

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

January 9, 2024

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
Clint Hoffman, Water Network
Kyle Fritz, The EADS Group
Josh Kalp, The EADS Group
Michael Gorman, Tech Resources Coordinator
James Wetzel, 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
Donna Fletcher, 827 Elk Street

Mr. Spaid administers Oaths of Office to Mr. Dunkle and Mr. Leyda.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Spaid requested to add item 8(A)(2)(c) "Approval of CSO Flow Monitoring by EADS Group."

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

4. Nominations and Election of Officers

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Ellis to nominate Mr. Dunkle to serve as Chairperson. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Ellis to close the nominations for Chairperson. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Ellis to nominate Mr. Eckel to serve as Vice Chairperson. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. Williams to close the nominations for Vice Chairperson. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Ellis to nominate Mr. O'Polka to serve as Treasurer. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Leyda to close the nominations for Treasurer. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. Freni to nominate Mr. Williams to serve as Secretary. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. Eckel to closed the nominations for Secretary. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Leyda and seconded by Mr. Eckel to nominate Mr. Ellis to serve as Assistant Secretary. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Ellis to close nominations for Assistant Secretary. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Approval of Minutes

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

6. Citizens' Inquiries – None

7. Water

6.A. Operations/Project Reports

1. Staff Updates

Mr. Hines

- Bearings appear to be going bad on the pump at the 9th Street plant. Mr. Hines will get pricing for new bearings.
- Well extensions for Wells 2 and 13 are completed and will be painted in spring.

Mr. Hoffman

- Crews have been digging curb boxes and noticed some leak detection in the process.
- Received quotes to replace waterlines at the following locations:
 - Bell Avenue to be done in conjunction with Sugarcreek Borough's mill and pave project – \$24,377
 - Woodland Avenue – \$47,700
 - Wintergreen Avenue, from Moreland Avenue to 15th Street, which includes installing a fire hydrant at 15th Street – \$35,500
 - Pin Oak Drive, from Moreland Drive to Edgewood Drive – \$36,282

2. 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. The Growing Greener grant application was not approved. There has been no correspondence with DEP to date on this matter.

15th Street Pump Station

Mr. Fritz reported that the pump station has been installed and the electrical work is complete. He explained that a bill from Penelec in the amount of \$5,514.37 to replace the existing bank for upgraded service is in the Water Fund bills for approval. Once that is paid, Penelec will provide electrical services and the SCADA system can begin being set up.

Miller Hill Waterline

Mr. Fritz reported that Mortimer's completed all remaining punchlist items and submitted Payment Application No. 9 in the amount of \$15,000.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Leyda to approve Payment Application No. 9 in the amount of \$15,000 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Fritz also presented Change Order No. 6 for approval. He explained the purpose of the change order is to account for the quantity of materials actually installed, which reduces the contract amount by \$120,007, and to revise the substantial completion date to August 18, 2023.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Williams to approve Change Order No. 6 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

7. B. Water Financial Report

Total Unrestricted Water Funds Balance is \$460,841. Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Freni to accept the financial report for January. Motion passed unanimously.

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

City of Franklin General Services Fee for January	\$ 18,166.67
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Water General Matters	\$ 467.50
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Inclined Conveyor Damage Claim	\$ 60.00

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Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Water Agreement (Aqua Pennsylvania)	\$ 520.00
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Bankruptcy – Creditor (Rite Aid Corporation)	\$ 80.00
The EADS Group for 2023 Engineering	\$ 948.40
Anthony Parks for December Meeting	\$ 50.00
Svetz Energy Services for Electric Power Procurement Services for 2024	\$ 2,563.75
The EADS Group for 15 th Street Pump Station	\$ 2,330.60
Penelec for 15 th Street Pump Station – replacing existing bank	\$ 5,514.37
Mortimer’s Excavating for 15 th Street Pump Station	\$ 15,000.00
The EADS Group for GACF Allegheny Blvd. Water Line	\$ 1,520.26
Water Fund Monthly Invoices for Approval	\$ 41,384.66
Totals:	\$ 88,606.21

Additional items to be reviewed:

- Pre-approved invoice and payroll reimbursements to General Fund
- Pre-approved payroll for 12/1/23, 12/15/23 and 12/29/23
- 12/31/23 YTD draft budget including a detail of invoices paid and revenue received.

8. Sewer

7.A. Operations/Project Reports

1. Staff

Mr. Brown

- Still waiting for the expansion tank for the boiler
- Waiting for the rebuilt pump

- Due to the recent heavy rains, the two (2) new storm pumps are working to their fullest potential, as are the other two (2)

Mr. Moore

- Still waiting for a phone call regarding the sewer jet

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 4,200 gallons per month of industrial waste into the Franklin 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.

The Chapter 94 report due on January 31st.

