

**WHITEMARSH TOWNSHIP AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
February 21, 2018**

CALL TO ORDER:

The Meeting of the Board of the Whitemarsh Township Authority on February 21, 2018, was called to order by Vice Chairman Jonathan Riesberg at 5:00 p.m. at the Whitemarsh Township Meeting Room, 616 Germantown Pike, Lafayette Hill, Pennsylvania.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

IN ATTENDANCE:

Board Members Present:

Timothy Ferris - Chairman
Jonathan Riesberg – Vice Chairman
Jeannette Quiris – Secretary
Jeff Mitchell - Treasurer
Jori Broad – Assistant Secretary/Treasurer

Also in Attendance:

Michael Clarke, Esquire – Rudolph Clarke, LLC
Alexander M. Glassman, Esquire - Rudolph Clarke, LLC
Allen Mason, P.E. – Carroll Engineering Corp.
Brent Wagner – Executive Director
Kyle Detweiler - Finance Director
Robert Tagert - Operations Manager

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

CONFIRMED APPOINTMENTS:

None.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

A motion was made by Mr. Ferris and seconded by Ms. Quiris to approve the Minutes of the January 17, 2018 meeting of the Board, the motion carried 5-0.

STAFF REPORTS

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Bid for Liquid Chlorine Contract – Mr. Mason reported that Blooming Glen Contractors came in as lowest bidder for this contract with a bid of \$141,080.00. Mr. Wagner asked that the Board table awarding this bid as he feels the Authority staff may be able to do this project in house at a significant

cost savings. Mr. Wagner will discuss his plan with the professional staff and put something together for the Board's review. Since the Authority has 60 days to either accept or award the bid, this topic will be tabled until next month's board meeting. As such, a Motion was made by Mr. Ferris and seconded by Ms. Quiris to table awarding or rejecting the liquid chlorine contract to Blooming Glen Contractors until next month's Board meeting, carried 5-0.

PA Small Water & Sewer Project Grant Program – Mr. Mason reported that he is finalizing the application and supporting documentation for the state grant for the proposed trickling filter media replacement project at the plant.

903 Spring Mill Road – Mr. Mason reported that construction of the off-site sanitary sewer facilities is expected to be completed in the next week or two.

Root Control Contract – Mr. Mason reported that the contractor has requested video of previously treated sewer lines so he can confirm that there has been a regrowth of roots in those lines before he retreats them.

Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 2018-01 – A motion was made by Mr. Ferris and seconded by Mr. Mitchell to Adopt Resolution No. 2018-01 requesting a PA Small Water and Sewer Program Grant and authorizing the Executive Director and Authority Engineer to prepare and submit all documents necessary to apply for the grant, carried 5-0.

WASTEWATER MANAGER'S REPORT:

Mr. Tagert reported that the plant is continuing to run well, even with the heavy rains this month, there were no issues.

Mr. Tagert reported that the SCADA system is working well, sending out notifications of high levels during the heavy rain periods. Mr. Tagert also reported that there are just a few very minor items left on the punch list for the SCADA project.

Mr. Tagert reported that there were a few blockages reported this month, all related to roots. Staff responded quickly, got the roots cut and the lines flowing again.

Mr. Tagert reported there was also a blockage on Thomas Road. The homeowner called the next day to compliment the staff on their quick response time and professionalism.

Mr. Tagert reported that he continues to have weekly safety meetings with his staff.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

ACL Development – Mr. Clarke updated the Board on the ongoing issues regarding a two lot subdivision located at 142/144 Barren Hill Road in Conshohocken. Mr. Clarke reminded the Board of the issue of the two houses sharing a common lateral which is not permitted under the Authority's Rules and Regulations. The developer has claimed that Whitmarsh Township approved of this common lateral when it was put in years ago. As the developer has not been able to provide any documentation or proof of this approval, and after the Authority has learned of one of the houses being occupied and discharging into our system without our knowledge or going through the proper channels, Mr. Clarke suggested pursuing legal action against the developer. As such, a motion was made by Mr. Ferris and seconded by Ms. Broad to Authorize the Authority's Solicitor to Pursue Legal Action against ACL Development for the Property located at 144 Barren Hill Road, carried 5-0.

Motion to Approve Contract for Professional Services – A motion was made by Mr. Ferris and seconded by Ms. Quiris to approve a Contract for Professional Services between the Authority and Karen Bramblett, concerning property located at 2700 Butler Pike, having a tax parcel number of 65-00-01213-007, subject to receipt by the Authority of all payments required of the Developer under the terms of the Agreement for engineer, legal and administrative fees, and all other items deemed necessary by the Manager and duly executed copies of the Agreement, carried 5-0.

Motion to Approve Amendment to Sewage Collection and Treatment Service Agreement of January 4, 1978 – A motion was made by Mr. Ferris and seconded by Ms. Quiris to approve the Amendment to Sewage Collection and Treatment Service Agreement of January 4, 1978 between the Authority and Plymouth Township, concerning property located at 2700 Butler Pike, having a tax parcel number of 49-00-01213-007, carried 5-0.

Motion to Approve Employment Agreement – A motion was made by Mr. Mitchell and seconded by Ms. Quiris to approve the Employment Agreement between the Authority and Public Works Employee Association, carried 5-0.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

Mr. Wagner reported that, as a six month review, he has seen a big improvement in plant operations, including the ammonia concentration levels consistently improving and complimented the staff for all of their hard work getting the plant to this point.

Mr. Wagner reported that in the near future he would like to put together a Capital Committee and a Finance Committee, each consisting of two board members and a few staff members, which would meet quarterly to discuss each Committee's respective issues, concerns and needs.

Mr. Wagner reported that sampling began today at Conshohocken Brewery. Samples will be taken for seven straight days and an analysis done by M.J. Reider Associates, Inc. After receiving the results, Mr. Wagner will discuss the findings with the Board and Professional Staff to hopefully finalize the Consent Agreement.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Detweiler reported that the audit has been going smoothly but one area of concern for the auditor was listing the large surcharge on Conshohocken Brewery's account as an outstanding receivable. Mr. Detweiler asked the Board for some guidance in handling this issue.

Mr. Detweiler reported that the delinquent letters being sent out have been very effective in collecting past due balances.

Approval of Monthly Expenditures – A motion was made by Ms. Quiris and seconded by Mr. Mitchell to pay the expenditures and bills as presented in the amount of \$486,847.67, carried 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:05 p.m. was made by Mr. Riesberg and seconded by Ms. Broad, carried 5-0.

Minutes Prepared by Dottie Winterbottom