

Northampton, Bucks County, Municipal Authority

Minutes of the Public Meeting held on October 2, 2019

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, Esquire, Solicitor
Christopher Walker P.E., Pennoni Assoc.
Frank O'Donnell, Northampton Supervisor Liaison
Loretta Nesti

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

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Farling, lead the Pledge of Allegiance and requested a moment of silence for men and women serving in harm's way.

2. Citizens' Concerns

None

3. Executive Director's Report

EMERGENCY DECLARATION: Earlier this week it came to our attention a 500+/- section of 8-inch diameter sanitary sewer pipe near the Mill Creek and Witherington Heights neighborhood was seriously compromised (collapsed in certain portions). Our Solicitor has prepared a Resolution for an "Emergency Declaration" to immediately dig up and replace the subject sanitary sewer line. If Mr. Rudolph could review with the Board the "Emergency Declaration". After which explanation the Authority engineer and staff will brief the Board on the scope of the problem and the corrective action already implemented to provide the necessary repairs/replacement.

Executive Session was called at 7:37

Public meeting resumed at 7:42

Resolution 2019-1227 – Emergency Sewer Main Repair

A motion (McGill-Rehm) made to declare this emergency and adopt the following Resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2019-1227

RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHAMPTON, BUCKS COUNTY, MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING THE SERVICES OF J. H. SHANAHAN OF NEWTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA FOR REPAIRS TO THE SANITARY SEWER MAIN LOCATED BETWEEN MANHOLES 723 AND 725 ALONG THE MILL CREEK BASIN

WHEREAS, on September 30, 2019 the Northampton, Bucks County, Municipal Authority ("NBCMA") discovered approximately 500 linear feet of 8-inch sanitary sewer main located between manholes 723 and 725 along the Mill Creek basin that required immediate replacement. The subject sewer main had significantly collapsed causing a substantial blockage; and

WHEREAS, the Authority Administration, due to the existence of this emergency event, obtained the services of J.H. Shanahan of Newtown, Pennsylvania to mobilize and complete the necessary repairs on the subject sewer main, estimating that the cost of such services will approximate \$30,000.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Northampton, Bucks County, Municipal Authority acknowledges that an emergency exists regarding the above matter, requiring the NBCMA to act in obtaining the services of J. H. Shanahan of Newtown, Pennsylvania; and that the Executive Director of the NBCMA is authorized and empowered to take all appropriate action related to the repair of the subject sewer main.

ADOPTED at the Public Meeting held on this 2nd day of October, 2019.

INSURANCE/NON-MEDICAL: Each year the Authority's Liability, Worker Compensation and other insurance policies are renewed with an expiration of October 31st of each fiscal year. Authority management is currently shopping for the best rates via a competitive process for our insurances. We do not have the comparative rates as of this date. Since the Authority will not be meeting again until after the expiration of our current policies, the Executive Director is seeking approval from the Board to enter into the annual insurance contracts with the broker providing the best value to the Authority. Our solicitor has prepared a Resolution for consideration later in the agenda.

SPRING MILL LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN: The land development plan at the Spring Mill Country Club is nearing approval worthy status. We learned today that they are very near completing all of the requirements of the Authority. Our solicitor has prepared a Resolution for consideration later in the agenda.

NORTHAMPTON DAYS & TIME CAPSULE: The Authority participated in the annual Northampton Days celebration this past Saturday. We gave away 500 insulated lunch bags with the Authority logo. Inside those bags we provided water quality information and Compliance information related to sump pumps connected to the sanitary sewer system. We did have the opportunity to open the "1976 Time Capsule". There was not much in the capsule other than Authority annual reports from 1973, 1974, 1975 and a roster of employees at that time. I was personally hoping for bi-centennial mementoes.

BUDGETARY PROCESS: The Authority staff and professionals had an extensive work session last week to refine the Operational & Capital Budgets for the upcoming fiscal year. This refinement program is ongoing. Those budget proposals are anticipated to be presented at the Authority's November public meeting for Board review, deliberation and vote. We are waiting for the final COSS from the rate consultant in order to finalize sanitary sewer costs for our coming year and that rate being incorporated into the Authority's operating budget.

