

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

July 11, 2023

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members in Attendance:

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

Absent:

Jody Freni

Others in Attendance:

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

3. Adoption of Agenda

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Williams to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Eckel mentioned a missing dollar sign (\$) on page four (4), under “Misc. Water Items”.

Motion by Mr. Leyda and seconded by Mr. Eckel to approve the minutes of June 13, 2023 as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Citizens’ Inquiries – None

6. Water

6.A. Operations/Project Reports

1. Staff

Mr. Hines

Preparing to rehab the plumbing on the Oak Hill booster station.

Mr. Stoltenberg

Crews expect to begin milling and paving Prospect Avenue tomorrow.

Working to resolve low water pressure issues on Bell Avenue and Old Mercer Road that began occurring after the installation of the new water lines. This is affecting 5 or 6 homes. Mr. Fritz discussed two options to fix the low pressure issue:

- 1) Tap onto a 12-inch line with a 2-inch line and run it down Old Mercer for about 350 feet to tie the affected houses back into the main line. Approximate cost by Mortimer’s is \$35,000.
- 2) Tap onto 12-inch line with an 8-inch line down Old Mercer to Bell Ave., approximately 500 feet, then use a 2” tee to tie in. Approximate cost is \$70,000, plus \$20,000 for restoration.

Mr. McFadden stated that the water department has most of the waterline materials on-hand which would alleviate some of the costs.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Leyda to prepare a change order under Mortimer's contract to include installing a 2-inch waterline at 750 Old Mercer Road to the South Bell Avenue intersection for an increase of approximately \$35,000.

2. *EADS Group*

Front Street Waterline

No new updates to report.

Allegheny Boulevard Waterline

Mr. Kalp stated that they are waiting for PennDOT to issue an HOP upon completion of the Route 8 multi-modal trail along that corridor. The easement from Pioneer Electric remains outstanding and will be discussed further in the solicitor's report.

Dam Removal

Mr. Kalp reported that the Growing Greener grant was submitted on June 6, 2023. There has been no further DEP action since the last discussion, but did find out that there are other funding options available, if necessary.

15th Street Pump Station & Miller Hill Waterline

Mr. Fritz reported that Terra Works has completed all the waterline work with the pump station, which is to be delivered in November. He is coordinating quotes to demolish the old pump station.

The storm sewer work on Old Mercer Road is complete. Sanitary sewer work on Plumer Avenue and Sibley Avenue was scheduled start on July 17, followed by water services and storm sewer installation; however, restoring adequate water services to the residents on South Bell Avenue will take precedence.

Mr. Fritz then presented Mortimer's Payment Application No. 4 in the amount of \$172,169.10. It was noted that \$148,340 of this invoice is for storm sewer work, to be reimbursed to the Authority by the City of Franklin.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Williams to approve Payment Application No. 4 in the amount of \$172,169.10. The motion passed unanimously.

Misc. Water Items

Mr. Fritz reported that the GIS data entry for lead/copper services lines for recently bid projects has been completed.

Mrs. Jamieson asked about the warranty work that remains to be completed on Elk Street, which includes patching where asphalt had settled after the installation of the catch basin. She added that the City’s street paving project on Elk Street is scheduled to begin in mid-August and offered IA to incorporate the patchwork into their paving. Mr. Fritz was in agreement, but would to contact Mortimer’s, the contractor on that water line (Legacy Lead) project.

6. B. Water Financial Report

Total Unrestricted Water Funds Balance is \$429,140. Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Ellis to accept the financial report for July. Motion passed unanimously.

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

City of Franklin General Services Fee for July	\$ 18,166.67
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Water General Matters	\$ 170.00
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Allegheny Boulevard Water Line Project	\$ 980.50
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Warranty Dispute	\$ 20.00
MaherDuessel for 2022 Financial Statement Audit Billing	\$ 1,350.00
The EADS Group for 2023 Engineering	\$ 1,695.23
Anthony Parks for June Meeting	\$ 50.00
Svetz Energy Services for Natural Gas Procurement Services	\$ 445.00
Mortimer’s for Leak Repair at Elk and 10th	\$ 6,858.88

The EADS Group for 15 th Street Pump Station	\$ 9,952.74
The EADS Group for Allegheny Blvd. Water Line	\$ 5,075.05
Water Fund Monthly Invoices for Approval	\$ 39,868.21
Totals:	\$ 84,632.28

Additional items to be reviewed:

Pre-approved invoice and payroll reimbursements to General Fund
 Pre-approved payroll for 6/2/23, 6/16/23 and 6/30/23
 6/30/23 YTD draft budget including a detail of invoices paid and revenue received.

7. Sewer

7.A. Operations/Project Reports

1. Staff

Mr. Brown

- Bobcat and skid steer are back in service.
- About halfway through fixing SCADA issues. Summit is having issues with mechanisms on the system which are obsolete. The cost to repair is \$4,900 with a two-week lead time for the parts.
- Storm pumps are scheduled to be installed on August 14 and the waterback replacement will start next Monday.