The Authority was awarded an H2O Grant in the amount of \$585,000 for an emergency generator. Matching funds of \$292,500 will have to be submitted when the grant agreement is received.

A-108 Phase I Sewer Replacement & CSO Elimination Project

Mr. Fritz reported that the revisions to the design drawings required to obtain E&S, GP and NPDES were submitted and approved. The Part II permits are ready to be submitted but he is waiting until after the PENNVEST consultation on January 25th. He added that Railroad Permits are ready to be submitted, but cost \$1,000 for each of the two (2) railroad crossings.

Motion by Mr. O'Polka and seconded by Mr. Eckel to approve the \$1,000 permit fee for each railroad crossing permit.

After the railroad permits are approved, Mr. Fritz advised that there will be additional fees associated with construction occurring at the railroad crossings. These costs will be worked into the construction contract which will become part of the funding application.

Mr. Fritz reminded everyone of the PENNVEST consultation at 9 A.M. on January 25, 2024.

Mr. Fritz provided the current cost estimates for the project. There is expected to be 55,400 linear feet of sewer lines, 37,400 of which will be open cut and the remaining

18,000 will be trenchless. The preliminary construction estimate is \$17,000,000. He suggests requesting \$21,000,000 in the PENNVEST application.

The semi-annual report for A-108 and 15th Street NOV is complete and ready to submit.

Uniontown Heights Municipal Authority received a grant to make improvements to their sewer system.

Mr. Fritz asked if the Authority wants to keep the CSO Monitoring Agreement the same for 2024 as it was in 2023 with no additional scope of work and no price increase.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. O'Polka to maintain the same terms and costs outlined in the CSO Monitoring Agreement between the Authority and The EADS Group for the 2024 contract year. The motion passed unanimously.

7.B. Sewer Financial Report

Total Unrestricted Sewer Funds Balance of (\$47,534).

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

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

City of Franklin General Services Fee for January	\$ 18,166.67
Dale Woodard Gent McFate for Sewer General Matters	\$ 307.50
The EADS Group for 2023 Engineering	\$ 4,560.00
Anthony Parks for December meeting	\$ 50.00
The EADS Group for Flow Monitoring 5 CSO Sites	\$ 3,875.00
Svetz Energy Services for Electric Power Procurement Services	\$ 2,563.75
The EADS Group for A-108 Planning S03-21	\$ 23,877.52
General Authority Water capital for 15 th Street Pump Station Project Reimbursement	\$ 32,051.22
Sewer Fund Monthly Invoices for Approval	\$ 22,512.74

Totals:	\$ 107,964.40
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Additional items to be reviewed:

Pre-approved invoice and payroll reimbursements to General Fund

Pre-approved payroll for 12/1/23, 12/15/23 and 12/29/23

12/31/23 YTD draft budget including a detail of invoices paid and revenue received.

9. Reports

A. Chair's Report:

- Received "Thank You" car for Mr. Stoltenberg's flowers and for attending his celebration of life. The plaque that was discussed at the December meeting has been installed on the fire hydrant.
- Received an email from Mr. Gibbons regarding cyber security. Reeves Information Technology feels that the cyber security on all City systems is adequate and does not foresee a need to be concerned. Mr. Hines said he will check on the current emergency response procedures.
- Announced a Cyber Security Symposium being offered at Emergency Management Institute. Registration is free but does not include meals. Runs March 24-28. Registration is due February 1st.

B. City Manager's Report:

- Now that Miller Park is closed out, the City owes the Authority roughly \$140,000 for its share of the project cost.
- Construction of the cell tower next to the Bully Hill water tank will begin soon.
- Received notice that the 2024 membership dues to the Pennsylvania Municipal League are due and are \$2,700. The Authority has been a member in the past. Will look into what perks are associated with being a member before deciding to renew.
- Possible interest in the old sewer jet, but the sale of it will have to be put out for bid regardless. Mr. Wetzel will check with staff to see if any of the other departments have a use for the chassis before submitting it for public auction.
- Beginning to assess the fee schedule
- Requested time in Executive Session

C. Public Utilities Director's Report:

- Chassis for the 2024 Kenworth T480 truck will be brought to the 3rd Street garage for review before it is installed on the body of the truck.
- F550 dump truck should be delivered in May
- DEP informative session tomorrow in Meadville regarding PFAS training

D. Mapping Update:

- Continuing to update mapping
- Preparing the Consumer Confidence Report for the public

E. Solicitor's Report:

- Requested time in Executive Session for the purposes of potential litigation and negotiations

10. Executive Session


The Authority entered into Executive Session at 7:10 P.M, which ended at 7:35 P.M.

Meetings

The next committee meeting is January 25, 2024 at 10:00 A.M.
The next regular meeting is February 13, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall.

11. Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 P.M.



Minutes prepared by T.J. Parks