

CHALFONT-NEW BRITAIN TOWNSHIP JOINT SEWAGE AUTHORITY

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 8, 2022

The meeting of the Chalfont-New Britain Township Joint Sewage Authority was held on February 8, 2022, in the Authority's meeting room.

Present: William Evans, Chairman; Donald Cameron, Vice Chairman; Lawrence Nuesch, Secretary; Timothy Hagey, Treasurer; Preston Campbell, Assistant Secretary, and William Muzika, Assistant Treasurer. Also present were John Schmidt, Executive Director; Thomas Hauser, Superintendent; Joseph Nolan, Engineer; and Joseph Bagley, Solicitor. Former Chairman Joseph Bonner, Mrs. Bonner, former Treasurer Gus Haun and Mrs. Haun were also in attendance.

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

RECOGNITIONS AND CONGRATULATIONS:

The Chairman recognized Mr. Haun for his 23 years of faithful service to the Authority, and his long and valued service as Treasurer of the Authority. Mr. Haun was presented with a proclamation of the Authority, a flag flown over the State Capitol and a proclamation signed by the Governor. The Board designated Thursday, February 10, 2022 as Gustave R. Haun Day at the Authority at which time all those associated with the Authority shall reflect upon the many contributions of Mr. Haun to the success that has been enjoyed by the Chalfont-New Britain Township Joint Sewage Authority.

The Vice Chairman next recognized Mr. Bonner for his 38 years of faithful service to the Authority, and his long and valued service as Chairman of the Authority. Mr. Bonner was presented with a proclamation from the Authority, a flag flown over the State Capitol and a proclamation signed by the Governor. The Board designated Wednesday, February 9, 2022 as Joseph T. Bonner Day at the Authority at which time all those associated with the Authority shall reflect upon the many contributions of Mr. Bonner to the success that has been enjoyed by the Chalfont-New Britain Township Joint Sewage Authority.

The Chairman recessed the meeting at approximately 5:07 p.m. to congratulate the assembled guests and offer them refreshments.

The Chairman proceeded with the remainder of the meeting at approximately 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Hagey and seconded by Mr. Nuesch to adopt the meeting minutes of January 11, 2022 as distributed to the Board. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Nuesch and seconded by Mr. Muzika to adopt the meeting minutes of January 25, 2022 as distributed to the Board. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

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.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT – Thomas Hauser

Treatment plant operations were considered normal during the month of January with one exception. The operator on duty for the January 17 Federal Holiday discovered solids loss to the final effluent. He contacted the Superintendent and was instructed as to actions to be taken to reduce and stop the solids loss by putting the plant in “storm mode”. The final effluent sampler was programmed to automatically sample and captured the event.

Precipitation: 4.80”

Average Daily Flows: 4.56 MGD

Peak Day Flow: 8.96 MG

All process performance was within limits with the exception of the Total Suspended Solids excursion noted above. In the plant, the dryer experienced two alarms during the month due to extreme freezing weather. The first was due to the feed water line freezing. Heat trace was on and the setting was increased to its maximum to prevent re-occurrence. The second alarm was the result of the cooling tower freezing at the air intake, which prevented air flow to sufficiently cool the water.

A Board member asked a question about upgrading the systems with heat trace. Mr. Hauser stated that it was cranked up all the way on the particularly cold night in question and the water was left running continuously until morning. The garden hose used also froze on the ground overnight.

Another Board member asked about the clarifier carryover being located in the final clarifier. Mr. Hauser stated that parts were ordered but have still not been received. The Authority is limited in how much flow can be put in the No. 1 clarifier. The bearing which failed has likely not been pulled since it was installed in the 1980's.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT- John Schmidt

Mr. Schmidt reported that letters were sent to those who experienced sewer backups on September 1-2. One response was received back. Elizabeth Kalinowsky of 20 Walden Way responded. A second property appeared to be reaching out but as of today's meeting, no further follow-up has occurred. Ms. Kalinowsky submitted an insurance claim, applied to FEMA and even appealed to FEMA. Furthermore, she has accepted the Authority's offer to install a backflow prevention device.

The Board moved into executive session at 5:43 PM to discuss matters which if discussed in public would violate a lawful privilege and to discuss potential litigation on which identifiable complaints could be filed (sewer backups).

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Hagey and seconded by Mr. Muzika to authorize Mr. Schmidt to calculate and offer an amount to Ms. Kalinowsky to make her whole for damages sustained on Sept. 1-2, 2021 at 20 Walden Way net of the receipt of payments from her insurance carrier and FEMA, and in exchange for an Authority-approved release. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

The Board returned to its regular session at 5:53 PM.

Mr. Schmidt reported to the Board that the RFP for bank loans is in the process of being sent out and Mr. Gibbons of Concord Finance will report on it at the next meeting.

Mr. Schmidt further reported that Mike Stoler of Mantis Innovation will appear at the next meeting to discuss a reverse auction for electricity generation.

Mr. Schmidt reported that PPI continues to do their work. Mr. Schmidt reported on a blockage identified at a residence on New Jersey Avenue. It was eventually determined to be from an Aqua contractor installing water lines who likely dug into the sewer lateral. PPI assisted in installing a cleanout which helped in flushing out debris.

Mr. Schmidt reminded the Board of the upcoming PMAA training on March 24.

ENGINEER'S REPORT – Joseph Nolan

Mr. Nolan reported that DEP sent a request for further information about the Pump Station No. 4 Project. All of the follow-up information has been provided except a letter from the Township which has been requested. A record plan is being prepared at DEP's request for recording. He also noted that DEP referred to such follow-up information requests as "preliminary comments".

Mr. Nolan noted that Requisition No. 230 for Capital Expenditures is in the amount of \$0.

Mr. Nolan presented Requisition No. 273 for Capital Improvements in the amount of \$5718.82 representing engineering and legal expenses for the pump Station No. 4 Project.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Cameron and seconded by Mr. Nuesch to approve Requisition No. 273 for Capital Improvements in the amount of \$5718.82 representing engineering and legal expenses for the pump Station No. 4 Project. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT- Joseph Bagley

Mr. Bagley reported that the ethics training for the Board would take place in March due to agenda items already occupying the February 22 Meeting agenda.

TREASURER'S REPORT- Timothy Hagey

Mr. Hagey reported that the general operating expenses for the month amounted to \$212,043.03. The previously approved Capital Improvements along with payments to the Loan

Fund resulted in total General Operating Expenses for the month of \$291,066.10 and Mr. Hagey recommended approval to pay the bills.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Hagey and seconded by Mr. Cameron to approve the total General Operating Expenses for the month of \$291,066.10. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Hagey next presented escrow disbursements in the amount of \$5676.41.

MOTION: It was it was moved by Mr. Hagey and seconded by Mr. Cameron to approve the escrow disbursements for the month of \$5676.41. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman noted that there are already two agenda items for the Feb. 22 Meeting. Mr. Hagey requested that training regarding executive sessions also be added to the ethics training.

ADJOURNMENT

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

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph M. Bagley, Solicitor
and Recording Secretary