

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

October 8, 2024

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 P.M.

2. Roll Call

Members in Attendance:

John Eckel  
Fred Leyda  
Timothy Dunkle  
Chad Ellis  
Jody Freni

Excused:

Caleb Williams  
Peter O'Polka

Others in Attendance:

Kurt McFadden, City of Franklin  
Devin Hines, Water Treatment Plant  
Clint Hoffman, Water Network  
Harmony Motter, City of Franklin  
Kyle Fritz, The EADS Group  
Josh Kalp, The EADS Group  
James Wetzal, City of Franklin  
Nathan Bell, Water Treatment Plant  
Brian Spaid, Dale Woodard Gent McFate  
T.J. Parks, Recording Secretary  
Helen Fielding, The Derrick  
Donna Fletcher, 827 Elk Street  
Michael Gorman, Tech Resources Assistant

3. Adoption of Agenda

Mr. Spaid requested to add “Appoint Conflict Council” to the agenda following Executive Session.

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

4. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Freni to approve the minutes of September 10, 2024 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Citizens’ Inquiries – None

6. Water

6.A. Operations/Project Reports

1. Staff Updates

**Mr. Hines**

- Fencing at the 9<sup>th</sup> Street Plant is expected to be completed at the end of this week
- Working with EADS on the Barretts Flats pump and 9<sup>th</sup> Street check valve
- Received email from EADS regarding the lead and copper line inventory to be submitted to DEP. After reviewing, Mr. Hines did not see any discrepancies with what had been submitted.

**Mr. Hoffman**

- Expected to finish the line replacement work a 1 Dale Avenue by the end of next week and continue tying in neighboring water lines through the remainder of fall.
- Presented Mr. Spaid with a list of addresses on Maple Street that will be required to move their services from the back of their property (Duke Street) to the front of their property (Maple Street).

2. EADS Group

**Front Street Waterline and Allegheny Boulevard Waterline**

Since the Highway Occupancy Permit was received in August, Mr. Kalp proposed advertising for bids on November 12, 2024 and asked the Authority to approve the

advertising of bids for both the Allegheny Boulevard and Front Street waterline projects. Bid opening would be December 18, 2024.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Ellis to approve publishing the advertisement for bids on November 12, 2024 for the Allegheny Boulevard Waterline Project. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Ellis to approve publishing the advertisement for bids on November 12, 2024 for the Front Street Waterline Project. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Dam Removal**

Nothing new to report.

### **Barretts Flats Water Treatment Plant**

Mr. Kalp informed that survey and base mapping are set to be completed mid-August, followed by permit submission by April 2025. Assuming all goes according to plan, the PENNVEST application will be submitted by August, 2026. Cost of additional demolition work is being investigated.

### **Miller Hill Pump**

Mr. Kalp reported that the final quote for a new pump, VFD, meter, and installation is \$72,876.37.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Freni to accept the labor and materials in the amount of \$72,876.37 as presented, thereby nullifying a prior motion made on September 10, 2024 for the same project. The motion passed unanimously.

### **DEP Public Water Supply Permit Amendment**

Mr. Kalp explained that this includes the additional bulk water loading stations, Fire Department, five (5) hydrants and the Miller Hill pump station at Barrett Flats, which had been originally intended to be submitted as an emergency permit.

### **DEP Notice of Violation**

Mr. Kalp stated that the remaining outstanding item is the check valve installation. He is working on getting quotes and is checking in with LB Water, who will be supplying the valve, to make sure that it is NSF/ANSI 61 approved for drinking water use.

**Reno Water System**

Nothing new to report.

**Approval of Engineering Proposal – Washington Crossing Control Valve Vault**

Mr. Kalp will announce a date for a design kick-off meeting once it is established.

**Wendy Way Tank Grant Application**

The EADS Group will present a cost estimate for repairs needed on the Wendy Way Tank at the November meeting. He expects the total project cost to be roughly \$1.4 million.

