

SPRING-BENNER-WALKER JOINT AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

July 11, 2022

ATTENDANCE:

AUTHORITY MEMBERS:

Spring	Joseph Galbraith Richard Kuzemchak Rodney Maney Christie McMurtrie
Walker	Dennis McDowell Joseph Swanderski

GUESTS: None present.

CONSULTING SOLICITOR: Robert Mix, Esq.

CONSULTING ENGINEER: Andy Johnson, P.E.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: N. Warren Miller

EMPLOYEES: Will Barton, Tasha Dutton & Kelly Gill

CALL TO ORDER:

The July 11, 2022, Regular Meeting of the Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Dennis McDowell, Chairman. Mr. McDowell thanked everyone for attending and stated that the meeting would be recorded for transcription purposes.

ROLL CALL:

Joseph Swanderski, Secretary, took Roll Call, recording six members present. Mr. Book, Mr. Hoffman and Mr. Houser were excused from the meeting. Mr. McDowell, Chairman, noted that with a quorum present, the Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority was permitted to conduct business under the laws of Pennsylvania.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mr. McDowell, Chairman, led the Board members and Employees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Mr. McDowell asked the Board if there were any questions and/or changes to the June 27, 2022 meeting minutes as presented. **Mr. McMurtrie moved, seconded by Mr. Swanderski to approve the Minutes of the June 27, 2022 Regular Meeting as presented. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent. The motion carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE: There was no Correspondence presented for discussion.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:

Approval of Requisitions:

Revenue Fund Requisition 2020-54 – Mr. McMurtrie presented the Board with Revenue Requisition #2020-54 in the amount of \$59,719.31. Mr. McDowell asked if there were any questions regarding the presentation of Revenue Fund Requisition 2020-54. **Mr. Swanderski moved, seconded by Mr. Maney to approve Revenue Requisition 2020-54 payable to SBWJA in the amount of \$59,719.31. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent. The motion carried.**

GUESTS: There were no Guests present for the meeting.

SYSTEM OVERVIEW REPORT:

Will Barton, Maintenance Crew Leader, provided an overview of the work completed on the sanitary sewer system for the month of June 2022.

In-Home Inspections - There were 43 in-home inspections completed in the month of June.

Sewer Permits and/or Lateral Inspections - Our maintenance department completed eight (8) sewer lateral inspections. The office staff received 15 new sewer permit applications in the amount of 15.00 EDUs for the month of June.

System Maintenance – Mr. Barton indicated the maintenance department cut in a sewer tap at 124 Lower Gyp Road in Benner Township. They also spent a day at the shop weeding the flower beds and trimming trees. The maintenance department applied sand to manhole covers on Valley View Road, Armagast Road, SR 550, Lower Gyp Road and Fishburn Hill Road prior to PennDOT's tar and chipping projects. Our staff finished raising the manholes on Spring Creek Road and there are two (2) manholes remaining on Dixon Lane that will be adjusted later this week.

A customer on S. Main Street, Pleasant Gap called stating that he had water in his basement and requested we look into the problem for him. Mr. Barton stated the video inspection revealed a broken sewer lateral, which has been repaired.

The maintenance crew backed up the pavement at Pump Station #1(Springfield) P.S. #9 (Penn Eagle & P.S. #10 (Valley View) with top soil and stone.

The upgrades to P.S. #10 (Valley View) were completed. There were before and after pictures of P.S. #10 (Valley View) shared with the Board members. Mr. Barton indicated the guys did a really good job on the upgrades.

We assisted several homeowners with plugged sewer laterals, which were due to grease buildup and an offset ferro fitting.

Mr. Barton announced that two (2) of our employees from the maintenance department passed their wastewater operator's licensing exam.

Video Truck - Our personnel completed 669 feet of video inspection work for June.

Vector Truck - We jetted 2,800 feet of sewer main line for the month of June. Mr. Barton stated our meter pits and several mainline problem areas were jetted. We completed the annual cleaning of the decant tank at Rockview. Our crew also completed work for G.M. McCrossin, at the Titan Market, on Axemann Road.

Inter Municipal Work – The Porter Township Water Authority requested our assistance to remove sediment from their tank on 6/20/2022.

Sewer Extensions – Our staff observed the sewer mainline being flushed at Logan Greene Phase 1A, Section 4 and Abel Construction is planning to install castings to the manholes within the next few weeks. We also reviewed and approved construction drawings for the Village of Nittany Glen Phase 6.

Benner Township Water Authority – We collected water samples for analytical testing and distributed Consumer Confidence Reports to the homeowners. The radiator from the Hampton Hills well house generator was removed for the second time for repairs and was re-installed. A new service pump was installed at the Grove Park well house and repairs were made to the chlorine feed system at Hampton Hills. There were six (6) PA One Calls located in June.

Call Outs/ PA One Calls – There were no callouts for the month of June. Mr. Barton ended the report with a total of 121 PA One Calls being located in June.

Pump Station #10 (Valley View) Upgrades - Mr. Swanderski stated the work at Pump Station #10 (Valley View) looks beautiful and asked Mr. Barton to expand on the work that was performed. Mr. Barton stated that the existing wet well stayed in place and the flow from the wet well was bypass pumped to allow a new concrete floor to be poured and to apply an epoxy coating 6' up the walls of the wet well. There were new bases, pumps, lift out brackets and hardware installed in the wet well. The overhead electric service to the pump station was converted to underground and a roof was built for the control cabinet. The rectangular barriers that were installed came from Centre Concrete and the angled barriers were fabricated by Mr. Ranio. The fence was installed by Craig's Fencing of Altoona and the paving was completed by R.C. Bowman, Inc. Mr. Swanderski stated the work was very impressive.

