

Northampton, Bucks County, Municipal Authority

Minutes of the Public Meeting held on April 1, 2020

Via Zoom Platform

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

Others: Thomas A. Zeuner, Executive Director
Edward Rudolph, Esq., Rudolph Clarke LLC
Christopher Walker P.E., Pennoni Assoc.
Frank O'Donnell, Northampton Supervisor Liaison
Debra Wirtz, Executive Assistant

Mr. Farling, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Zeuner was in attendance at the Authority building (open to the public). All other communication was by video conference or phone.

1. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Zeuner reviewed the Authority's response to the Covid 19 pandemic and Governor Wolf's orders. Only emergency services and meeting regulatory and sampling requirements. In Operations everyone is on call, in Administration we have staggered schedules to get work done. We anticipate this to last through April. We are "cloud based" which allows work to be done from home including answering phones. Our priority is safety.

Edward Rudolph, Esq. reviewed possible solutions for future Board Meetings if the lobby must be closed, and the waiver of late fees Resolution #2020-1234, also no postings, turn off and liens will be done until the Board removes this moratorium. Mr. Rudolph reviewed the Family First Coronavirus Response Act.

2. Citizens' Concerns

None

3. Approval of the Minutes of March 4, 2020

A motion (Deon-Farling) made to approve the Minutes of March 4, 2020 passed with 5 ayes

4. Check Requisitions / Accounts Payable

A motion (McGill-Jim) adopting the following resolution/s passed 4 with ayes, Mr. Rehm lost connection.

Requisition No. 2196 dated 03/24/2020 in the amount of \$797,470.73

The major item paid under **Requisition No. 2196** are as follows: BCWSA - Sewer - \$523,326.82; Coyne Chemical - \$1,257.60; CSL Services Inc. - \$6,775.00; Cues - \$1,524.01; Guardian - \$4,294.68; Hach Co. - \$1,014.60; Hannon Auto Service - \$1078.71; Independence Blue Cross - \$10,175.36; JH Shanahan - \$3,775.00; Karl Hops Inc. - \$2,331.88; Link Computer Corp. - \$3,711.02; M.J. Reider Assoc. - \$2,917.00; Mr. Rehab -

\$48,383.33; PECO - \$18,025.44; Pennoni Assoc. Inc. - \$53,547.78; Rudolph Clarke LLC - \$11,230.00; Staples - \$1,028.36; Teamster Health & Welfare Fund - \$17,677.55; Verizon - \$1,169.87 and \$75,000.00 for payroll.

5. Resolution 2020-1234 Coronavirus Pandemic

A motion (McGill-Farling) made to authorize the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-1234

RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHAMPTON, BUCKS COUNTY, MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY REVISING ITS RULES, RATES AND REGULATIONS (“RULES”) RELATED TO THE TEMPORARY REFRAIN OF THE IMPOSITION OF INTEREST AND CHARGES FOR PUBLIC WATER AND SANITARY SEWER SERVICES TOGETHER WITH SUSPENDING COLLECTION PROCEDURES

WHEREAS, the Northampton, Bucks County, Municipal Authority (“Authority”) has adopted its Rules as amended from time to time by Resolution No. 540; and

WHEREAS, the Authority, from time to time, finds it necessary to amend or revise its Rules; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the Coronavirus Pandemic causing economic hardship and distress within the Northampton Township community it is desired by the Authority Board members to lend temporary assistance to its customers to the extent it believes that such assistance will benefit such customers both financially and emotionally; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires to temporarily amend its Rules during the period of time that the Pandemic remains a significant threat to the Northampton Township community and more specifically, its customers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that related to any public water and sanitary sewer services (“Services”) provided by the Authority beginning February 1, 2020, no interest or charges shall be imposed by the Authority for late payments, until such time as this temporary forbearance (“Period of Forbearance”) shall be terminated by the Authority; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon the termination of the Period of Forbearance (“Termination Date”), no method shall be imposed related to Services rendered during the Period of Forbearance and that all calculations of any other unpaid Services, interest and charges shall commence effective thirty (30) days after Authority Board approval of the Termination Date; and

FURTHER RESOLVED, that during the Period of Forbearance no termination of Services or any collection methods shall be initiated by the Authority for any unpaid Services occurring during the Period of Forbearance and the period prior to February 1, 2020.

In all other respects, the Rules remain in full force and effect.

This Resolution ADOPTED at a Public Meeting held on this 1st day of April 2020 and shall be effective immediately.

Northampton, Bucks County,
Municipal Authority

ATTEST:

By: _____
Edward Farling, III, Chairman

John T. Jim, Secretary

passed with 4 ayes

6. Award Contract – Annual Lawn Service

A motion (Farling-McGill) made to approve the following;

WHEREAS, the Northampton, Bucks County, Municipal Authority advertised to bidders for its annual lawn maintenance program (project number NHMA 236018) consistent with the legal bidding requirements for awarding of bids; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has received five (5) bids as indicated on bid tabulation sheets prepared by Chris Walker of Pennoni based upon the bid opening on March 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, Syron Co. of Bensalem, Pennsylvania was the low responsive and responsible bidder.

THEREFORE IT IS RESOLVED, that based on the bid received, Syron Co. is awarded the Annual Lawn Maintenance Program Contract in the sum of \$21,900 notwithstanding its failure to provide a bid security bond, which the Authority Solicitor has advised is not a significant condition of the bid and therefore can be waived by the Authority passed with 4 ayes.

7. Spring Mill Townhouses - Letter of Credit Reduction #3

A motion (McGill-Deon) made to authorize the following reductions in the Letters of Credit with M & T Bank for Spring Mill Townhouses; LOC# SB2284570001 in the amount of \$175,544.50 (Sewer), \$121,053.02 (Water) and \$6,785.00 (Pump Station) in accordance with the Pennoni Assoc. Inc. review letter of March 24, 2020 passed with 5 ayes.

COMMENTS:

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Farling adjourned the Board Meeting at 7:15 p.m.