

SPRING-BENNER-WALKER JOINT AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

March 8, 2021

ATTENDANCE:

AUTHORITY MEMBERS:	Spring	Toby Dashner Joseph Galbraith Chris McMurtrie
	Benner	Dan Hoffman Willis Houser, Jr.
	Walker	Dennis McDowell Joseph Swanderski

GUESTS: None present.

CONSULTING ENGINEER: Steven J. Gibson, P.E.

CONSULTING SOLICITOR: Robert Mix, Esq.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: N. Warren Miller

EMPLOYEES: Will Barton, Tasha Dutton & Kelly Gill

CALL TO ORDER:

The March 8, 2021, Regular Meeting of the Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Mr. McDowell, Chairman. This meeting was conducted through a video conferencing service, Zoom, due to the COVID-19 epidemic in our area. 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 seven members present. Mr. Book and Mr. Heny 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.

Mr. Miller entered the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Mr. McDowell asked the Board if there were any questions and/or changes to the February 22, 2021 meeting minutes as presented. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. McMurtrie to approve the Minutes of the February 22, 2021 Regular Meeting as presented. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. The motion carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE: There was no Correspondence presented for discussion.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:

Approval of Requisitions:

Revenue Fund Requisition 2020-23 – Mr. McDowell asked if there were any questions regarding the presentation of Revenue Fund Requisition #2020-23. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. Dashner to approve Revenue Requisition 2020-23 payable to SBWJA in the amount of \$38,507.15. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 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 February 2021.

In-Home Inspections - There were 14 in-home inspections completed in the month of February. Mr. Barton stated there were two (2) HVAC condensate lines and one (1) floor drain identified and they have been removed from the sanitary sewer and re-inspected.

Sewer Permits and/or Lateral Inspections - Our maintenance department completed seven (7) sewer lateral inspections in February. There were three (3) in The Village of Nittany Glen, two (2) in Steeplechase and two (2) in Deerhaven. The office staff received one (1) new sewer permit application in the amount of 1.00 EDU for, a detached in-law suite, 532 Spring Creek Road.

System Maintenance – The maintenance department rebuilt all of our chlorine gas systems in February and completed the remaining remodeling work to the locker room and restrooms within the building. We also read the meter pits and repaired the waste oil furnace in the back shop.

Our staff assisted a homeowner with the repair of a standpipe that was broken during snow removal. There were several manholes in Springfield development that were sealed with tar because they had been hit with the snow plow.

We loaded the Barnes 4.5 HP submersible pump in the bid winner's truck, the pump was no longer compatible on our system and was sold through Municibid for \$110.00.

We assisted with a sewer backup at 249 Walker Crossing on 2/28/2021, which was a result of a grease buildup in their trap. Our staff also received a call from Roto Rooter requesting our help to locate a sewer blockage at the Shaner/Life Flight Hangar at the University Airport.

The rotator assembly at Pump Station #6 (Rockview) was repaired by our staff. Our staff picked up the new 2021 F-350 Truck on 2/16/2021 and installed the necessary equipment required to conduct routine maintenance on the system.

The maintenance department installed a new grinder pump and start capacitor at 135 Creekside Lane and replaced the battery backup and surge protector at Pump Station #17 (The Mews). A water heater was installed at Pump Station #14 (Litke). There were new ceiling tiles and lights installed at Pump Station #5 (Mingoville), Pump Station #6 (Rockview) and Pump Station #7 (Zion Ridge).

We inspected the grease traps, after they were pumped, at Weis Markets and The Oaks. The maintenance department replaced a control contactor relay on a private grinder at 122 Harnish Lane and attended a pre-construction meeting at the Village of Nittany Glen to discuss the installation of gas service.

The property owner of 122 Cambridge Lane contacted the Authority requesting we assist in letting him know why his HVAC condensation line running to his floor drain is not draining properly. Mr. Barton stated that the floor drain was either plugged or frozen; therefore, the homeowner will drill a hole into the concrete slab to allow proper drainage.

Benner Township Water Authority –The monthly analytical testing was performed and we delivered rate increase notices to the water customers. Our staff replaced the electric motor on the poly ortho phosphate mixer. A new water meter was installed at 161 Millgate Road because the original water meter was leaking. Mr. Barton met with Craig Fencing to obtain a quote to install new fencing around the Hampton Hills water tank. We also terminated water service to 271 Millgate Road to allow the homeowner to make some internal plumbing repairs and then water was restored to the property. There were no PA One Calls located in February.

Video & Vector Truck – Mr. Barton stated the video and vector truck were not utilized much in February; however, he plans on focusing on locating I & I within the Logan Branch Interceptor. This area reflects high flows during wet weather.

Call Outs/ PA One Calls – There were three (3) callouts for the month of February. We were called out to the Hampton Hills Well House on 02/13/2021 due to a low water level, which was the result of a pump being in the off position. There was an emergency PA One Call that was marked at 134 Marsh Street on 02/24/2021 due to the Walker Township Water Association repairing a water leak. The final call out was due to multiple pump fails at Pump Station #6 (Rockview) on 02/26/2021, which resulted in resetting the pumps. Mr. Barton ended the report with a total of 37 PA One Calls being located in February.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Act 537 Plan Special Study – Gwin, Dobson & Foreman is currently working on the evaluation of sewer layouts and updating the associated costs for various alternatives that were referenced but not included in the Act 537 Plan Special Study. Mr. Miller stated that we spoke with a PA DEP representative last week regarding the proper way to resubmit the Act 537 Plan Special Study once completed and they stated that Benner Township will be required to send a letter to PA DEP simply stating they agree with the recent updates and the alternative plans.

