

MINUTES OF MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY OF BUFFALO TOWNSHIP

OCTOBER 21, 2021 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

PRESENT: John Haven, Chairperson; Rosemarie Ciaccio, Vice-Chairperson; Eric Smith, Secretary; Patrick Reitz, Treasurer; Richard Healey, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer; Michael Hnath, Solicitor; Matt Sprung, Engineer; Kristy Donaldson, Manager

1. The October 21, 2021, regular monthly meeting of the Municipal Authority of Buffalo Township was called to order by Chairperson John Haven at 7:00 p.m.
2. John Haven stated that the meeting was being recorded and requested that if anyone in the audience is taping the meeting to please state their name and address.
3. John Haven led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
4. Approval of the minutes of the September 16, 2021, regular monthly meeting: A motion was made by Richard Healey, and seconded by Eric Smith, to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2021, regular monthly meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
5. Open to the floor: Marilyn McKinney, 105 Kimberly Drive, asked for an update on the public water extension to Kimberly Drive. John Haven stated that an update will be provided later in the meeting. John Haven introduced Ray Smith of 100 Overlook Court, who is in attendance as a candidate to replace Rosemarie Ciaccio. Rosemarie's term ends December 2021, and she will no longer be serving on the Authority Board. John Haven asked those in attendance for a round of introductions. Kristy Donaldson explained the process of being appointed to the Authority Board and asked Ray to provide a letter for her to send to the Buffalo Township Supervisors.
6. Treasurer's Report:
  - a. Financial Report for September 2021: The Treasurer's Report for September 2021 was presented. A motion was made by Eric Smith, seconded by Richard Healey and Patrick Reitz, to approve the Treasurer's Report for September 2021. The motion passed unanimously.
  - b. Invoices: The Board reviewed the list of monthly bills for approval as of October 21, 2021. A motion was made by Patrick Reitz to approve payment of the monthly bills. The motion was seconded by Rosemarie Ciaccio, and passed unanimously.
7. Manager's Report (presented by Kristy Donaldson):
  - a. The employee medical benefits through MBS for 2022 increased by only 1%. Coverage costs for prescription drugs, dental, short-term and long-term disability remained the same as 2021. Vision dropped slightly but the carrier has changed from Highmark and VBA to just VBA.
  - b. On September 28<sup>th</sup>, there was a DEP inspection at the water plant for the NPDES permit. No issues or violations were noted. There will be a DEP inspection with the sanitarian for the Safe Drinking Water Program on November 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>.
  - c. This past September, Vince Dubac celebrated 20 years of service with the Authority. Vince started in the position of utility person and became a relief operator for both the water and sewage plants. In 2015, he took on the role of Superintendent. He has been a tremendous asset to this Authority.
  - d. The Winfield Public Money Market Account was closed due to inactivity. First National Bank was going to begin assessing charges to the account if there were no transactions. The money from the account was transferred to the Winfield Sewage Capital Fund.
8. Solicitor's Report:
  - a. No separate report provided.
9. Engineer's Report: (presented by Matt Sprung)
  - a. Ed Schmitt wants to know how the Authority wishes to proceed with the water treatment plant expansion. The cost of the project increased by approximately \$1M because of material costs. Discussion took place regarding different funding opportunities and combining the Old Pike Road water line replacement project with the plant expansion. Michael Hnath suggested contacting the Butler County Infrastructure Bank. John Haven stated that he could possibly

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get Mr. Gordon to attend one of the meetings. Michael Hnath pointed out that the Authority is still waiting on the cost to replace the boat ramp for the Freeport Terminals.

10. Old Business:

- a. Kristy Donaldson presented an update on the survey numbers for the waterline extension to Crescent Hill Drive, Kimberly Drive, Carol Drive, Sunny Lane and portions of Sarver Road. Kristy spoke with Ron Zampogna regarding funding for the project. The Buffalo Township Board of Supervisors have agreed to have their engineering firm, Bankson Engineers, search and apply for any grants in relation to this project. Ken Howard with Bankson Engineers contacted Kristy and told her that there are no open grant programs at this time; however, he will continue to search for open programs. Kristy also looked for funding sources but could not find any as well. Discussion took place on the time frame it would take to complete the waterline extension, money the Township received during COVID and money from Act 13. Barbara Panza, 110 Kimberly Drive, stated that they have been attending the Township meetings and wants to know what else they can do. John Haven suggested that those in favor of the waterline extension need to continue to attend the Township meetings. He suggested they work with the Supervisors on a solution and a deadline. He also suggested that they talk to, send letters and/or a petition to Senator Pittman and the Honorable Abby Majors, seeking any additional funding or support for the project.
- b. Kristy Donaldson provided an update on the McKinney property located at Railroad Avenue.
- c. Kristy Donaldson presented the Board with the Snyder Gas Lease for three properties in Freeport Borough. She was able to negotiate 15% royalties across the board and a bonus of \$1,000.00. Eric Smith made the motion to approve the gas lease and memo with Snyder Brother, Inc. The motion was seconded by Richard Healey and passed unanimously.

11. New Business:

- a. Kristy Donaldson presented a quote from Westmoreland COG for a 2022 F250 service truck to replace the 2008 service truck with 168,000 miles, which needed a significant amount of work last year to pass inspection. In addition, Kristy updated the Board on the fact that inventory is limited. If the Authority is to purchase the truck, COG needs approval by November 12<sup>th</sup>. Inventory for 2023 is not available at this time and is not guaranteed. The total cost of the truck with add-ons is \$53,270.65. Patrick Reitz made the motion to purchase the truck with Phase 3 sewage capital funds. The motion was seconded by Richard Healey and passed unanimously.

12. Adjournment: Eric Smith made the motion to adjourn the regular monthly meeting. Richard Healey seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The regular monthly meeting ended at 7:57 p.m.