

Northampton, Bucks County, Municipal Authority

Minutes of the Public Meeting held on November 2, 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: Edward Rudolph, Esquire, Solicitor
Christopher S. Walker, P.E., Pennoni Assoc. (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 October 19, 2011

A motion (Jim-Weiner) adopting a resolution to approve the Minutes from October 19, 2011 passed with 5 ayes.

3. Citizens Concerns

Mr. Rodger Bushnell of 91 Hunt Drive addressed the Board concerning the September 7, 2011 Minutes of the Authority, in particular, item #9, on page 2, titled Leehurst Farm/Toll Bros. He inquired as to why the Authority would be spending \$1.6M for Toll Brothers. Mr. Albano explained that the \$1.6M capital expenditure is for the improvement to relocate the Authority's force main that is undersized for current sanitary flow conditions. Mr. Zeuner stated that the Authority has been working on I&I reduction in the Woods basin area for several years. In the last year or so, it has become apparent that the sanitary sewer basin served by the Woods Pump Station and the force main from the Woods Pump Station required consideration for upgrade and remediation. Chairman Albano explained that the developer will be upgrading our pump station valued at \$880,000 and would receive a \$100,000 credit towards tapping fees due to the significant expenditure of the pump station upgrade. The developer will be installing at its expense all of the water and sewer infrastructure facilities for the land development (40 lots) and dedicating them to the Authority. Mr. Bushnell asked if this development is in the 537 Plan. Mr. Zeuner and Mr. Walker explained that the 537 planning documents submission to PA DEP (first step) is a mailer card, several different types of PA-DEP permits may be required, PA-DEP makes the determination of what permits are required. The Township is responsible for the 537 Plan including the original plan.

Mr. Marvin Gold of 999 Almshouse Road asked about the length of force main and where would it be going. Mr. Zeuner explained that current sanitary sewer flows discharge from an 8" force main into a 8" gravity system on Hatboro Road. During periods of high ground water saturation and wet weather conditions, manholes on Hatboro Road a discharge location flow at the pump station overflows. Mr. Zeuner explained that under the proposed plan, the force main would be redirected up Hatboro Road to New Road, continue down New Road to Bustleton Pike, taking a right on Bustleton Pike and discharging into a larger gravity line. Mr. Gold further inquired about the relation between storm sewers and sanitary sewers. Mr. Zeuner explained that the upgrade to the pump station and redirection of the force main would substantially reduce the current sanitary sewer problem due to the significant flow capacity increase of the pump station. Mr. Gold inquired how he can get the records. Mr. Zeuner stated that a "Public Record Request" could be submitted to the Authority to his attention for processing.

Mrs. Gold of 999 Almshouse Road wanted to know why the Authority would not consider the use of grinder pumps instead of a gravity system. Mr. Zeuner explained what conditions grinder pumps are considered applicable in Northampton Township.

Mr. Frank Lally of 30 Hunt Drive asked about the upgrade of the pump station for \$880,000 and the payment of cost over-runs. Mr. Zeuner replied that the developer would be completing the upgrades in accordance with the program outlined by the Authority consulting engineer, Pennoni Associates, in the Evaluation Document of Upgrades/Woods Pump Station dated July 5, 2011 and the developer complete the upgrades to our satisfaction at the pump station and would bear the cost for those upgrades, including possible over-runs.

Mr. Bill O'Neill of 452 Rocksville Road asked the Board if there was any consideration given to upgrading the pump station and force main by the Authority and the accountability by the developer for the improvements. Mr. Zeuner explained that the Authority is not exceeding the current budget. Mr. Zeuner replied that the upgrades to the force main and pump station are required with or without the proposed 40 lot subdivision proposed by Toll Bros. The costs associated with the upgrade of the force main are being included in the Authority's 2012 capital budget. Mr. Zeuner and Mr. Rudolph explained that the Authority is financially strong with a projection of over \$1.0 in positive operational cash flows for 2011, \$1.9M of debt reduction for the year and \$4.8M in capital reserves. We have reduced our loan with First National Bank of Newtown to \$6.3M.

