

Northampton, Bucks County, Municipal Authority

**Minutes of the Public Meeting held on November 1, 2017**

Board Members: Edward Farling III, Chairman  
Vincent Deon, Vice Chairman  
John T. Jim, Secretary  
Charles Rehm, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer  
Stephen Mc Gill, Treasurer

Others: Thomas A. Zeuner, Executive Director  
Jeffrey Greenwood - Chief of Operations  
Edward Rudolph, Esquire, Solicitor-absent  
Melissa Fiala, Esquire, Solicitor  
Christopher Walker P.E., Pennoni Assoc.  
Frank O'Donnell, Supervisor Liaison - absent  
Debra Wirtz - Executive Assistant

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

**1. Pledge of Allegiance**

Chairman Farling led the Pledge of Allegiance and requested a moment of silence for the recent tragedies that occurred in New York & Las Vegas and our service men and women serving in harm's way.

**2. Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Zeuner updated the Board on the negotiations with BCWSA regarding the supplemental agreement required by DEP should be available for the December Board meeting. The 2018 Capital and Operational Budget is on the Agenda.

**3. Citizens' Concerns**

John Lee, 11 Creek Road, had questions regarding the HRG Rate Study done and the cost/benefit to the Authority.

**4. Approval of the Minutes of October 4, 2017**

A motion (Jim-McGill) made to approve the Minutes of October 4, 2017 passed with 4 ayes, Mr. Farling abstained.

**5. Check Requisitions / Accounts Payable**

A motion (Rehm-Jim) adopting the following resolutions passed 4 with ayes, Mr. Farling abstained.

**Requisition No. 2124** dated October 18, 2017 in the amount of \$334,161.26

**Requisition No. 2125** dated October 30, 2017 in the amount of \$60,275.52

**Requisition No. 2126** dated November 1, 2017 in the amount of \$793,174.18

The major items paid under **Requisition No. 2124** are as follows: BCWSA - Water - \$171,959.18; Custom Care Property - \$1,190.00; Ebert Engineering Inc. - \$2,337.21; Herbert Rowland & Grubic - \$4,040.00; Independence Blue Cross - \$11,013.27; Karl Hops Inc. - \$1,197.31; Line Systems Inc. Systems Inc. - \$1,226.88; Link computer Corp. - \$3,446.05; Look First Tech. - \$2,215.12; Office Basics - \$1,275.94; Philadelphia Business Forms - \$1,051.35; Phillips & Donovan Architects - \$4,102.50; Teamster Health & Welfare Fund - \$18,639.72; United Tire & Service - \$1,875.59; US Postal Service - \$5,000.00; and \$75,000.00 for payroll.

The major item paid under **Requisition No. 2125** is as follows: BCWSA Sewer Disputed - \$60,275.52.

The major items paid under **Requisition No. 2126** are as follows: BCWSA – Sewer - \$297,938.64; Berkley Net Underwriters - \$58,936.00; Core & Main - \$3,383.68; Cues - \$1,796.82; First National Bank of Newtown - \$59,129.38; Grove Supply - \$1,034.60; GS Developers - \$11,449.70; Guardian - \$3,749.44; JH Shanahan - \$10,600.00; Karl Hops Inc. - \$1,262.56; Kennedy Culvert & Supply - \$2,612.95; Manko, Gold, Katcher & Fox - \$6,605.54; PECO - \$14,309.32; Pennoni Assoc. Inc. - \$48,300.71; Phillips & Donovan Architects - \$5,423.20; Princeton Irrigation - \$3,200.00; Rio Supply - \$4,500.00; Rudolph Clarke LLC - \$37,674.75; Tiffany Mcguigan - \$3,543.05; W. Bruce Beaton Co. - \$104,177.00, Warminster MUA - \$27,424.92; Wrightstown Auto Repair - \$1,552.44; Xylem Water Solutions - \$2,831.21 and \$75,000.00 for payroll.

#### **6. Change Order – Abel Recon**

A motion (Rehm-McGill) made to approve Change Order No. 1 for manhole rehabilitation dated October 24, 2017 with Abel Recon for an estimated cost of \$1,067.00 passed with 5 ayes.

#### **7. Sanitary Sewer Root Control – COSTARS™**

A motion (McGill-Jim) made to approve the proposal by Duke’s Root Control Inc. of Syracuse New York dated October 30, 2017 in the amount of \$97,564.09 passed with 5 ayes.

#### **8. Boot Contract - Operations**

A motion (Jim-McGill) made to enter into an Advantage Accountholder Agreement with Red Wing Multi Service Technology Solutions Inc. of Overland Park Kansas to provide work shoes/boots to the Authority passed with 5 ayes.

#### **9. 2018 Operation and Capital Budget Adoption**

A motion (Rehm-Jim) made approve and adopt the 2018 Operational and Capital Budget as presented passed with 5 ayes.

Mr. Zeuner outlined significant accomplishments in 2017 which included the refinance our outstanding Bond debt with a simple term loan for a 10-year period with a fixed interest rate of 2.5% which resulted in the Authority saving over \$1.1 million dollars over the term of the loan. The Authority also came to an understanding to sell the Authority administration building to Northampton Township for the relocation and expansion of its Police Station facilities at a fair market appraised value. The initiative to provide better public safety was achieved in 2017 by the conversion to sodium hydrochloride instead of chlorine at our well stations, this was achieved on time and on

budget. The Authority's Inflow and Infiltration abatement program is proceeding with favorable results in the Pine Run sanitary sewer basin which we estimate we eliminated 60,000 gallons of flow per day from the system. The Authority implemented its rate adjustment as recommended by our consultant HRG, Inc while simultaneously converting to monthly billing. Although best management practices justify the implementation of both initiatives, doing so at the same time created stress and anxiety on our customers as well as the Authority's administrative staff. In the future, Mr. Zeuner stated he would NOT recommend combining such programs simultaneously. The 2018 Capital Budget incorporates the programs and initiatives outlined in the Authority's adopted 5-year Strategic Plan. The Authority's finances are strong with a sound focus on programs for the coming years.

#### **10. Administration Compensation**

A motion (Jim-Rehm) made to approve a 3.5% raise in compensation for all administrative employees of record as of November 1, 2017 with an effective date of November 1, 2017 in accordance with the 2018 Operational Budget

#### **COMMENTS**

Mr. Zeuner stated that there will be a special meeting to be held next Wednesday, November 8<sup>th</sup> to discuss matters of real estate.

Mr. Deon expressed his displeasure with political mailings that have been sent out in recent weeks regarding the Authority rate increase. The fact that the increase was discussed for a year and that the Board of Supervisors were fully aware beforehand. It is unfortunate that the Authority is being used in politics.

Ms. Fiala noted that she attended and I & I seminar hosted by the Pennsylvania Water Environmental Association (PWEA), where Mr. Zeuner spoke and did a he did a great job. It was a very educational seminar with the subject matter being "Inflow & Infiltration of Private Laterals".

Mr. Walker stated that the contract for the flushing stations are ready to be signed.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO DISCUSS, MR. FARLING ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 8:00 P.M.