

Northampton, Bucks County, Municipal Authority

Minutes of the Public Meeting held on September 7, 2011

Members Attending: Antonio Albano, Chairman  
John T. Jim, Vice Chairman  
Edward W. Farling, III, Treasurer  
Margaret M. Weiner, Secretary  
Donald S. George, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer

Others Attending: Thomas A. Zeuner, Executive Director  
Edward Rudolph, Esquire, Solicitor  
Christopher S. Walker, P.E., PAI, Consulting Engineer  
Carol A. Fishman, Stenographer

Mr. Albano, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mr. Albano led the Pledge of Allegiance and requested a moment of silence for our service men and women in harm's way.

**2. Approval of Minutes from August 17, 2011**

A motion (George-Jim) adopting a resolution to approve the Minutes from August 17, 2011 passed with 5 ayes.

**3. Citizens Concerns**

No residents appeared before the Board.

**4. Check Requisitions / Accounts Payable**

A motion (Farling-Jim) adopting a resolution to approve Revenue Fund Requisition No. 19588 dated September 7, 2011 in the amount of \$851,033.53 passed with 5 ayes.

The major items paid under Requisition No. 1958 were as follows: BCWSA (Sewer-June) - \$335,752.82; BCWSA (Sewer-July) - \$286,718.66; Flow Assessment - \$4,540.00; Independence Blue Cross - \$16,829.40; Karl Hops Inc. - \$1,441.16; Hungerford & Terry Inc. - \$4,915.00; Industrial Controls - \$1,200.47; PECO - \$27,754.83; Rudolph Clarke & Kirk LLC - \$30,081.05; Telog - \$1,620.00; United Labs - \$1,489.68; Upper Southampton - \$54,627.00; Verizon Wireless - \$1,064.19; and a \$70,000.00 payroll transfer.

**5. Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Zeuner stated that this coming weekend is Northampton Days. Mr. Zeuner and Kathie Cop and Don Johnson have started working on the budget. We believe we will have a first draft by the next meeting.

**6. Maintenance Report for June 2011**

Mr. Zeuner reported that water production was down slightly from last year. Seventy-three customers were posted and ten turned off for non-payment. Last year, 73 were posted and four turned off.

**7. Credit Card Services / Professional Services Contract**

This item was tabled to the next agenda.

**8. Approval & Execution of Water & Sewer Improvement Agreement – 1078-82 Second Street Pike Beverage Distributor**

A motion (Jim-Weiner) adopting a resolution to approve and execute the two-year Sanitary Sewer and Public Water Improvement Agreement with 1078-82 Second Street Pike LLC for a project known as 1078-82 Second Street Pike Beverage Distributor contingent upon the receipt of the letters of credit and approval of same by the Solicitor passed with 5 ayes.

9. **Leehurst Farm / Toll Brothers**

**SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS** - The Leehurst Farm Land Development is a 40 lot subdivision near the corner of Hatboro and Tanyard Roads.

1. Toll would design and build the upgrade to the pumping station. Based on last week's discussion between Toll and Authority representatives, it would be understood and agreed that Toll's design of the pump station upgrade would meet the design standards established by Pennoni Associates Inc. (Authority Engineer), in its cost estimates previously provided to Toll Brothers; however, to the extent that the Authority desires additional upgrades beyond those standards previously established, any costs associated with those upgrades would be borne solely by the Authority.

2. The Authority and its consultants would be responsible for the preparation and design elements associated with the submission of the Act 537 Planning Module as well as the needed upgrade to the force main. The Authority staff and consultants would also be responsible for processing the Part II Construction Permit once the Planning Module was approved and that Part II Permit would rely, in part, on the design of the upgrade to the pumping station to be supplied by Toll. It would also be understood and agreed that any and all costs associated with the construction of the force main upgrade, including road opening permits, etc. would not be borne by the Developer.

3. The Authority would provide a credit of \$100,000.00 to Toll against the sewer tapping fees that would otherwise be currently payable under the existing rates, rules and regulations of the Authority.

4. The parties understand that the sewer tapping fees consist of fees that would be payable directly to the Authority as well as other component parts that would be payable to the Bucks County Water and Sewer Authority. That portion of the resulting tapping fee for sewer that would be payable to the Bucks County Water and Sewer Authority would have to be paid in full and in accordance with the current schedule of payments of same as collected by the Northampton Authority.

5. However, as to that portion of the sewer tapping fee that is payable directly to the Northampton Authority, the total amount of fees payable would be recalculated and reset after deduction of the \$100,000.00 credit noted above. Once the reset amount has been determined, the water and sewer tapping fees would be payable on a per lot basis with the submission of each building permit for each of the 40 homes to be constructed within the Leehurst Farm subdivision.

