

CHALFONT-NEW BRITAIN TOWNSHIP JOINT SEWAGE AUTHORITY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 13, 2023

The meeting of the Chalfont-New Britain Township Joint Sewage Authority was held on June 13, 2023 in the Authority's meeting room.

Present: William Evans, Chairman; Donald Cameron, Vice Chairman; Lawrence Nuesch, Secretary; Timothy Hagey, Treasurer; Preston Campbell, Assistant Secretary; Michael Sullivan, Assistant Treasurer. Also present: John Schmidt, Executive Director; Joseph Nolan, Engineer; Joseph Bagley, Solicitor; and Tom Hauser, Plant Superintendent. Also present was Matt Warfel, ARRO Consulting.

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

MINUTES

It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Sullivan to adopt the minutes of the meeting of May 9 as presented to the Board. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Chairman moved the Cell Tower Presentation up to Public Comment part of the agenda. No other members of the public were present. Mr. Oser of Network Connex made a presentation on behalf of Skyway Towers for a proposed cell tower on Authority property. Mr. Oser stated that he approached Doylestown Township about a possible location on adjacent land and they were not interested. The proposal was for a T-Mobile capacity site, not a coverage site. The tower would be 180 feet tall and it is undecided at this point whether it would be a monopole or a lattice tower. A 100' x 100' ground space would be necessary, but in addition a 200-foot wide "drop zone" would have to remain clear of structures. The figure offered initially was \$800 per month, but Mr. Oser indicated that it could go as high as \$1250 per month. He stated that he had never heard of it going higher. He stated that the height would be 4-5 times the height of the local 45 foot trees. He indicated that Skyway (or Network Connex, it was not made clear) would enter into a professional services agreement with the Authority if deemed necessary. Various questions were asked by the Board. Mr. Oser left the meeting after his presentation.

The Board moved into executive session at approximately 5:22 PM in order to consider the lease or purchase of real property and to discuss agency business which, if conducted public, would violate a lawful privilege or lead to the disclosure of information or confidentiality protected by law.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

No reports were offered.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Preston reported on behalf of the Facilities Committee that based upon the forthcoming report from Joe Nolan, the Facilities Committee is not likely to be meeting about grants. No reports were offered.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT-Thomas Hauser

Mr. Hauser reported that Aerator No. 4 developed a shaft movement problem that damaged some of the split bearings. There was an extensive discussion with the Board about the original OEM bearings, Timkin bearings, and split bearings. An administrative directive was made by the Board to order a set of bearings for all aerators to have “on the shelf” for emergencies. Work is under way on Aerator No. 2.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT- John Schmidt

Mr. Schmidt presented certain bank resolutions to add Mr. Sullivan to the list of approved signers for the Authority.

MOTION: It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagee and **SECONDED** by Mr. Cameron to adopt a corporate authorization resolution regarding general and escrow accounts. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

MOTION: It was **MOVED** by Mr. Campbell and **SECONDED** by Mr. Evans to adopt a corporate authorization resolution regarding payroll and petty check accounts. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Schmidt next presented a sewage capacity approval, previously signed by New Britain Township, for consideration for 21 Sellersville Road, for a failing septic system.

MOTION: It was **MOVED** by Mr. Sullivan and **SECONDED** by Mr. Hagey to approve sewage capacity for 21 Sellersville Road. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Schmidt next requested authorization for him to sign meter program agreements with customers.

MOTION: It was moved by Mr. Nuesch and **SECONDED** by Mr. Sullivan to authorize Mr. Schmidt to sign metering agreements on behalf of the Authority with customers. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

MOTION: It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Nuesch to retroactively approve the Authority participating in the Intern Program. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Schmidt reported that PPI has begun the slip lining project on Brittany Drive. The Contractor televised all the lines. Tees are being installed to line the laterals. The slip linings will then be custom manufactured.

Mr. Schmidt reviewed the Budget Report for Fiscal Year 2022-23. Revenue exceeded operating expenses by about \$900,000. Mr. Schmidt reviewed expenses generally in 2022-23 in light of the Authority loan and the additional spending that is necessary to cover the Pump Station No. 4 Project and the operating expenses, particularly repairs.

ENGINEER’S REPORT – Joseph Nolan

Mr. Nolan reported on the progress of the Pump Station No. 4 Project. The Contractor has completed pipe contract and the Authority can begin to hook people up in the lower part of the Project. In regard to the Pump Station, the influent manholes have been installed and the contractor is going to backfill. The Contractor is going somewhere else for a few weeks and will return. The pumps have already been delivered.

In regard to the Act 537 Plan Update, Mr. Nolan and Mr. Schmidt's meeting with Township officials was cancelled and has been rescheduled by the Township for June 27. Growth numbers from the Township are needed.

Phase IV of plant upgrades is ongoing and new facilities have been laid out.

Mr. Nolan explained that ARRO has a group which keeps track of grant availability. He stated that there are no active grants. Mr. Sullivan inquired about the availability of a certain State Clean Water grant. Mr. Nolan stated that they would keep their eyes out for grants.

The Board recessed into executive session to at approximately 6:10 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 6:18 PM.

On behalf of the Board, Mr. Evans thanked Mr. Nolan and stated that it had always been a pleasure working with him.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT- Joseph Bagley

Mr. Bagley had nothing further to report.

TREASURER'S REPORT- Timothy Hagey

Mr. Hagey reported that the Total Disbursements for the month amounted to \$512,086.66 and he recommended approval to pay the bills.

MOTION: It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Cameron to approve the Total Disbursements for the month of \$512,086.66. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was a consensus of the Board to cancel the second Board meeting in June.

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 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph M. Bagley, Solicitor
and Recording Secretary