

# CHALFONT-NEW BRITAIN TOWNSHIP JOINT SEWAGE AUTHORITY

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 9, 2022

The meeting of the Chalfont-New Britain Township Joint Sewage Authority was held on August 9, 2022, in the Authority's meeting room.

**Present:** William Evans, Chairman; Donald Cameron, Vice Chairman; Lawrence Nuesch, Secretary, Timothy Hagey, Treasurer; and Preston Campbell, Assistant Secretary. Also present: John Schmidt, Executive Director; Joseph Nolan, Engineer; Joseph Bagley, Solicitor; and Rich Heverly, Collection System Supervisor. William Muzika, Assistant Treasurer was absent.

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

### **MINUTES**

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Cameron to adopt the minutes of the meeting of July 12, 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**

Mr. Campbell, on behalf of the Facilities Committee, reported that a plant tour for the Board was conducted prior to the Board Meeting today.

A question was asked by the Board as to how many maintenance workers the Authority has. The response was that all operators are responsible for maintenance. A suggestion was made by a Board Member that based upon the size of the Plant and the recent mechanical breakdowns that a dedicated maintenance worker may be needed. There was a discussion of past experience with dedicated maintenance workers. A specific question was asked by a Board Member about who is in charge of maintenance of the bearing on the aerators. The response from Mr. Hauser was that an automated schedule controls who is responsible for maintenance of a specific item within a certain range of duties. It was clarified that the Authority rotates maintenance through the operator staff. A Board Member asked whether there are enough workers. The response was that it "varies". Some things breakdown all at once. The bearings and shafts were a big project. Mr. Heverly stated that "we could use one more guy". There was a general discussion about adding another operator.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Nuesch to add a new operator position for the Authority. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Evans reported on behalf of the Executive Committee that the Committee met in June and discussed issues with regard to the Plant.

## **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT-Thomas Hauser**

Mr. Hauser gave his report as set forth in the written Superintendent’s Report for July 2022. Treatment plant operations were considered normal during the month of July. Treatment plant parameters were all within limits. Routine plant maintenance and routine pump station maintenance were performed as scheduled.

Mr. Heverly further reported that six check valves have been installed. There are four more available to be installed. Ten more are on order. A question was asked about work noted in the Superintendent’s Report taking place in Tower Hill Woods. Mr. Heverly responded that there is a lot of electrical work being done throughout the area including Tower Hill Woods and Pump Station No. 8.

Mr. Heverly reported that a new pump has been ordered for Pump Station No. 2. The existing pump is from 1995. There is an 18 week timeline for delivery. Mr. Heverly reported that employee Sean Casey is working out well on the collection system crew.

A question was asked by the Board about failure of the SCADA System not alerting when a pump failed has been repaired. Mr. Hauser reported that it was discovered that the wires from the meter to the dialer were not connected. The wires were part of the old integrator system. The wires need to be connected and graphics on the SCADA system screen need to be added. An electrician will be fixing it now that it has been identified. The utility water systems pump job was finished. There was a brief, general discussion about the performance of Thomas Controls.

Mr. Heverly was asked what the collection system crew routinely does for I & I. Mr. Heverly responded that they do televising, they keep an eye on the hours on the pumps and if they see a mushroom cap off they fix it. Every manhole is opened up, inspected and they install “dishes”. The number of brick manholes is limited to one as far as Mr. Heverly knows.

## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT- John Schmidt**

Mr. Schmidt asked Mr. Evans and Mr. Nuesch to sign the Easement Agreement with Mr. Mitchell which was previously approved by the Board.

Mr. Schmidt requested approval of an agreement with MunicPay to accept credit card payments from customers by phone.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Campbell to authorize the agreement with MunicPay for phone payments. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Schmidt presented a Bill of Sale and Deed of Dedication for the Barclay Road Subdivision (New Britain Woods). The property transfer was already completed for the pump station but the Bill of Sale was never previously prepared and offered to the Authority by Toll Brothers. Mr. Schmidt recommended acceptance.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Cameron to accept the Bill of Sale and Deed of Dedication for the Barclay Road Subdivision. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

The Borough has invited the Authority representatives from the Borough to a Borough

Meeting on September 12 to discuss the sewer system. Mr. Cameron will not be able to attend. Some of the issues on the agenda may involve facilities and plant capacity.