SANITARY SEWER SMOKE TESTING: In an effort to provide an additional tool for the Authority in our efforts to reduce inflow and infiltration, we will begin using smoke testing as another means of testing for the integrity of sanitary sewer lines. In particular, the quality of private laterals, clean-out and lawn drains can be obtained from this new initiative. Standard Operating Procedures have been developed by our operations team to keep the public and appropriate municipal agencies (Twp. Administration, police and fire) apprised of our program. We anticipate using various methods of customer awareness communications when completing this process in the target areas.

4. Approval of the Minutes of September 4, 2019

A motion (McGill-Rehm) made to approve the Minutes of September 4, 2019 passed with 5 ayes.

5. Check Requisitions / Accounts Payable

A motion (Rehm-Jim) approving the following Requisition/s passed 5 with ayes.

Requisition No. 2183 dated 09/18/19 in the amount of \$719,678.59

The major items paid under **Requisition No. 2183** are as follows: Custom Care Property Maintenance - \$3,710.00; First National Bank of Newtown - \$420,776.98; Guastella Assoc. - \$6,756.25; Hach - \$1,153.00; Independence Blue Cross - \$10,175.36; M & M Lawn Care - \$1,540.00; Mr. Rehab LLC - \$11,169.60; Pennoni Assoc. Inc. - \$36,438.41; Pollard Water - \$1,072.38; Rudolph Clarke LLC - \$11,367.50; Teamster Health & Welfare Fund - \$17,677.55; Upper Southampton Post Office - \$5,000.00; Upper Southampton MUA - \$111,170.34; and \$75,000.00 for payroll.

Requisition No. 2184 dated 10/02/19 in the amount of \$895,595.71

The major items paid under **Requisition No. 2184** are as follows: BCWSA - Sewer - \$511,282.30; BCWSA - Water - \$199,384.82; First National Bank of Newtown - \$59,858.83; Guardian - \$3,796.69; Karl Hops Inc. - \$3,892.24; Rettew Field Serv. - \$2,900.00; Shapiro Fire Protection - \$1,534.02; TD Card Services - \$1,818.49; Telog - \$1,800.00; Verizon - \$1,914.58; Warminster MUA - \$24,505.12; and \$75,000.00 for payroll.

6. Waste Water Flow Monitoring Services

A motion (Farling-Rehm) made to authorize the Executive Director, Thomas A. Zeuner to enter into a sanitary sewer flow metering contract with the firm of Mr. Rehab of Mechanicsburg PA in accordance with their proposal dated September 16, 2019 passed with 5 ayes.

7. Insurance Renewal

A motion (McGill-Deon) made that on or before November 1, 2019, the Executive Director of the Northampton, Bucks County, Municipal Authority is authorized, directed and empowered to enter into agreements/policies through one or more licensed insurance brokers for the purposes of obtaining sufficient general liability and workers compensation coverages for and on behalf of the Northampton, Bucks County, Municipal Authority at the lowest premiums offered, as the Executive Director may determine passed with 5 ayes.

8. Resolution 2019-1222 – Intermunicipal Agreement w/ Warminster MUA regarding Spring Mill Land Development (Judd) and Judd Builders – Spring Mill Land Development Agreement

A motion (Deon-McGill) made to the previous extensions to this date, providing the Authority's conditional approval of the Land Development Improvement Agreement with the Developer for the Spring Mill Country Club property (the "Development") granted at the September 4, 2019 public meeting of the Authority (Resolution No. 2019-1222), and the Authority extension to this date of the conditional approval of the Intermunicipal Sanitary Sewer Agreement with Warminster Township Municipal Authority related to the Development as also acted upon at the September 4, 2019 public meeting of the Authority (Resolution No. 2019-1222), are hereby both further extended to November 6, 2019.

It is further noted and approved that the aforementioned Agreements shall apply to the previously indicated developer, The DePaul Group, Judd Builders ("Developer") and its such successor or assign as may hereafter acquire the interest of the Developer passed with 5 ayes.

COMMENTS:

Mr. Zeuner stated that he will prepare for the Township a document regarding the smoke testing.

There being no further business to discuss, Mr. Farling adjourned the Board Meeting at 8:00 p.m.