

# CHALFONT-NEW BRITAIN TOWNSHIP JOINT SEWAGE AUTHORITY

## BOARD MEETING MINUTES

**December 13, 2022**

The meeting of the Chalfont-New Britain Township Joint Sewage Authority was held on December 13, 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; William Muzika, Assistant Treasurer (via conference call). Also present: John Schmidt, Executive Director; Joseph Nolan, Engineer; Joseph Bagley, Solicitor; and Tom Hauser, Plant Superintendent.

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

### **MINUTES**

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Campbell to adopt the minutes of the meeting of November 8, 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. Cameron reported on the recent Finance Committee Meeting. The Committee discussed the need for the previously approved 5% rate increase as of January 1, 2023. It was the consensus of the Committee that such an increase was still necessary to address current and expected costs. The Committee decided to stay on track with the May 2022 Motion to increase the rates as stated. No additional action is necessary.

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

Mr. Hauser gave his report as set forth in the written Superintendent's Report for November 2022. Plant staff worked on the circular clarifier during the month to remove the obstruction that caused the clarifier drive to trip out on torque overload. Treatment plant parameters were all within limits. Routine plant maintenance was performed as scheduled.

In response to questions from the Board, Mr. Hauser explained some of the steps taken to repair the circular clarifier. It is now online and running.

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

Mr. Schmidt presented a sanitary sewage capacity request for 55 Curley Mill Road for one residential EDU. One lot is being subdivided and a public sewer is adjacent to the property in question. The Township has approved the request. Mr. Schmidt recommended approval.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Cameron to approve sewage capacity of 1 EDU for 55 Curley Mill Road. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Schmidt recommended the closure of the escrow account for New Britain Woods, the project off Barclay and Township Line Roads. It is the location of new Pump Station No. 9.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Campbell to close the escrow account for New Britain Woods. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Schmidt reported that he has distributed the Six Month Budget to the Board. It was reviewed with the Finance Committee at their recent meeting. Mr Schmidt reported revenues at 52% of the Budget. Maintenance repairs are up as ongoing repairs are made at the Plant.

Mr. Schmidt explained that electric bills will be increasing soon because the contract with Constellation Energy expires in December. The new electrical generation contract beginning in April will last for 18 months. There was a discussion about the delivery of fuel oil which is the first load received by the Authority in three years.

Mr. Schmidt asked the Chairman and the Secretary to re-sign a deed of easement due to the original being lost.

The Dukes I & I Study will be concluded soon. There were plenty of rainstorms during the study period in order to provide data. Dukes will meet with staff to give a report via Zoom.

Mr. Muzika's call was interrupted and disconnected at this point in the Meeting.

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

Mr. Nolan reported that progress on the pipeline contract is proceeding. The contractor, PACT One, started on December 5. They first cleared the easement from Railroad Avenue to the Interceptor line. Construction of four manholes and 520 feet of 8-inch pipe has been completed. Work on the jack and boring on Railroad Avenue is proceeding. The casing has been installed. The pipeline had to be shifted to get the casing a little deeper below the water mains. There will be a temporary shut-down of roads when intersections are reached. The contractor did soft digs on Barry Road and one of the gas lines is deeper than anticipated. The Authority must decide whether to bore underneath or go over the top at a shallower depth. A proposal has been submitted to Texas Eastern for their approval.

There will be a pre-construction meeting with the General and Electrical contractors for the pump station.

A Board question was asked about how much cover the sewer pipe under the water mains will have. The response was 20 inches. In response to another question, Mr. Nolan reported that the Texas Eastern gas lines are a live 20-inch line and a live 36-inch line, and they do not have to be shut down while the Authority's contractor is working. Mr. Nolan also explained that the purpose of the "soft digs" is to verify the locations of the water mains and gas line depths. He further discussed the insulation installed between the sewer line and the water mains.

Mr. Nolan presented Requisition No. 240 for Capital Expenditures representing part of the Dukes I & I work in the amount of \$71,409.26.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Cameron and **SECONDED** by Mr. Campbell to approve Requisition No. 240 for Capital Expenditures in the amount of \$71,409.26.

Mr. Nolan next presented Requisition No. 283 for Capital Improvements in the amount of \$63,680.07 representing engineering and legal services as well as the cost of a backup diesel pump for Pump Station No. 4.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Campbell and **SECONDED** by Mr. Nuesch to approve Requisition No. 283 for Capital Improvements in the amount of \$63,680.07. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

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

The Board moved into Executive Session at approximately 5:25 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 5:27 PM.

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

Mr. Hagey reported that the Total Operating Expenses for the month amounted to \$386,440.26 and the previously approved Capital Improvements totaled \$63,680.17, while the payments for the Loans amounted to \$73,056.33 making the Total Expenditures for the month \$523,176.66 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 Expenditures for the month of \$523,176.66. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Hagey next presented the escrow disbursements for the month of \$10,075.20 for the Authority, Bagley Law, LLC, and Toll PA XIII (the last being the escrow account closure) and he recommended payment of each.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Campbell to approve the escrow disbursements of \$10,075.20. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Evans to cancel the proposed Board meeting currently scheduled for December 27. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Evans suggested the purchase of a park bench placed down on the trail, on Authority property, along with a suitable plaque honoring the memory of former board members Bill Rissinger and Gus Hahn. It was recommended that the consent of Doylestown Township be obtained. There was a consensus of the Board to move ahead with such proposal.

Mr. Evans wished all the Board members and assembled staff a happy holiday.

### **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 5:35 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph M. Bagley, Solicitor  
and Recording Secretary