Shiloh Road Area Environmental Permits – Mr. Miller met with representatives from PA DEP and Gwin, Dobson and Foreman on June 29, 2022 to discuss permitting for the Shiloh Road Area Sewer Extension. The discussions included wetlands, floodplains and crossing the exceptional value high quality stream. Mr. Miller stated that PA DEP discussed the new PA Function Based Aquatic Resource Compensation Protocol that was scheduled to go into effect this year. The Compensation Protocol basically establishes a standardized system for calculating the required compensatory mitigation for impacts to floodplains, wetlands and streams in PA. Mr. Miller stated by the end of the meeting the representatives from PA DEP indicated the Compensation Protocol was put on hold for now. The ramifications of the Compensation Protocol will be discussed on a state level due to the fees associated with this new policy.

Previous discussions were held in reference to directional boring under the airport property and streams during mainline installation; however, the representatives at the meeting indicated they would prefer the Authority open cut everything, including the stream. Mr. Swanderski asked why they would prefer open cut. PA DEP stated you could hit a cavity during the directional boring process which could result in loss of pressure and there would be no way to track where the boring debris may travel; however, when you open cut an area you can witness the soil placement. The Board asked if there was a significant difference in cost associated with directional boring or open cut. Mr. Johnson stated that it would basically be a wash.

Mr. Miller asked if there was an expiration date on the permits that would be obtained for the project and he was told the permits would be good for five (5) years. It was noted that permits would most likely not be extended if they were in place and the job was not started; however, if a job was in progress the permits would be eligible for an extension. Mr. Miller suggested the Authority hold on applying for permits until the Environmental Hearing Board renders a decision. The Board agreed to hold on the permitting process at this time.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Environmental Hearing Board – The transcripts of the trial have been completed and Mr. Stocker will now have 30 days to file findings of fact and conclusions of law. The Authority will then be given 30 days to respond to Ms. Lines' motions. After our 30 days Mr. Stocker will have an additional 15 days for rebuttal. Mr. Mix stated that it may be another 2 ½ months until the Environmental Hearing Board even starts to consider what its decision is going to be. Mr. McDowell asked if the Environmental Hearing Board has a deadline. Mr. Mix stated there is no timeline for the Environmental Hearing Board to make a decision.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Shiloh Road Area Sewer Extension – Mr. Johnson stated his staff obtained a lot of information from the June 29, 2022 meeting regarding permitting. The staff at Gwin Dobson and Foreman continues to work on the design of the Shiloh Road Area Sewer Extension. Once the design is completed, they will place the project on hold until the Authority gives the okay to begin the permitting process.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no Old Business presented for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Sewer Extension Agreement LSC RP, LLC (4 EDUs- Fishburn Hill Road) – A developer will be adding two (2) duplexes to their property at 127 Fishburn Hill Road in Benner Township. This parcel of land currently houses a single-family dwelling structure. The sewer extension will extend off of Fishburn Hill Road and will be one (1) manhole run long. Mr. Miller stated the construction drawings require some modifications and will be revised prior to construction. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. Swanderski to approve the Sewer Extension Agreement for LSC RP, LLC in the amount of 4 EDUs. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent. The motion carried.**

Sewer Extension Agreement Village of Nittany Glen Phase 6 (45 EDUs) - Mr. Miller indicated the developer for the Village of Nittany Glen Phase 6 is ready to proceed with a mainline sewer extension. This extension will be located to the right of the main entrance into the development. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. McMurtrie to approve the Sewer Extension Agreement for the Village of Nittany Glen Phase 6 in the amount of 45 EDUs. 6 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent. The motion carried.**

Logan Green Phase 1A Right-of-Way Agreement – Mr. Miller indicated this development will be located to the rear of the Penn Eagle Industrial Park, which is known as the former Hartle Farm off of Valentine Hill Road. This right-of-way is for cross lots that involve homes. **Mr. Swanderki moved, seconded by Mr. Galbraith to approve the Right-of-Way Agreement for Logan Green Phase 1A as presented.** 6 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent. **The motion carried.**

Spring Township Act 537 Plan – Mr. Galbraith and Mr. Book attended Spring Township's Supervisors meeting on July 5, 2022 to discuss the Act 537 Plan and what is required of the Township. Mr. Book did suggest that Spring Township Supervisors update their Act 537 Plan. Mr. Galbraith added he believes we should update the Spring Township Act 537 Plan. Mr. McDowell asked who would be responsible for paying for a revised Act 537 Plan for Spring Township. Mr. Johnson stated Spring Township would be financially responsible for the costs associated with a revised plan due to it being for Spring Township. Mr. Miller stated SBWJA paid for the last Act 537 Plan update that was completed in 2003 for Spring Township. Mrs. Gill indicated the Commonwealth of PA did reimburse the Authority 50% of the cost associated with the Act 537 Plan from 2003.

Mr. Miller stated that the plan is old but he doesn't believe anything really changed in Spring Township in the past 20 years that would cause concern, further stating new development planning has continued to keep their Act 537 Plan updated. It was also mentioned that the Township has had a Septage Management Plan (SMP) in place for many years and their Sewage Enforcement Officer (SEO) has not identified any issues and presented them to SBWJA. Mr. Miller believes that a review of the results from the Township's SMP inspections would be the first step to moving forward with this matter. Mr. McDowell stated the Board will remain on hold until we receive something in writing from the Spring Township's Supervisors requesting our assistance. The Board thanked Mr. Galbraith for attending the July 5, 2022 meeting.

QUESTIONS FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: There were no additional questions asked of the Executive Director.