*6. B. Water Financial Report*

Total Unrestricted Water Funds Balance is \$927,152. 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. Freni 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	\$ 587.50
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for DEP Violations and Enforcement	\$ 25.00
The EADS Group for 2024 Engineering	\$ 3,414.11
The EADS Group for GAC Franklin – Development Evaluation	\$ 925.48
Anthony Parks for September Meeting	\$ 50.00
The EADS Group for Legacy Lead Waterline Elimination Project	\$ 20,541.75
Franklin Concrete Products for Dale Avenue	\$ 271.00
LB Water for Dale Avenue	\$ 245.10

Water Fund Monthly Invoices for Approval	\$ 29,337.80
Totals:	\$ 73,564.41

Additional items to be reviewed:

- Pre-approved invoice and payroll reimbursements to General Fund
- Pre-approved payroll for 9/06/24, and 9/20/24
- 9/30/24 YTD draft budget including a detail of invoices paid and revenue received.

7. Sewer

8.A. Operations/Project Reports

1. Staff

**Mr. Bell**

- Cleaned and inspected the affluent contact tank with no issues. Planning to clean the storm contact tank next week.
- Mark from Summit will be preparing a quote for repairs to the SCADA system caused by a power surge and is working on becoming a COSTARS vendor

**Mr. Moore**

- Cleaning sewer lines and clearing brush where needed

2. EADS Group

**WWTP**

Mr. Kalp is waiting for more information from RAS and WAS pump manufacturers on pump recommendations.

Mr. Kalp is waiting for a quote for the cost of labor for the main gate, bar chain and Jeffery chain from Whalen Contracting.

Mr. Kalp presented the final payment request from CWM Environmental in the amount of \$129,625 for the cleaning of Digester 2 and waste disposal.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Freni to accept Payment Application No. 3 – Final from CWM Environmental in the amount of \$129,625 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Kalp announced that the electrical plans for Wastewater Treatment Plant Emergency Generator are currently under review by the electrical engineer.

**A-108 Phase I Sewer Replacement & CSO Elimination Project**

Mr. Fritz reported on the bids that were received for the project. The low bidder was Bison Construction Inc. in the amount of \$9,414,808 for Contract 2023-S-1. The low bidder for Contract 2023-S-2 was Mortimer’s Construction and Excavation in the amount of \$10,513,895.

Mr. Fritz went on to say that the bids came in approximately \$320,000 over the amount of available PENNVEST funds. After speaking with PENNVEST, one option would be to apply for a loan at 1% interest for thirty (30) years. PENNVEST advised to issue bid awards, but not issue a Notice to Proceed at this time until further discussion can be had to make up for the shortfall.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Ellis to accept the bid by Bison Construction Inc. in the amount of \$9,414,808 for Contract 2023-S-1 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Ellis to accept the bid by Mortimer’s Construction and Excavation in the amount of \$10,513,895 for Contract 2023-S-2 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

A second PENNVEST conference call is scheduled for October 15, 2024 at 10 A.M. at the Professional Building. Contract closing is scheduled for February 3, 2025 at 2 P.M.

**Approve Clark Hill Engagement Letter**

Mr. Wetzel presented an agreement to be executed between Clark Hill Law Firm and the General Authority, not to exceed \$45,000 to include their services for administering PENNVEST loans.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Freni to approve the agreement with Clark Hill Law Firm to administer the PENNVEST loan closing for Contract 2023-S-1 and Contract 2023-S-2, not to exceed \$45,000, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

**7.B. Sewer Financial Report**

Total Unrestricted Sewer Funds Balance of \$(559,935).

