

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE GENERAL AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF FRANKLIN

December 12, 2023

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members in Attendance:

John Eckel
Fred Leyda
Chad Ellis
Peter O'Polka
Jody Freni
Caleb Williams
Timothy Dunkle

Excused: None

Others in Attendance:

Kurt McFadden, City of Franklin
Devin Hines, Water Treatment Plant
Kyle Fritz, The EADS Group
Josh Kalp, The EADS Group
Michael Gorman, Tech Resources Coordinator
Tracy Jamieson, City of Franklin
James Wetzal, City of Franklin
Mike Moore, Wastewater Network
Brian Spaid, Dale Woodard Gent McFate
Alex Spaid, Dale Woodard Gent McFate
T.J. Parks, Recording Secretary
Helen Fielding, The Derick

3. Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Moore announced that Bortek plans to have the new sewer jet available on or around January 10, 2024, but require payment a week in advance in order to begin the paperwork. Mr. Dunkle advised to add this item to the agenda under 7(A)(1).

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Ellis to adopt the agenda, as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. O'Polka and seconded by Mr. Leyda to approve the minutes of November 14, 2023 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Citizens' Inquiries – None

6. Water

6.A. Operations/Project Reports

1. Remembering Scott Stoltenberg

Mr. Dunkle offered a moment of silence in remembrance of Scott Stoltenberg who passed away unexpectedly at the end of November. Mr. Eckel requested to adhere a small plaque on the fire hydrant near the Pepsi plant on Allegheny Boulevard, which was Mr. Stoltenberg's last project.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Freni to approve the memorial plaque. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Staff Updates

Mr. Hines

- Moody has been in to add well extensions for wells 2 and 13. They hope to finish by the end of next week.
- Received check valve for the 7th Street pump station. The intent is not to install it until the 15th St. booster station is operational.

Mr. McFadden

- Network crews have been resetting curb boxes in the service areas.
- There is a valve leak near the multimodal trail along Allegheny Boulevard near the IPEG plant. It is fixed but can't guarantee for how long.

- Parts came in from LB Water to change check valve for 7th Street.
- The Kenworth T480 is at the body shop to have the bed installed
- The F550 dump truck is expected to be delivered by the end of 2023

Mr. Wetzel

Mr. Wetzel expressed concern about the security of the SCADA system, as there have been several security breaches in nearby areas. Mr. Hines stated that the treatment chemicals are released by programming the system manually, not through the internet so he does not foresee a potential threat in that regard. Mr. Spaid advised continuing the discussion in Executive Session, as it relates to security matters and response procedures.

3. *EADS Group*

Front Street Waterline and Allegheny Boulevard Waterline

Mr. Kalp reported that the PENNVEST application, in the amount of \$3,680,000, was submitted on October 19, 2023. The PENNVEST advisory board meets on January 24th to announce their decision of approval or disapproval. He advised that a PennDOT Highway Occupancy Permit will be required, but it would otherwise be ready to bid out, if funding was awarded.

Dam Removal

Mr. Kalp informed that the Local Share Account (LSA) grant application for \$952,520 was submitted on November 11, 2023. There has been no correspondence with DEP to date on this matter. Mr. Kalp presented a quote in the amount of \$53,500 from USG to clean the outflow line from the dam, when weather permits. This quote will be discussed under the Chairman's Report.

Reno Water System

Mr. Kalp indicated that he had sent example inter-municipal and bulk water sales agreements to the solicitor for informational purposes. He also submitted a recommended scope of work for the Reno Water System for connecting into the low pressure system, as part of an agreement. Mr. Spaid said he will discuss the matter further in Executive Session.

15th Street Pump Station

Mr. Fritz reported that the pump station has been installed. The electrical work is scheduled to begin the week of December 18th and the SCADA installed early to mid-January by HCS.

Miller Hill Waterline

Mr. Fritz reported that Mortimer’s scope of work has been determined to be substantially complete as of August 18 with only a few punch list items remaining; \$15,000 retainage is being withheld until all punch items are completed satisfactorily, including the inlet at Sibley & Plumer.

6. B. Water Financial Report

Total Unrestricted Water Funds Balance is \$1,180,639. Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Williams to accept the financial report for December. Motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Leyda to pay the following bills. Motion passed unanimously.

City of Franklin General Services Fee for December	\$ 18,166.67
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Water General Matters	\$ 230.00
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Allegheny Blvd. Water Line Project	\$ 20.00
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Water Agreement (Aqua Pennsylvania)	\$ 30.00
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Bankruptcy – Creditor (Rite Aid Corporation)	\$ 140.00
The EADS Group for 2023 Engineering	\$ 1,018.65
Anthony Parks for November Meeting	\$ 50.00
The EADS Group for 15 th Street Pump Station	\$ 4,073.63
The EADS Group for GACF Allegheny Blvd. Water Line	\$ 2,781.41
Water Fund Monthly Invoices for Approval	\$ 37,709.71
Totals:	\$ 64,220.07

Additional items to be reviewed:

Pre-approved invoice and payroll reimbursements to General Fund

Pre-approved payroll for 11/3/23 and 11/17/23

11/30/23 YTD draft budget including a detail of invoices paid and revenue received.