Mr. Miller stated that he received an email from Mr. Johnson stating there may be grants available to help restore water quality and stream habitats that could possibly be utilized in the Shiloh Road Sewer Extension Project. The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF), in partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the federal-state Chesapeake Bay Program partnership are those included in the grant. Mr. Miller feels the public would be more receptive to the sewer extension if stream restoration efforts were included. It was noted if grants are awarded, they must be utilized within 2 years, which could be a problem for the Authority due to the delays in planning approvals.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Mr. Mix suggested an Executive Session be held to discuss Real Estate.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Mr. McDowell recessed the Board for an Executive Session at 7:18 p.m. to discuss Real Estate. The meeting reconvened at 7:41 p.m.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Annual Chapter 94 Report – Mr. Gibson presented the Board with the annual Chapter 94 Report for 2020 and referenced some key points. In 2020, the peak three-month hydraulic loading to the system was 805,388 gpd, which did not include Rockview. The Authority's ratio of peak three-month flow to annual average flow for 2020 was 1.10, which is an indication of a tight system with very little inflow and/or infiltration. Mr. Gibson indicated the flows were less than 2019 and may be a result of the COVID-19 pandemic with reduced business activities.

The number of EDUs billed by the Authority decreased from 7,088 in 2019 to 7,065 in 2020. In 2021, the Authority is projecting the addition of 37 EDUs through developer and/or individual connections to the system.

In 2020, over 85,150 linear feet (16.13 miles) of gravity sewer was inspected and recorded and 81,200 linear feet (15.38 miles) was jetted and cleaned. It was also noted that 3,160 linear feet (0.60 miles) of newly constructed sewer line was mandreled and pressure tested.

In 2020, the Authority completed an in-home sewer inspection of 299 properties and approximately 9.7% of the inspections resulted in problems that were identified and corrected.

Mr. Gibson reviewed Table 5 within the Chapter 94 Report, which outlined the average and peak flows not including Rockview. The annual average not including Rockview was 729,926. The annual average including Rockview was 1,333,225 with a 3-month average peak of 1,387,373 and a 3-month peak average to average daily flow (ADF) ratio of 1.04.

The Authority completed smoke testing of its entire collection system in the fall of 2020. There were approximately 200 deficiencies identified and corrected during this program.

During the Authority's annual meter calibration work in the spring of 2020, it was determined that the flow at the Zion Road meter pit was getting behind the flume, and in June of 2020 the flume was replaced and the equipment was recalibrated. The Authority also made upgrades to the pumps and wet well at Pump Station #4 (Pleasant View).

In April 2019, the Benner Township Supervisors and Spring Benner Walker Joint Authority authorized completion of an Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan Special Study for evaluating the efficiency of providing public sewer in southern Benner Township along Shiloh Road, Rock Road, Big Hollow Road and Walnut Grove Development. The Act 537 Plan Special Study was submitted to PA DEP in 2020 and is currently in the review process. Pending approval of the Plan, implementation of the proposed sanitary sewer extension could be completed within 2-3 years after the Plan approval date.

Mr. Swanderski asked if we had any graphs indicating the rain/snow fall and how it correlates with the Authority's flows. Mr. Miller indicated we do get rain/snow fall reports on a monthly basis from the Department of Meteorology and Atmospheric Science at Penn State and it is graphed with our flows. Mr. Swanderski and Mr. Gibson both commented on how well the Authority's sewer system is maintained. Mr. Gibson also stated that this is one of the tightest systems he's ever seen.

Mr. McDowell asked if there were any additional questions regarding the presentation of the Annual Chapter 94 Report for 2020. **Mr. Dashner moved, seconded by Mr. Swanderski to approve the Annual Chapter 94 Report for the 2020 calendar year as presented and to authorize Mr. W. Miller to execute the signature page of the report. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. The motion carried.**

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

NEW BUSINESS:

Sewer Extension Agreement American Top Team – Mr. Miller indicated a new athletic training facility will be built on the vacant lot, parcel number 13-012-082, to the rear of 139 E. College Avenue, Pleasant Gap. The developer will extend a new 6" main line from the Pleasant Gap Little League baseball field property to the vacant lot. The developer will also use this main line extension to improve the current sewer lateral locations for parcel numbers 13-012-044 and 13-012-043. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. Houser to approve the Sewer Extension Agreement for American Top Team. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. The motion carried.**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel & Community Relations Committee: Mr. Hoffman had nothing to report.

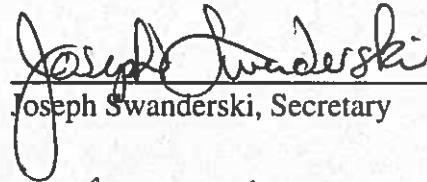
Facilities Committee: Mr. Book was absent from the meeting. Mr. Dashner and Mr. Houser had nothing to report.

Financial Committee: Mr. Heny was absent from the meeting. Mr. McMurtrie had nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Swanderski moved, seconded by Mr. McMurtrie to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 p.m. 7 ayes, 0 nays, 2 absent. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph Swanderski, Secretary



Tasha L. Dutton, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township _____
Spring Township _____
Walker Township _____