6. By passing a motion, the Northampton Authority is providing authorization to its staff to commence the preparation of the Act 537 Planning Module for both the pump station upgrade and the force main upgrade as well as provide the Authority staff with any other authorization in order to move all elements of this project forward on an expedited basis.

7. Notwithstanding the above, the Authority does not guarantee that DEP will approve such planning modules and permits as required for the upgrade of the pumping station and the extension of the force main. However, the Authority acknowledges and agrees that time is of the essence in the preparation and submission of all necessary applications to DEP for approval of the pumping station upgrade and the force main extension and that the Developer and Authority will cooperate fully with one another in order to complete the preparation and submission of those applications. Additionally, the Authority further acknowledges and agrees that the force main extension would be installed by the Authority not later than 6 months following the issuance of the Part II Permit for same.

**RECOMMENDATION:** On the basis of the report prepared by the Christopher S. Walker, PE of Pennoni Associates dated July 5, 2011 on behalf of the Authority which summarizes the recommendations and improvements required to increase the capacity of our existing Woods of Northampton Pump Station from 300 GPM to 600 GPM. Included in the summary of investigation are the necessary upgrades to the existing pump station's mechanical and electrical systems, a recommendation of conveyance line discharge to facilitate the amended flow and opinion of probable cost.

Currently during periods of wet weather and high ground water, the pump station and force main are challenged to meet current demand requirements. The report provides a summary of existing conditions, pump station improvement requirements, force main and conveyance system analysis and two (2) options of force main discharge locations. It is the recommendation of the Authority Engineer, Executive Director and Director of Operations to endorse Option No. 2. Option No. 1 did not have the sanitary sewer gravity lines discharging into a larger gravity line, but attempted to split flow through two (2) eight (8) inch lines. Option No. 2 proposes discharging into a line of larger capacity with the number of downstream connections are limited and ultimate discharge is into the Ironwork Creek Sanitary sewer truck line which has had significant upgrades and rehabilitation over the last several years.

Based upon the recommendations stated above, the Toll Bros. organization would design and construct the pump station improvements required by the Authority estimated to be valued at \$880K in the PAI letter of July 5, 2011. The Authority would be responsible for making the required improvements to the force main estimated at \$1.6M which includes a force main extension length estimated at 2.4 miles (approximately 13,000 ft). Without the improvements in the pump station and force main, the Authority cannot provide Toll Bros. with the required certification of adequate sewage conveyance capacities. Based upon the statement of work and estimated costs of construction, and approval by the board, the administration is planning to capital budget \$1.6 million in the 2012 fiscal year for the force main upgrade.

The Authority recognizes that a reduction of inflow and infiltration has an impact of design capacity requirements. The Authority's historic efforts and investment over the last several years to abate undesired sanitary sewer flows has been helpful, but has not met ultimate goals. We have conducted numerous meter studies, smoke testing, sump pump inspections, video inspections, wet weather visual inspections of manhole and sewer lines, grouting of confirmed leaking joints, vacuum testing of joint connections, (CIPP) cured in place pipelining rehabilitation of sewer mains, inspection of homes for illegal sump pump connections, removal of roof leader connections and ground drains, and confirmed storm water flows are not cross connected into the sanitary sewer system. The Authority will continue to seek out and remediate all points of inflow and infiltration as an environmentally responsible initiative in this basin.

A motion (George-Farling) adopting a resolution to approve the above Special Terms and Conditions related to the Leehurst Land Development Plan and, further, it is moved that the administration and consulting engineer are hereby authorized to commence the preparation of the Act 537 Planning Module for both the pump station upgrade and the force main upgrade as well as provide the Authority staff with any other authorization in order to move all elements of this project forward. The Authority administration and solicitor are hereby instructed to prepare the appropriate developers agreement and pump station upgrade improvement agreement subject to the developer paying applicable fees for such agreements in accordance the Authority Rates, Rules, and Regulations passed with 5.

**10. BCWSA Water Agreement**

This item was tabled to the next agenda.

**11. Approval & Execution of PennDOT Master Casting Agreement**

A motion (Jim-Albano) adopting Resolution No. 2011-1118 authorizing and directing the Chairman to sign and the secretary to attest the Master Casting Agreement for a period of three years (2011-2014) with PennDOT passed with 5 ayes.

**Miscellaneous (A) – Tanner Pump Station Screen Wall** – Mr. Walker reported that the screen wall is 95% complete at this time.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO DISCUSS, MR. ALBANO ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 7:54 P.M.

THE NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 21, 2011.