended approval.

MOTION: It was **MOVED** by Mr. Haun and **SECONDED** by Mr. Cameron to approve the total expenditures of \$309,268.11. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Haun next presented escrow disbursements in the amount of \$3,460.40 and he recommended approval.

MOTION: It was **MOVED** by Mr. Nuesch and **SECONDED** by Mr. Hagey to approve the escrow disbursements of \$3,460.40. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business was presented.

AGENDA – FEBRUARY 23 MEETING

Mr. Schmidt recommended cancellation of the February 23 meeting.

MOTION: It was **MOVED** by Mr. Cameron and **SECONDED** by Mr. Haun to cancel the February 23 Board meeting. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph M. Bagley, Solicitor
and Recording Secretary