

LOWER TEN MILE JOINT SEWER AUTHORITY

144 CHARTIERS ROAD

JEFFERSON, PA 15344

724-883-2743

MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

The regular monthly meeting of Lower Ten Mile Joint Sewer Authority was called to order at 5:00 p.m., at the Lower Ten Mile Joint Sewer Authority office.

Those members present were:

Kenneth Frameli, Chairman
George Riecks, Asst. Sec-Treas.
Jamie Forman, Secretary
Benjamin Bupka, Treasurer
Gary Mylan

Brian Sypin
Tim Phillips
Tom Davidson
Joshua Forman

Also attending were:

Christopher Simms, Solicitor
Bob Dengler, Engineer

Bruce Howard, Lead Operator
Sharon Confortini, Secretary

MINUTES

A motion approving the minutes of the August 16, 2023 monthly board meeting and the August 23, 2023 Special Meeting was made by Mr. Jamie Forman, seconded by Mr. Mylan and the motion carried unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion approving the Treasurer's Report and to pay the outstanding invoices was made by Mr. Joshua Forman, seconded by Mr. Sypin and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

None

OPERATION'S REPORT

Mr. Howard stated he had contacted various contractors regarding the repairing of the roof on the lab building at the Mather Sewage Treatment Plant; they would either not call him back or wouldn't show up. Morgantown Roofing was the only contractor that would give him an estimate, which was in the amount of \$19,687.00, with a twelve year warranty. Mr. Howard isn't sure if the estimate includes the boots that also need replaced. Mr. Jamie Forman made a motion authorizing Morgantown Roofing to repair the roof of the Mather STP Building if the estimate of \$19,687.00 includes the boots. Mr. Davidson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mrs. Confortini stated the three year contract with Breezeline that services the Mather phone lines and internet is due for renewal. The new rate has an increase of approximately \$10.00 a month. Mr. Davidson made a motion authorizing the Authority to enter into another three year contract with Breezeline. Mr. Sypin seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mrs. Confortini stated she needs approval to release the funds from Pershing LLC to Nicole Forman for the funds that Lower Ten Mile Joint Sewer Authority had deposited into her pension fund for her retirement. Mr. Sypin made the motion to release the funds to Nicole Forman. Mr. Mylan seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously with Mr. Joshua Forman abstaining.

LEGAL REPORT

Mr. Simms stated he has been working with Mr. Dengler regarding the Dollar General that is being built in Clarksville, PA and defers to Mr. Dengler for the full report.

Mr. Dengler stated there is still no deadline for when the Authority is required to use the \$500,000.00 grant secured under the USEPA FY2023 Community Project Funding Program for the Chartiers Hill Sewer Extension Project. The Authority is still pursuing additional grants to fund the other half of the estimated \$1,000,000.00 Chartiers Hill Sewer Extension Project.

Mr. Dengler stated he is hoping the H2O PA grant application for the matching funds of \$650,166.00 for the Chartiers Hill Sewer Extension Project will be included on the agenda for the Commonwealth Finance Authority's November board meeting since the September meeting had been cancelled.

Mr. Dengler stated he is currently working on a cost estimate for a Sewer Rehabilitation Project in Pitt Gas for the Statewide LSA grant application that is open from September 1, 2023 to November 30, 2023. The cost estimate will include repairing/replacing sewer lines in Pitt Gas and replacing manholes that are currently missing. Mr. Dengler is optimistic he will have this finalized for approval at the October 2023 board meeting.

Mr. Dengler stated Morgan Township is looking for additional information regarding the Authority's plan for the potential sewer extensions in the Country Club Road Area, the Lippencott Area and the Chartiers Road Sewer Extension Area; therefore he prepared a letter outlining his proposal on how to proceed with these projects. The estimated cost for Gannett Fleming to prepare an Act 537 Plan for these projects is \$10,500.00, which is the first step in getting sewage in these areas. Mr. Howard stated Morgan Township had already committed to providing \$6,000.00 towards the Act 537 Plan; Mr. Howard plans to get this check from Morgan Township before the next board meeting. Mr. Mylan, Mr. Howard, and Mr. Frameli stated they will attend the October 2023 township meeting to discuss not only these three areas but also possibly extending the sewage to the area near Thistlewaite Winery.

Mr. Dengler stated he, along with Mr. Simms, has been in contact with the contractors for the new Dollar General being built in Clarksville. They explained to the contractor that since Dollar General will be running the sewer line along the Penn Dot right of way the Authority would need to own that lot and get the HOP Permit; therefore a Developer's Agreement would need to be executed between Dollar General and Lower Ten Mile Joint Sewer Authority. Mr. Dengler and Mr. Simms will draw up a Developer's Agreement to run the sewer line extensions according to the Authority's specifications and to make sure Dollar General absorbs all the costs associated with this project. They will add to the Developer's Agreement a payment of \$5,000.00 by Dollar General to the Authority to be paid prior to construction beginning to make sure all costs are paid.

The board decided to hold their annual budget workshop on Wednesday, October 11, 2023 at 11:00am at the Lower Ten Mile Joint Sewer Authority office.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Confortini stated someone from the public had called asking if it was possible for the Authority to post the approved minutes for the monthly board meeting onto the Authority's website. The Board Members had no issue with the approved minutes being downloaded to their website.

As President of the Union, Mr. Howard stated the union contract states that when an employee returns to their job the only benefit they lose would be seniority, therefore Susan Dains, as an employee rehire, would not have a starting salary the same as a new hire employee, but would get paid according to the pay scale as if she never left. Mr. Mylan made a motion to abide by the union contract, thus giving Mrs. Dains the salary as a rehire and not a new hire employee. The motion passed with Mr. Davidson, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Riecks, Mr. Bupka, Mr. Sypin and Mr. Frameli voting for the motion, while Mr. Joshua Forman and Mr. Jamie Forman voted against the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Sypin made a motion to adjourn at 5:27 p.m., seconded by Mr. Jamie Forman and the motion carried unanimously.