

**Minutes of the Public Meeting held on December 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: 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 November 16, 2011**

A motion (Farling-Jim) adopting a resolution to approve the Minutes from November 16, 2011 passed with 5 ayes.

**3. Citizens Concerns**

Mr. Bill O'Neill of 452 Rocksville Road voiced his displeasure with the Board, Executive Director and its professionals

Mr. Rodger Bushnell of 91 Hunt Drive asked questions about the re-sizing of the Woods Pump Station and made comments about the 537 Plan.

Mrs. Gretel Bleich of 159 North Traymore Avenue stated that she doesn't recall any problems with the basin, pump station and force main while she was on the board of the Authority.

Mr. Jerry Bass of 66 Keenan Lane stated that the Toll project was submitted in 2011 and the Chapter 94 Report of 2010 identified the areas of concern.

Mr. Frank Rothermel of 64 Chapel Drive addressed and questioned the Board about the Toll Brothers land development, pump station and force main upgrades.

MR. GEORGE REQUESTED A FIVE MINUTE RECESS. MR. ALBANO CALLED FOR A RECESS AT 7:55 P.M.

MR. ALBANO RE-OPENED THE MEETING AT 8:00 P.M.

Mr. Rodger Bushnell questioned who is going to be responsible and guarantee the design of the force main and pump station.

**4. Check Requisitions / Accounts Payable**

A motion (Farling-Weiner) adopting a resolution to approve Revenue Fund Requisition No. 1964 dated November 22, 2011 in the amount of \$511,801.70; Revenue Fund Requisition No. 1965 dated December 7, 2011 in the amount of \$672,437.08; and Bond Redemption & Improvement Fund Requisition No. 514 dated December 7, 2011 in the amount of \$8,857.82 passed with 5 ayes.

The major items paid under Requisition No. 1964 were as follows: First National Bank of Newtown - \$439,196.31; Kufen Motor & Pump Tech - \$1,700.30; PECO - \$11,613.80; J. H. Shanahan Inc. - \$1,715.00; and Upper Southampton Township - \$54,627.00.

The major items paid under Requisition No. 1965 were as follows: 1040 Second Street Pike Assoc. - \$10,161.36; BCWSA (Sewer) - \$473,278.58; Hydra-Numatic Sales Co. - \$2,667.28; Independence Blue Cross - \$17,380.32; M&T Investment Group - \$2,600.00; Bill Marsh Ford - \$1,195.18; PECO - \$10,283.91; Pennoni Associates Inc. - \$19,269.14; Quality Control Inc. - \$1,105.50; Rudolph, Clarkes & Kirk LLC - \$29,376.48; J. H. Shanahan Inc. - \$1,345.00; Teamster's Health & Welfare - \$17,262.28; Trevoze Family Shoes - \$1,190.61; Univar USA Inc. - \$1,427.41; and a \$70,000.00 payroll transfer.

Requisition No. 514 in the amount of \$8,857.82 was paid to Pennoni Associates Inc.

## **5. Executive Director's Report**

Mr. Zeuner advised that on November 3, 2011, Governor Corbett signed the Bid Limit, H.B. 291 (Act 90-2011) into law which amends the Municipal Authorities Act, Section 5614: Competition in awards of contracts. The Bill raises the bid threshold for advertising and bidding: (1) Supplies, services, and construction were changed from \$10,000 to \$18,500 (\$18,500 and above – bidding and advertising requirements apply); and (2) Telephone quotes changed from \$4,000 to \$10,000 (between \$10,000 and \$18,500 – phone quote requirements apply). These new thresholds become effective January 1, 2012 subject to an annual escalator based upon the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the 12-month period ending September 30, 2012 and every twelve months thereafter. The adjusted amounts will be rounded to the nearest \$100 and not to exceed 3% (maximum annual increase). Mr. Rudolph also advised the Board that there are some issues that may delay implementation until January 1, 2013. He stated that he would keep the Board advised.

Mr. Zeuner stated that on November 28, 2011, the Authority received a letter from Arthur J. Hass, CFO/Controller of BCWSA informing us that they have implemented a 10% increase on sanitary sewer service effective January 1, 2012. When our 2012 Operational Budget was approved on November 16, 2011, no rate increases for water or sanitary sewer service were forecasted or budgeted in 2012. There was no indication that BCWSA was going to impose any rate changes for the 2012 calendar year prior to receipt of their letter, thus, was not included in our budget process. On November 29, 2011, the Authority asked for additional financial data from BCWSA to support their request for an additional 10% increase in sanitary sewer service rates. Today, we received their 2008-2010 financial data, as requested. This information will help the Authority in determining the appropriateness of the rate increase.

Mr. Zeuner stated that the Authority received a letter dated November 29, 2011 from John A. Swenson, P.E., Vice President of Carroll Engineering Corporation titled: "Bucks County Water & Sewer Authority, Neshaminy Surge Tank." The letter states"..... Your share of this project (estimated at \$846,000) will be due in full prior to the BCWSA award of the project which is estimated to occur on or before April 23, 2011." On May 4, 2011, the Board endorsed the concept of the regional surge tank and interceptor upgrade program and further confirmed endorsement of financial participation by this Authority. That endorsement was conditioned on certain aspects of the project meeting NBCMA's expectations which included adoption of a written agreement between the parties. Mr. Zeuner reached out to Ben Jones, CEO of BCWSA, to meet and discuss the surge tank with the intent of achieving a mutual resolution to the issue. A meeting between the parties is being arranged.

THE BOARD MET IN EXECUTIVE SESSION IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF LITIGATION AND PERSONNEL MATTERS.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO DISCUSS, MR. ALBANO ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 8:27 P.M.

THE NEXT MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 21, 2011.