

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

October 10, 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:

Kurt McFadden, City of Franklin
Devin Hines, Water Treatment Plants
Scott Stoltenberg, Water Network
Kyle Fritz, The EADS Group
Josh Kalp, The EADS Group
Michael Gorman, Tech Resources Coordinator
Tracy Jamieson, City of Franklin
Harmony Motter, City of Franklin
James Wetzell, City of Franklin
Glenn Brown, Wastewater Treatment Plant
Mike Moore, Wastewater Network
Brian Spaid, Dale Woodard Gent McFate
T.J. Parks, Recording Secretary
Scott Steffy, Aqua Pennsylvania

3. Adoption of Agenda

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

4. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Williams to approve the minutes of September 12, 2023 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Citizens' Inquiries – None

6. Water

6.A. Operations/Project Reports

1. Staff

Mr. Stoltenberg

- Reported on repairs to service and mainline water leaks
- Finished yardwork and blacktop work today

Mr. Hines

- Moody's Water Supply is planning to start cleaning Well 4 tomorrow.
- Fencing was removed on the 8th Street side of the shed. He hopes the rest will be finished next year.

2. EADS Group

Front Street Waterline and Allegheny Boulevard Waterline

The PENNVEST application, in the amount of \$3,680,000, is being prepared for submission on November 2, 2023. Mr. Kalp presented a Letter of Responsibility to be submitted with the application, which states the purpose of the project and ensures that funds received from PENNVEST will be expended and work performance carried out in accordance with the terms of the agreement. Along with the Letter of Responsibility is a resolution to authorize the submission of the application.

Mr. Kalp also presented the Lead Service Line Risk Mitigation Plan that outlines the steps needed to notify property owners of the work being done. He added that, under this funding source, DEP would require the Authority to replace any service lines between the property owner's house/structure and the mainline if it appears to contain lead. Mr. Eckel asked if the Authority has the right to enter someone's property to replace the waterline. Mr. Spaid advised that an easement agreement would have to be signed by

both parties and will research what actions would need to be taken if a property owner does not comply.

Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. Eckel to approve the Letter of Responsibility as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Eckel to approve the resolution to submit an application for funding to PENNVEST in the amount of \$3,680,000. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Leyda and seconded by Mr. Ellis to approve the Lead Service Line Risk Management Plan as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Dam Removal

Mr. Kalp reminded everyone of the Growing Greener Grant application that was submitted on June 22nd. He said a Local Share Account (LSA) grant in the amount of \$958,000 is being prepared for submission on November 30, 2023. The City will be the applicant for the grant, but asked that they authorize the Chairman and Secretary to sign any documents that might be necessary to carry out the project. He added that there has been no DEP interaction with their firm since the phone conference call with them on August 17th.

Motion by Mr. Williams and seconded by Leyda to approve submitting a Local Share Account grant application in the amount \$952,520 jointly with the City. The motion passed unanimously.

15th Street Pump Station & Miller Hill Waterline

Mr. Fritz reported that Terra Works is still waiting on rigging before they can install the pump station. He is anticipating a change order in the amount of \$19,870, to be submitted in November to demo the existing pump station and close off the waterlines.

Mr. Fritz added that all of Mortimer's work is complete, save for the addition of stone and wedge curb along Old Mercer Road and submitted Payment Application No. 7 in the amount of \$230,071.95 for approval.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. O'Polka to approve Payment Application No. 7 in the amount of \$230,071.95 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Fritz then provided a breakdown of the contract amount as follows:

- Current contract amount, including all change orders - \$1,386,026
- Installed to date - \$1,221,264 (\$706,602.64 – Water; \$171,321.22 – Sewer; \$343,340.14 – City)
- Remaining budget \$164,762

Lastly, Mr. Kalp reported on a sewer backup that occurred as a result of Mortimer’s scope of work on the Chestnut St. Water Line Replacement (Legacy Lines). Fortunately, they have a three (3) year performance bond and were able to make the necessary repairs, and could do so without having to dig up too much blacktop. The affected homeowner will be reimbursed for plumbing costs that resulted.

6. B. Water Financial Report

Total Unrestricted Water Funds Balance is \$991,779. Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Leyda to accept the financial report for October. Motion passed unanimously.

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

City of Franklin General Services Fee for October	\$ 18,166.67
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Water General Matters	\$ 250.00
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Uniontown Heights	\$ 160.00
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Allegheny Blvd. Water Line Project	\$ 580.00
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Miller Hill Easements	\$ 60.00
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Drought Contingency Plan	\$ 15.00
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Reno Water Crisis	\$ 20.00
The EADS Group for 2023 Engineering	\$ 1,852.44

Anthony Parks for September Meeting	\$ 50.00
The EADS Group for 15 th Street Pump Station	\$ 2,696.63
Mortimer’s Excavating for 15 th Street Pump Station	\$ 230,071.95
Water Fund Monthly Invoices for Approval	\$ 27,335.79
Totals:	\$ 281,258.48

Additional items to be reviewed:

- Pre-approved invoice and payroll reimbursements to General Fund
- Pre-approved payroll for 9/8/23 and 9/22/23
- 9/30/23 YTD draft budget including a detail of invoices paid and revenue received.