Mr. Schmidt reported on the proposed Dukes I & I Study. He stated that the Authority has not had a comprehensive I & I study in quite a while. The I & I Abatement Plan isolated certain areas and is old. He further stated that the Authority has done some slip lining, but it is expensive, and one needs to know where to do it. A general discussion about I & I ensued. It is proposed that Dukes study Brittany Farms and the Hellberg Tract, which both date to the mid-1960's.

Mr. Nolan added that CKS has participated in many I & I studies. TVing is done all the time, but one cannot be out looking at the system all of the time when it is in heavy flow. You can put a flow meter in the system, but it doesn't tell you where the inflow is coming from. This new approach by Dukes is to put a little flow meter in each manhole, hung from the manhole cover, measure for distance and as the sensor goes up it shows surging during storms. After a 1 inch or more storm, you can whittle down which areas need further study. It is an extremely effective way of determining where flow is infiltrating. They isolate the problem areas and then we can go in and do televising and weirs.

Concerns raised include samples of previous work and whether a 1 inch storm and/or 90 days is adequate to obtain useful information.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Cameron to enter into an agreement with Dukes for the microdetection study conditioned upon: (1) satisfactory municipal references and (2) approval by the Authority Staff of the terms. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Schmidt next presented a proposal to purchase one new small dump truck to replace the existing 1992 Pickup Truck (with plow) and the 1996 small dump truck. Mr. Schmidt advocated that doing a 2-for-1 transaction would result in less insurance cost, less maintenance, and a heavier, more effective truck for plowing than the Authority has right now. The expected cost is \$77,000 which is a COSTARS price for an F350 upfitted with a dump body and snowplow.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Campbell to authorize purchase of an F350 truck with a dump body and snowplow through COSTARS. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT – Joseph Nolan**

Mr. Nolan reported that the Part II Permit for Pump Station No. 4 was submitted to DEP. DEP is asking for the original permit for Pump Station No. 4, which was probably constructed by a developer long ago. The NPDES permit for stormwater for the Project has already been submitted to DEP for approval. Mr. Nolan expects the bids for the Project to be advertised in September.

Mr. Nolan presented Requisition No. 236 for Capital Expenditures in the amount of \$28,299.10 for new controls and motors.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Cameron and **SECONDED** by Mr. Campbell to approve Requisition No. 236 for Capital Expenditures in the amount of \$28,299.10. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Nolan next recommended the approval of Requisition No. 279 for Capital Improvements in the amount of \$35,980.55 representing engineering and legal services for the Pump Station No. 4 Project, and easement acquisition and equipment for the same project.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Campbell and **SECONDED** by Mr. Evans to approve Requisition No. 279 for Capital Improvements in the amount of \$35,980.55. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

### **SOLICITOR'S REPORT- Joseph Bagley**

The Board moved into Executive Session at approximately 6:14 PM to discuss a lawsuit filed by Mr. and Mrs. Hamme for a sewer backup at 73 Peace Valley Road and to discuss matters which if discussed in public would violate a lawful privilege. The Board returned to its regular session at approximately 6:25 PM.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT- Timothy Hagey**

Mr. Hagey reported that the General Operating Expenses for the month amounted to \$260,539.62. The previously reviewed Capital Expenditures and the previously approved Capital Improvements along with payments to the Loan Fund resulted in Total Expenditures for the month of \$397,774.73 and Mr. Hagey moved to approve the bills.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Campbell to approve the Total Expenditures for the month of \$397,774.73. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Hagey next presented escrow disbursements for the month in the amount of \$2,627.30 and he recommended payment.

**MOTION:** It was it was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Cameron to approve the escrow disbursements for the month of \$2,627.30. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was a consensus reached to cancel the Board Meeting currently scheduled for August 23.

### **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 6:29 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph M. Bagley, Solicitor  
and Recording Secretary