Motion by Mr. Freni and seconded by Mr. Eckel to accept the sewer financial report for September. 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 October	\$ 18,166.67
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General Authority Minutes  
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CWM Environmental, LLC for Anaerobic Digester Sludge Removal and Dewatering	\$ 129,625.00
Dale Woodard Gent McFate for Sewer General Matters	\$ 487.50
Dale Woodard Gent McFate for A-108 Project	\$ 2,159.00
The EADS Group for 2024 Engineering	\$ 2,701.50
The EADS Group GAC Franklin-Development Evaluation	\$ 925.48
Anthony Parks for September Meeting	\$ 50.00
The EADS Group for CSO Flow Monitoring	\$ 3,875.00
The EADS Group for WWTP Improvements Project	\$ 2,344.75
The EADS Group for WWTP RAS & WAS Pump Replacement	\$ 1,520.00
The EADS Group for WWTP Emergency Generator	\$ 12,974.44
The EADS Group for A-108 Planning S03-21	\$ 39,631.53
Sewer Fund Monthly Invoices for Approval	\$ 25,546.73
Totals:	\$ 240,007.60

Additional items to be reviewed:

Pre-approved invoice and payroll reimbursements to General Fund

Pre-approved payroll for 9/6/24 & 9/20/24

9/30/24 YTD draft budget including a detail of invoices paid and revenue received.

8. Reports

A. Chair's Report:

Mr. Dunkle received numerous, but minor, comments from DEP regarding the draft of the Source Water Protection Plan. The main issue was a change made to the well numbering system listed in the plan that was not approved by DEP. Mr. Dunkle will change them back to their issued numbers.

Mr. Dunkle stated that he did not receive a doodle poll for a date and time to discuss next year's budget. Mr. Wetzel said an email was sent out and suggested October 21, 2024 at 9 A.M. at the Professional Building. The Authority collectively agreed on this date and time.

B. City Manager's Report

- Mr. Wetzel prepared a letter to FEMA regarding the notice of violation for equipment stored inside the impound fence, which is located within the flood plain.
- Sugarcreek Borough offered to sell their boom mower to either the City or the Authority for \$15,000. If the Authority agrees, the cost would be split three (3) ways among the City, the Water account and the Sewer account. Mr. Moore said it would be put to good use.
  - Motion by Mr. Eckel motioned and Mr. Ellis seconded to put forth \$10,000 towards the purchase of the boom mower as presented. The motion passed unanimously.
- Provided that there are no objections, the General Authority Committee meeting will be held at the FICDA training room on October 24, 2024 at 10 A.M. as Suite 204 of the Professional Building is occupied that day.
- The Authority collectively agreed to maintain the second Tuesday of each month at 6 P.M. as their designated time to meet.
- Requested time in Executive Session for matters of negotiations

C. Public Utilities Director's Report:

Sugarcreek Borough rented a vehicle to the Authority to dig out a ditch line which made the waterline replacement at 1 Dale Avenue a breeze.

D. Mapping Update:

Mapping out new waterlines at 1 Dale Avenue.

E. Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Spaid presented a resolution to be executed to start the Eminent Domain proceedings for property owners who have not responded to requests for Easement Agreements for the A-108 project.

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Motion by Mr. Freni and seconded by Mr. Eckel to adopt the resolution to Authorize the Authority's solicitor to take any and all action necessary to file a Declaration of Taking and pursue completion of Eminent Domain proceedings on behalf of the Authority, and to grant the Chairman, the Secretary and the Solicitor to execute any documents to proceed. The motion passed unanimously.

Requested time in Executive Session.

9. Executive Session

The Authority entered into Executive Session at 7:06 P.M. Executive Session ended at 7:38 P.M. with no additional action.

Motion by Mr. Freni and seconded by Mr. Ellis to contract with Bruce Getsinger, Esq., as conflict counsel, at \$250 per hour, if needed, for the Carlex property condemnation as it pertains to the A-108 project. The motion passed unanimously.

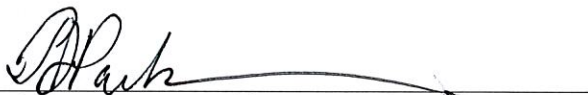
Meetings

The next committee meeting is October 24, 2024 at 10:00 A.M.

The next regular meeting is November 12, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. at 150 Prospect Avenue.

10. Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:41 P.M.

  
Minutes prepared by T.J. Parks