

# **CHALFONT-NEW BRITAIN TOWNSHIP JOINT SEWAGE AUTHORITY**

## **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**September 13, 2022**

The meeting of the Chalfont-New Britain Township Joint Sewage Authority was held on September 13, 2022, in the Authority's meeting room.

**Present:** William Evans, Chairman; Lawrence Nuesch, Secretary; Preston Campbell, Assistant Secretary; and William Muzika, Assistant Treasurer. Also present: John Schmidt, Executive Director; Eric Rauch, Engineer; Joseph Bagley, Solicitor; and Tom Hauser, Plant Superintendent. Donald Cameron, Vice Chairman and Timothy Hagey, Treasurer were absent.

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

### **MINUTES**

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Campbell and **SECONDED** by Mr. Nuesch to adopt the minutes of the meeting of August 9, 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**

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

The Grit Classifier is back up and running having been fully repaired.

A question was asked by the Board about total phosphorous limits this month—about whether they are always so close to the limit. Mr. Hauser explained that it depended upon how much chemical the Authority wants to add. A second question was raised about the screen which is out of service. Mr. Hauser responded that the Plant has a macerator which can address foreign objects in the influent. Another question was raised about the status of safety training. Mr. Hauser discusses safety with Plant personnel, there is off-site safety training and before a sizeable project,

Mr. Hauser discusses procedures and techniques to reduce hazards. Mr. Hauser gave an example I the recent grit classifier project.

Mr. Evans inquired whether the Plant underwent the recent rainfalls okay. Mr. Hauser responded that it did. He said that the ammonia is running “super-low”.

A further question was asked about the BCW&SA flow. Mr. Schmidt responded that the flow has recently been under control and the requested increased diversion of flow to the Harvey Avenue Plant appears to be in effect.

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

Mr. Schmidt presented a sanitary sewage capacity request for Foxlane Homes at Highpoint for 137 dwelling units. The existing sports club on site currently has an allocation of 50 edu’s, so there will be a net increase of 87. CKS has requested the addition of a 6 inch force main by the Developer to replace the existing 4 inch line at Pump Station No. 7 (Upper State and Schoolhouse Road) to increase pumping rates. Mr. Schmidt recommended approval.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Campbell and **SECONDED** by Mr. Muzika to approve sewage capacity for a net 87 EDUs for Foxlane Homes at Highpoint. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Schmidt next presented a sanitary sewage capacity request for 570 New Galena Rd for a grinder pump system (1 EDU) for an existing home. Mr. Schmidt recommended approval.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Muzika and **SECONDED** by Mr. Nuesch to approve sewage capacity for 570 New Galena Road for 1 EDU. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Schmidt next presented a sewage capacity approval request for 84 Schoolhouse Road for 5 EDUs. This project is for 5 new single family homes. Mr. Schmidt recommended approval.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Nuesch and **SECONDED** by Mr. Campbell to approve sewage capacity for 84 Schoolhouse Road for 5 EDUs. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Evans stated that he questioned whether it was a good idea to continue to approve sewage capacity requests. Mr. Schmidt stated that if approvals were stopped, the Authority would likely not see physical improvements for 5 years. Mr. Muzika stated that the Board needs to discuss the steps toward expansion of Plant capacity. Mr. Hauser stated that when the Plant had violations in the recent past, the mixed liquor was 4500 parts per million, when having problems with the DAFT. At this time, it is down to 3300 parts per million and the Plant is operating better.

Mr. Evans asked which could be done faster, a new Act 537 Plan or an additional clarifier. Mr. Schmidt stated that an additional clarifier, with no change to NPDES Permit conditions, might be faster, but an Act 537 Plan would be necessary to increase the Plant’s rated flow and obtain BCW&SA cost-sharing.

Mr. Campbell stated that a lot of past violations were due to mechanical issues. Mr. Nuesch stated that the UV problem caused other issues.

Mr. Schmidt asked Mr. Evans and Mr. Nuesch to sign a signature form for Peoples Bank.

Mr. Schmidt presented the revised budget for fiscal year 2022-2023. Mr. Schmidt highlighted only those changes from the preliminary budget. Interest for revenue purposes is up, road crew wages were bumped up, fuel oil for the Plant increased and Plant wages were bumped up

by adding an operator. In Fund 2, there was an increase when the proposed pickup truck purchase was switched over to a small dump truck with a specialized dump body. There's also an increase due to a gantry crane which was added to the Plant. Mr. Campbell had a question about insurance and received the reply that the stated costs were due to a timing issue.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Nuesch and **SECONDED** by Mr. Muzika to approve the Revised Budget for Fiscal Year 2022-23 as presented to the Board. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Schmidt reported that an Offer of Employment has been made to Jacob Reilly, with a start date of October 3, pending reviews of background checks in progress. He will be hired as an Operator, with plans for him to replace Lee in the lab upon his upcoming retirement. Mr. Schmidt may also advertise for the new position for a maintenance mechanic.

Mr. Schmidt next mentioned that the payment to Montgomery Township Municipal Authority for the recent Internship Program is on the Bill List for tonight. Mr. Reilly was found through this intern program.

Mr. Schmidt reported that a contractor is being hired to clear some easements. Mr. Schmidt distributed maps to show the areas to be cleared.

Mr. Schmidt reported that the Authority is participating in the Township's Fall Festival on September 17. The TV Truck will be available for demonstrations.

Lastly, Mr. Schmidt reported that the PMAA will be holding its next regional meeting at the Forest Park Water Plant in October.

#### **ENGINEER'S REPORT – Eric Rauch**

Mr. Rauch reported that the Authority is still awaiting the Part II Permit and the NPDES Permit for Pump Station No. 4.

Mr. Rauch presented Requisition No. 237 for Capital Expenditures in the amount of \$87,005.00 for I & I repairs at Tower Hill (pipelining).

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Campbell and **SECONDED** by Mr. Nuesch to approve Requisition No. 237 for Capital Expenditures in the amount of \$87,005.00. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Rauch next recommended the approval of Requisition No. 280 for Capital Improvements in the amount of \$7,290.60 representing engineering, permitting and legal services for the Pump Station No. 4 Project.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Nuesch and **SECONDED** by Mr. Muzika to approve Requisition No. 280 for Capital Improvements in the amount of \$7,290.60. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

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

The Board moved into Executive Session at approximately 6:05 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 6:19 PM.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT- William Muzika**

Mr. Campbell had certain questions about bills for Automation Solutions, Bearing & Drive Solutions, Michael's Garage and Univest Insurance, each of which was answered.

Mr. Muzika reported (in a much more satisfactory manner than Mr. Hagey) that the General Operating Expenses for the month amounted to \$322,387.64 and the previously approved Capital Expenditures totaled \$409,392.64 in Total Operating Expenses and Mr. Muzika recommended approval to pay the bills.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Campbell and **SECONDED** by Mr. Nuesch to approve the Total Operating Expenditures for the month of \$409,392.64. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Muzika next reviewed the previously approved Capital Improvements of \$7,290.60, the payments to the Loan Fund of \$73,017.84 and the escrow disbursements for the month of \$2,355.20 for the Authority, CKS Engineers, and Bagley Law, LLC and he recommended payment of each.

**MOTION:** It was it was **MOVED** by Mr. Evans and **SECONDED** by Mr. Nuesch to approve the payments to the Loan Fund and the escrow disbursements of \$2,355.20. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was a consensus reached to hold the proposed meeting scheduled for September 27. Mr. Bagley was asked to prepare a change of bylaws for consideration by the Board by then.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

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

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:26 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph M. Bagley, Solicitor  
and Recording Secretary