Mr. Moore

USG will be in next week to begin interceptor cleaning. Property owners will be notified as quickly as possible. He noted that he had to deal with a small blockage on 12th Street.

2. EADS Group

WWTP

Mr. Kalp stated that the influent pumps were received on March 21, 2023 and they are scheduled to be installed in August when the flow levels are typically low. The water back was shipped on April 28 and will be scheduled to be installed on July 17, 2023.

A-108 Phase I Sewer Replacement & CSO Elimination Project

Mr. Fritz reported that he received all environmental clearances and will submit the E&S, General Permit and NPDES permits this week, while the DEP Part II, HOP and Railroad permits are expected to be submitted later in the year, followed by the application to PENNVEST in early 2024. Design drawings have been plotted and are currently under review. EADS hopes to have the sewer installation complete on Liberty Street before the Betterment Project commences in spring of 2025. Mr. Fritz is coordinating with Mrs. Jamieson to gather historical background information on previous sewer work and street paving projects.

Misc. Sewer Items

Mr. Fritz reported that the annual Corrective Action Plan report will be submitted to DEP in July for A-108 and 864 15th Street. USG is expected to mobilize in the next few months for interceptor CCTV. Previous CCTV reports have been linked to GIS.

7.B. Sewer Financial Report

Total Unrestricted Sewer Funds Balance of (\$223,578).

Motion by Mr. Leyda and seconded by Mr. O’Polka to accept the sewer financial report for July. The motion passed unanimously.

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

City of Franklin General Services Fee for July	\$ 18,166.67
Summit for Storm Controller	\$ 2,437.50
Summit for Micromod Controller	\$ 997.50
Dale Woodard Gent McFate for Sewer General Matters	\$ 120.00
Dale Woodard Gent McFate for Uniontown Heights	\$ 80.00
MaherDuessel for 2022 Financial Statement Audit Billing	\$ 1,350.00
The EADS Group for 2023 Engineering	\$ 3,227.03

Anthony Parks for June meeting	\$ 50.00
The EADS Group for Flow Monitoring 5 CSO Sites (May)	\$ 3,875.00
Svetz Energy Services for Natural Gas Procurement Services	\$ 1,466.00
MechTech Solutions for FLO-DAR Repair	\$ 2,030.00
The EADS Group for A-108 Planning S03-21	\$ 42,427.85
Sewer Fund Monthly Invoices for Approval	\$ 13,125.34
Totals:	\$ 89,352.89

Additional items to be reviewed:

Pre-approved invoice and payroll reimbursements to General Fund

Pre-approved payroll for 6/2/23, 6/16/23 and 6/30/23

6/30/23 YTD draft budget including a detail of invoices paid and revenue received.

8. Reports

A. Chair's Report:

Mr. Dunkle reported that a team has been put together to draft a three-year drought contingency plan and to develop a water distribution plan in case of a severe drought emergency.

B. City Manager's Report:

Mrs. Jamieson presented a request from Gary Svetz of Svetz Energy Services to extend the current procurement service contracts for electric and natural gas an additional two (2) years, until 2029, to lock in a lower rate for each fuel, as he sees the markets for each. Starting in December 2027, the yearly cost for gas procurement services will be \$2,515 which will be split, based on actual gas usage, with the General Authority (76%) and the City (24%), and the yearly cost for electric procurement services will be \$7,845, which will also be split based on usage between the General Authority (70%) and the City (30%).

Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. Williams to extend the natural gas and electric procurement contracts with Svetz Energy Services at the yearly costs stated above.

The contract for the Prospect Avenue paving is \$35,553, plus additional advertising costs, all of which will be split between Sugarcreek Borough and the General Authority.

C. Public Utilities Director's Report:

Mr. McFadden reported on a phone call with Groff Tractor after the June meeting, which resulted in a representative coming to discuss replacing the hydraulic coupler with a mechanical one at no cost since the defect occurred within the warranty period. There have been no further communications from Groff Tractor within the last couple of weeks.

Despite the issues with the SCADA system, Mr. McFadden is thankful that it alerted a major water leak near the Professional Building.

D. Mapping Update:

Mr. Gorman met with Rave Mobile Safety and set up a virtual meeting on Friday afternoon to discuss options to alert residents of any public messaging necessary, such as water advisories or inconveniences due to construction work.

E. Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Spaid reported that the Uniontown Heights Sewer Agreement is not complete yet, but he will reach out to their attorney to determine the status.

Pioneer Electric has until tomorrow to file a challenge to the Eminent Domain Action and does not expect them to do so.

9. Meetings

The next committee meeting is July 27, 2023 at 10:00 A.M.
The next regular meeting is August 8, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall.

10. Adjournment:

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Ellis to adjourn the meeting at 7:03 P.M.
Motion passed unanimously.



Minutes prepared by T.J. Parks