Mr. John Grace of 23 Driscoll Drive stated his concern and confusion about the project that the Authority is taking on and wanted to know if it was true that Toll Brothers can't get their permit until the work is done. Mr. Zeuner explained that a capacity certification could not be provided to the developer unless the upgrades were completed. Mr. Zeuner replied that the upgrades would be required with or without the proposed 40 lot subdivision by Toll Bros. It is the Authority's ultimate responsibility to remediate and upgrade the capacity problem to meet existing regulatory requirements. Mr. Zeuner stated that with known capacity issues, the Authority could not provide the certification.

Mr. Michael Dobron of 161 South Traymore Avenue addressed the Board concerning the 537 Plan. Mr. Zeuner explained that the 537 Plan is a plan of the Township, last amended in 1997 to reflect the recently completed Western End Sewer Project.

4. Check Requisitions / Accounts Payable

A motion (Farling-Jim) adopting a resolution to approve Revenue Fund Requisition No. 1962 dated November 2, 2011 in the amount of \$1,115,720.69 and Bond Redemption & Improvement Fund Requisition No. 513 dated November 2, 2011 in the amount of \$10,412.90 passed with 5 ayes.

The major items paid under Requisition No. 1962 were as follows: Southampton Post Office (prepaid) - \$2,000.00; BCWSA (Sewer) - \$725,988.18; BCWSA (Water) - \$191,285.48; CSI Computer Software (2 year care agreement) - \$16,956.00; Independence Blue Cross - \$17,380.32; J&J Auto & Truck Repair - \$2,910.16; PECO - \$6,550.12; Pennoni Associates - \$18,254.18; Principal Financial Group - \$1,106.25; Rudolph Clarke & Kirk LLC - \$35,208.88; J. H. Shanahan Inc. - \$3,026.00; Siemens - \$4,580.00; Source Media Inc. - \$9,951.30; Southampton Post Office (Permit 17) - \$3,000.00; TD Card Services - \$1,816.90; and a \$70,000.00 payroll transfer.

Requisition No. 513 in the amount of \$10,412.90 was paid to Pennoni Associates Inc.

5. Executive Director's Report

Nothing new to report.

6. Maintenance Report for September 2011

Mr. Zeuner reported that water production was down slightly from last year; 65 customers were posted and 7 turned off for non-payment; there was one sewer blockage at 52 Ronald Drive caused by roots; and there were no water main breaks.

7. Award Contract No. 1-A-A-11 – Janitorial Services for Administration Building

A motion (Jim-Weiner) adopting a resolution to award Contract No. 1-A-A-11 to the low bidder, Stratus Building Solutions of Philadelphia in accordance with their bid opened on October 26, 2011 in the amount of \$287.00 per month passed with 5 ayes.

8. Resolution No. 2011-1120 – Amendment to Administration Employees' Principal Pension Plan to comply with the Worker, Retiree, and Employer Recovery Act of 2008 and the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 (WRERA)

A motion (George-Jim) adopting Resolution No. 2011-1120 to amend the administration employees' pension plan Contract No. 4-15463 with the Principal Financial Group to comply with the Worker, Retiree, and Employer Recovery Act of 2008 and the Small Business Jobs Act of 2010 (WRERA) passed with 5 ayes.

9. Budget

This item was tabled to the next agenda.

10. 2012 Holiday Schedule

A motion (Albano-Weiner) adopting a resolution to approve the 2012 Holiday Schedule as presented was not passed with a vote of 2 ayes (Albano-Weiner) and 3 nays (Jim-Farling-George). Mr. George requested discussion of this item prior to the next meeting. This item is to be placed on the next agenda.

Miscellaneous (A) – Mr. Rudolph stated there is to be a meeting of the western end residents Thursday, November 3, 2011 and he hopes that they respect the Authority in their comments.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO DISCUSS, MR. ALBANO ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 8:20 P.M.

THE NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 16, 2011.