7. Sewer

7.A. Operations/Project Reports

1. Staff

Mr. Moore

- Reported that the price for the new sewer jet is \$615,212. Bortek will not release the certificate of origin without receiving payment in full a week before delivery. Mr. Moore said that he would be willing to look at the vehicle prior to handing over the payment.
 - Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Ellis to make the \$615,212 payment to Bortek Industries, contingent upon Mr. Moore's satisfactory assessment of the vehicle. The motion passed unanimously.
- Water leak under the Wastewater Treatment Plant has been repaired by re-routing the waterline to avoid digging up the concrete floor.
- Getting quotes for RAS pump replacements.
- The expansion tank on the heat exchanger boiler is seeping through a rusted spot. Called CS & E to look at it and get a quote. This can likely be done under the operations budget.

2. EADS Group

WWTP

Mr. Kalp stated that he made additional testing and adjustments to the influent pumps on September 19th. He is waiting for a storm event to be able to adequately verify their performance.

He requested pricing for RAS and WAS pumps and is hoping they can be reduced in size.

AM Stabilizers submitted a request to discharge industrial waste into the sewage collection system. Mr. Kalp said he reached out to AM Stabilizers for more information and DEP for their input. It was noted that the EPA must approve this, since we don't have a pre-treatment discharge program.

A-108 Phase I Sewer Replacement & CSO Elimination Project

Mr. Fritz reported that the E&S, GP and NPDES that were submitted in August have been reviewed and it was requested that a limit of disturbance be shown on all plan views. EADS is making the requested revisions on the drawings to be resubmitted and will have contract specifications and cost estimates prepared for review in January of 2024.

Mr. Fritz then went on to discuss a phone conversation with Brendan Linton of PENNVEST to get a revised affordable rate for the sewer system as numbers have changed since the initial planning consultation in September of 2020. It was recommended that another planning consultation be held next year; the Board collectively agreed to hold the consultation at 9 A.M. before the January 25, 2024 committee workshop.

Mr. Fritz discussed coordination efforts between the A-108 project along Liberty Street and the PennDOT Betterment Project, as both projects are scheduled to occur simultaneously. It was noted, the plans for the A-108 project call for as much trenchless drilling as possible; however, there will be some sidewalk impacts where service laterals connect to buildings. Mr. Fritz suggested adding a provision in the contract that the awarded contractor cannot be at the project site at the same time as the PennDOT contractors.

7.B. Sewer Financial Report

Total Unrestricted Sewer Funds Balance of (\$350,106).

Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. Williams to accept the sewer financial report for December. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Ellis to pay the following bills. The motion passed unanimously.

City of Franklin General Services Fee for December	\$ 18,166.67
Summit for Dell Precision 3406 Desktop and installation	\$ 4,750.00
Dale Woodard Gent McFate for Sewer General Matters	\$ 200.00
The EADS Group for 2023 Engineering	\$ 4,191.75
Anthony Parks for November meeting	\$ 50.00
The EADS Group for Flow Monitoring 5 CSO Sites	\$ 3,875.00
The EADS Group for A-108 Planning S03-21	\$ 23,649.73

Sewer Fund Monthly Invoices for Approval	\$ 8,386.68
Totals:	\$ 63,269.83

Additional items to be reviewed:

Pre-approved invoice and payroll reimbursements to General Fund

Pre-approved payroll for 11/3/23 and 11/17/23

11/30/23 YTD draft budget including a detail of invoices paid and revenue received.

8. Reports

A. Chair's Report:

- Mr. Dunkle presented the 2024 Budget for Water and Sewer. There are two (2) proposed Water budgets. The first one contains a \$1 monthly customer rate increase and the other is a \$2 increase to help with costs to begin draining the 3rd St. Dam. He also drew attention to the \$1.45 monthly rate increase on the Sewer budget.
 - Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Ellis to approve the 2024 Water budget as presented with a \$2 monthly customer rate increase. The motion passed unanimously.
 - Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Leyda to approve the 2024 Sewer budget as presented with a \$1.45 monthly customer rate increase. The motion passed unanimously.
- Mr. Dunkle presented a proposal from USG in the amount of \$53,500 to clean the drain line of the 3rd St. Dam. The proposal consists of fifty (50) hours of labor, and all materials and equipment necessary to perform the work. If approved, work would begin in the spring of 2024.
 - Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Leyda to approve the proposal by USG in the amount of \$53,500 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
- Received notice from DEP that the Drought Contingency Plan has been approved.

B. City Manager's Report:

Mrs. Jamieson stated that she has enjoyed working with everyone and thanked them for all their help and expertise throughout the years.

C. Public Utilities Director's Report:

Mr. McFadden had nothing further to report.

D. Mapping Update:

- Mr. Gorman is continuing to update maps as needed and promoting Rave Alert.

E. Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Spaid requested time in Executive Session for the purpose of negotiations.

9. Executive Session

The Authority entered into Executive Session at 7:14 P.M, which ended at 7:55P.M.

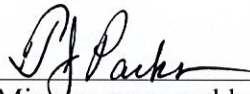
Meetings

The next committee meeting is January 25, 2024 at 10:00 A.M.

The next regular meeting is January 9, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall.

10. Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 P.M.



Minutes prepared by T.J. Parks