6. C. Request from Aqua Pennsylvania for Reno Connection

Scott Steffy, of Aqua Pennsylvania, was present to discuss entering into a Bulk Water Purchase Agreement with the Authority. He explained that the Pennsylvania Utility Commission appointed Aqua Pennsylvania as receiver to operate the Venango Water Company in Reno until the system is stabilized. One of the two springs that feeds the water system was shut down to prevent further contamination, but doing so resulted in lower water supply. To supplement, they have been hauling water from one of their facilities in Emlenton, which is not a feasible long-term solution. They would like to tap into one of two locations in Sugarcreek Borough to be able to pump roughly 36,000 gallons per day to the residents of Reno. One consideration is at the intersection of Front Street and Allegheny Boulevard, but with the low water pressure in that area, it would require a pumping station. The other area would be north on Front Street where the water pressure is considerably higher and would not require a pumping station.

Mr. Williams asked when Aqua Pennsylvania would begin installing the equipment needed to begin pumping the water. Mr. Steffy responded that they would like to begin as quickly as possible as the spring feeding the Venango Water Supply is running low.

Mr. Dunkle is concerned about the amount of water that is being requested to pump, as the Authority’s system is already pumping large amounts of water on a daily basis; he would like to check with the EADS Group engineers to make sure that the system can handle the extra workload. He also asked that, if a temporary well is installed and connected to Authority-owned waterlines, what measures will Aqua Pennsylvania take to prevent backflow contamination. Mr. Steffy responded that a check valve and a backflow preventer would be installed at the interconnection point.

Mr. Spaid advised that it will take at least a couple months to develop an agreement in line with other bulk water agreements and determine a price to charge Aqua Pennsylvania. He requested Mr. Steffy to provide an EDU number for the Authority prior to the October 26th Committee meeting.

Mrs. Jamieson asked whether Aqua Pennsylvania will cover any additional legal and engineering fees that may be borne by the General Authority. Mr. Steffy couldn't answer that question but will get back to the Authority.

7. Sewer

7.A. Operations/Project Reports

1. Staff

Mr. Brown

The main PC for SCADA is down. Summit advised that a new PC will need to be purchased as the parts for the current one are no longer available. The estimated cost is \$2,755, plus @ \$1,000/day to program it. Summit estimates up to three (3) days. The expenditure was authorized by a consensus of the board.

There is a digester valve that needs repaired/replaced, but the sludge cannot be pumped down to an accessible level to make the repairs. Mr. Kalp will provide a quote from CWM, the firm that did it the last time.

Mr. Moore

Nothing to report, other than still not report on the sewer jet's delivery date.

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.

A-108 Phase I Sewer Replacement & CSO Elimination Project

Mr. Fritz reported that he received comments from the Venango County Conservation District regarding the permits that were submitted in August; he is working with them to address their concerns. The other permits are planned to be submitted in November. He submitted revised drawings to the Franklin Alliance Church for their parking lot at 12th and Otter Streets.

7.B. Sewer Financial Report

Total Unrestricted Sewer Funds Balance of (\$89,995).

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Williams to accept the sewer financial report for October. 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 October	\$ 18,166.67
Summit for Process timers and replace blower controller battery	\$ 1,805.00
Summit for Micromod troubleshooting	\$ 4,462.35
Dale Woodard Gent McFate for Sewer General Matters	\$ 250.00
The EADS Group for 2023 Engineering	\$ 3,901.50
Anthony Parks for September meeting	\$ 50.00
The EADS Group for Flow Monitoring 5 CSO Sites	\$ 700.00
The EADS Group for A-108 Planning S03-21	\$ 21,746.85
Sewer Fund Monthly Invoices for Approval	\$ 212,782.27
Totals:	\$ 263,864.64

Additional items to be reviewed:

Pre-approved invoice and payroll reimbursements to General Fund

Pre-approved payroll for 9/8/23 and 9/22/23

9/30/23 YTD draft budget including a detail of invoices paid and revenue received.

8. Reports

A. Chair's Report:

Mr. Dunkle is still working on the Emergency Water Distribution Plan.

B. City Manager's Report:

Mrs. Jamieson presented the proposed 2024 meeting dates, which remain the second Tuesday of the month at 6 P.M., and the committee meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month at 10 A.M. with the exception of November when they are held on the third Thursday and no meetings held in December.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. O'Polka to approve the 2024 General Authority meeting dates. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Public Utilities Director's Report:

Mr. McFadden reported that the Case Backhoe was sent to the Groff Tractor shop. He hopes it can be back into performance within the next few weeks.

The Kenworth truck build date is still scheduled for mid-November. He is working with Alan Starcher to get a price lock to avoid any further price increases.

The Ford 550 is scheduled to be delivered by Thanksgiving and will be silver colored.

D. Mapping Update:

Mr. Gorman has been working to activate the Rave Alert System. He will be working with the public on Wednesday and Friday this week to assist with signing up to receive alerts. He will also be working with various members of departments to put out alerts.

E. Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Spaid had nothing to report.

9. Executive Session

No need for Executive Session

Meetings

The next committee meeting is October 26, 2023 at 10:00 A.M.

The next regular meeting is November 14, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall.

10. Adjournment:

Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. Eckel to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 P.M.
Motion passed unanimously.



Minutes prepared by T.J. Parks