

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

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**February 13, 2024**

The meeting of the Chalfont-New Britain Township Joint Sewage Authority was held on February 13, 2024 in the Authority's meeting room.

**Present:** William Evans, Chairman; Donald Cameron, Vice Chairman; Lawrence Nuesch, Secretary; Preston Campbell, Assistant Secretary (via Teams®); Michael Sullivan, Assistant Treasurer, and Timothy Hagey, Treasurer. Also present: John Larson, Executive Director; Matthew Warfel, Engineer; Joseph Bagley, Solicitor; Tom Hauser, Plant Superintendent and Rich Heverly, Collection System Supervisor. John Schmidt former Executive Director, and Jo Schmidt, were also present.

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

**MINUTES**

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Sullivan and **SECONDED** by Mr. Hagey to adopt the minutes of the meeting of January 9, 2024 as distributed to the Board. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mrs. Schmidt commented upon the positive aspects of John's retirement.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

No reports of Officers were presented.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mr. Hagey reported that Mr. Larson and the Finance Committee met with the Auditor two weeks ago to answer questions related to depreciation values. The Finance Committee will schedule a meeting to discuss rates.

**PRESENTATION**

Mr. Cameron, on behalf of the Board, presented a Proclamation to Mr. Schmidt recognizing him as the longest-serving, recent employee of the Authority and honoring his long and storied career and commitment to the Authority. Mr. Evans presented Mr. Schmidt with a flag flown over Citizens' Bank Park.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT-Tom Hauser**

Mr. Hauser reported that there were no violations for the month of January. He mentioned that he had discussed operations with Mr. Larson and made some changes. There was an SSO but it was not a process upset.

**COLLECTION SYSTEM SUPERVISOR-Rich Heverly**

Mr. Heverly reported that now that Pump Station No. 4 is completed, there is sufficient elevation to alleviate Pump Station No. 6 in Marshall Circle. The Pump Station (PS #6) discharges through a 4 inch line. The option to send the flow to Pump Station No. 4 potentially exists. No action was taken.

In response to a question, Mr. Heverly stated that there are 6 more laterals to be relined in Brittany Drive. The flows are too high currently for the contractor to return and finish.

#### **ENGINEER'S REPORT – Matthew Warfel**

Mr. Warfel reported on the progress of the Pump Station No. 4 Project. The demolition is complete and final restoration will be completed in the Spring.

Mr. Warfel presented pay applications for the Pump Station Project for Doli (\$24,368.55), Eastern Environmental (\$25,308.00), and a change order in the amount of \$1,100.25. The Pay Applications will be addressed in the Bill List.

Mr. Warfel next reported on a docket renewal by the Delaware River Basin Commission. There was a discussion about Total Dissolved Solids. The renewal was submitted two weeks ago and there has been no response yet.

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

Mr. Hagey reported that the Total Disbursements for the Month amounted to \$439,630.65 and he recommended approval to pay the bills. Mr. Campbell commented that he was out of town and had not seen the bill list and would abstain from voting for that reason.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Cameron to approve the Total Disbursements for the month of \$439,630.65. The Motion was adopted 5-0-1.

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

Mr. Bagley reported that the sewer use ordinance was almost complete and that he and Mr. Larson would be approaching the Manager of Chalfont Borough to schedule a meeting with the Manager and the Solicitor to discuss the proposed ordinance with them. The Board reached a consensus that a Chalfont Board Member should accompany them. It was discussed that a meeting with the Manager and the Solicitor was only the first step and that there may eventually be a Borough Council meeting to attend.

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

Mr. Larson reported that he raised a point of concern with Doylestown Township that their waiver for Phases I and II of the Plant Upgrade Project expired in 1 year and at a minimum the Authority would likely need at least 2 years for completion. The Township Solicitor agreed to the change and was sending a revised Land Development Waiver Agreement providing 2 years for project completion.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Nuesch to authorize Mr. Larson to sign the revised Land Development Waiver Agreement. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Larson summarized his discussions with New Britain Township in terms of the Act 537 Plan being prepared. Mr. Larson and Mr. Schmidt met with Craig Kenner of the Township to get a handle on proposed development within the Township. The Township service area map is being updated. He reported that it was a good meeting.

Mr. Larson next presented a sewer service agreement for 2 EDUs for 84 Curley Mill Road.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Sullivan to approve a sewer service agreement for 2 EDUs at 84 Curley Mill Road. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

Mr. Larson next reported that he had a discussion with DEP about a pause in Phases I and II of the Upgrade Project and DEP has responded by agreeing to an amendment of the CO&A to build more time into the Agreement. He undertook this because the Part II Permit submitted in December came back approved much more quickly than expected (3 weeks) and Mr. Larson had determined that more time was needed to evaluate the Project. DEP has agreed to a 230 day and 260 day extension of Phases I and II, respectively.

Mr. Larson discussed the nature of the Project and its consisting of the construction of more facilities and equipment of what the Authority already has as a “belt and suspenders” approach. Mr. Larson questioned the need for such. He reported that the Authority has “plenty” of clarifier capacity. He stated that depending upon the calculations, the Authority has between 13 and 18 MGD in clarifiers. The Project also calls for an additional UV building. A recent discussion with the UV supplier suggests that more UV equipment can be put into the existing building.

Mr. Larson suggested that the Authority: (1) review how the Plant is operated; (2) have a consultant evaluate the scope of the Upgrade Project; and (3) go over a final item in Executive Session. Mr. Larson asked ARRO for an estimate to do an engineering evaluation of the Project and he also requested an estimate from HRG with whom he has worked in the past. This would include looking at the violations and their causes.

Mr. Larson suggested that once the evaluation is completed and considered by the Board, the Authority may have to go back to DEP with new information and ask for an additional extension.

Mr. Larson stated that air and mixing is linked in the treatment process. He recommended that this be “de-coupled”.

Mr. Sullivan was in agreement with the planned course. There was a certain amount of discussion about HRG.

The Board moved into executive session at 6:25 PM to discuss personnel issues. The Board returned to its regular session at 6:36 PM. Mr. Evans had to leave the meeting during the Executive Session. Mr. Cameron assumed the Chairmanship of the meeting.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Sullivan and **SECONDED** by Mr. Campbell to authorize HRG to reassess the Upgrade Project on an engineering basis at a cost not to exceed \$22,800.00. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

**MOTION:** It was **MOVED** by Mr. Hagey and **SECONDED** by Mr. Sullivan to execute the amended CO&A with DEP. The Motion was unanimously adopted.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

There was a consensus of the Board reached to cancel the proposed meeting scheduled for February 27.

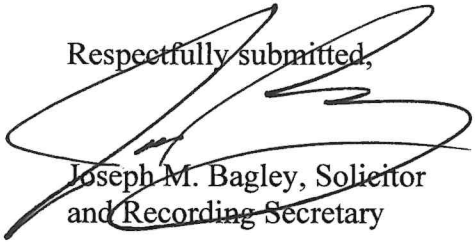
The Finance Committee will be meeting to discuss the depreciation information received.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:42 PM

Respectfully submitted,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Bagley', is written over the typed name and title.

Joseph M. Bagley, Solicitor  
and Recording Secretary