

CHALFONT-NEW BRITAIN TOWNSHIP JOINT SEWAGE AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 11, 2023

The meeting of the Chalfont-New Britain Township Joint Sewage Authority was held on July 11, 2023 in the Authority's meeting room.

Present: William Evans, Chairman; Donald Cameron, Vice Chairman; Lawrence Nuesch, Secretary; Timothy Hagey, Treasurer (via speakerphone); Preston Campbell, Assistant Secretary; Michael Sullivan, Assistant Treasurer. Also present: John Schmidt, Executive Director; Matt Warfel, Engineer; Joseph Bagley, Solicitor; and Rich Heverly, Collection System Supervisor.

Mr. Evans opened the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

MINUTES

It was **MOVED** by Mr. Cameron and **SECONDED** by Mr. Campbell to adopt the minutes of the meeting of June 13 as corrected by the Board. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

It was **MOVED** by Mr. Sullivan and **SECONDED** by Mr. Campbell to appoint Matthew Warfel/ARRO Consulting as Authority Engineer for CNBTJSA. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

None were presented.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Schmidt presented the Report in Mr. Hauser's excused absence. There was a permit excursion. The violation was due to the loss of another aerator. In response to a Board question, Mr. Schmidt stated that the temporary aerators are still in use. A crane is on site today to "place" all three aerators. In response to a Board question about the effect on phosphorous, Mr. Schmidt gave a detailed answer about air, phosphorous, ferrous chloride, and its impact upon the UV function. Mr. Schmidt stated that the excursion was rectified within one week.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Lynd B. Johnson entered the meeting at about 5:05 PM. Ms. Johnson spoke at length about the PPI Sewer Project. Her central concern is about "where ownership ends" [of her sewer lateral]. Ms. Johnson gave a detailed statement about attending a June 19 Board of Supervisors' Meeting and her communications with the Township Staff following the Meeting.

Ms. Johnson characterized the Authority website as "very helpful". She repeated that she "[doesn't] know what she is responsible for" in terms of her building lateral. Lastly, she stated that she was in favor of the PPI Project.

Mr. Evans thanked her for her comments and expressed that the Authority could have done better in terms of communicating with the residents before PPI commenced work, but it was also discussed that PPI jumped the gun in terms of its crew starting the Project prior to PPI's own administration being ready.

Mr. Hagey stated that he has worked with PPI at another municipal authority, they do outstanding work, they have a wonderful product, but they have terrible communications. If they had begun on schedule, they would have gotten Ms. Johnson a schedule. Mr. Hagey also corroborated that they use Vac-a-tees in Warminster (similar to the CNB-PPI Project).

Mr. Sullivan stated that they also use Vac-a-tees in another municipal authority.

The discussion about PPI ended at approximately 5:45 PM.

Mr. Bagley assured Ms. Johnson that the Authority Staff would send her a letter about the Authority's position on her responsibility for her building lateral.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT- John Schmidt

Mr. Schmidt presented a sewage capacity approval form, previously signed by New Britain Township, for consideration for 304 Sellersville Road, for a connection to a public sewer line across the street.

MOTION: It was **MOVED** by Mr. Campbell and **SECONDED** by Mr. Sullivan to approve sewage capacity for 304 Sellersville Road. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Schmidt next presented Resolution No. 2023-3 re: PennDOT authorization for him to sign on to PENNDOT website on behalf of the Authority.

MOTION: It was **MOVED** by Mr. Sullivan and **SECONDED** by Mr. Nuesch to authorize Mr. Schmidt to access the PennDOT Website. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

MOTION: It was **MOVED** by Mr. Cameron and **SECONDED** by Mr. Campbell to close Escrow Accounts #140 (Lohan) and #146 (Coleman). The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Schmidt reported that PPI has installed all Vac-a-tees and flushed and cleaned all laterals in the project area. The sewer main has been flushed and cleaned. Mr. Evans asked that a letter be sent to all homeowners before further work by PPI on laterals.

Mr. Schmidt reported that the Vactor truck was in the July 4 Parade, and it is signed up for the Fall Festival.

Mr. Schmidt reported that the health insurance broker for the Authority has been changed to JS Benefits for all health insurance policies.

ENGINEER'S REPORT – Matthew Warfel

Mr. Warfel reported on the progress of the Pump Station No. 4 Project. The Contractor for the pipe work is scheduled to issue a final pay application. There are no current pay applications for the contractor. In regard to the Pump Station, the wet wells are installed, and the influent manhole set. The contractor is waiting for materials for the electrical contractor to be delivered. Mr. Warfel expects 3 or 4 months for the Pump Station to be complete.

In regard to the Act 537 Planning, Mr. Nolan and Mr. Schmidt met with the Township's engineer Craig Kenard, and Supervisor Greg Hood. The CKS staff is gathering materials from the Township staff. They will then look at how to provide sewers to locations that are identified. Eventually, there will be a similar meeting with Borough officials.

Mr. Warfel discussed the availability of grants. Monies to become available from the Federal Government will be managed through PENNVEST, not sewer grant programs. He

recommends, by way of the ARRO group, to contact local State representatives. He further advised that State grant programs are not being advertised.

In response to a question from Mr. Sullivan, Mr. Warfel stated that the State's Clean Water program is not open to applications right now.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT- Joseph Bagley

The Board recessed into executive session at approximately 6:06 PM to discuss agency business which, if conducted in public, would violate a lawful privilege or lead to the discovery of information protected by law and to consult with an attorney regarding information or strategy in connection with issues on which an identifiable complaint is or can be expected to be filed by DEP in connection with Correspondence received from DEP dated January 27. The Board returned to its regular session at approximately 6:20 PM.

Mr. Evans stated that the Board would proceed with its scheduled meeting on July 25.

MOTION: It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Sullivan to authorize execution of the Consent Assessment of Civil Penalty with DEP conditioned upon the Solicitor and Engineer negotiating certain term revisions. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

TREASURER'S REPORT- Timothy Hagey

Mr. Sullivan reported that the Total Disbursements for the month amounted to \$764,586.45 and he recommended approval to pay the bills.

MOTION: It was **MOVED** by Mr. Campbell and **SECONDED** by Mr. Cameron to approve the Total Disbursements for the month of \$764,586.45. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was a consensus of the Board to reschedule the August Board Meeting to August 15.

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