

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

September 10, 2024

1. Call to Order

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

2. Roll Call

Members in Attendance:

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

Excused: Jody Freni

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 Wetzel, City of Franklin
Nathan Bell, Water Treatment Plant
Brian Spaid, Dale Woodard Gent McFate
Alex Spaid, Dale Woodard Gent McFate
T.J. Parks, Recording Secretary
Helen Fielding, The Derrick
Donna Fletcher, 827 Elk Street
Bob Spagnol and Molly Stahlman, 1409 Elk Street

3. Adoption of Agenda

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

4. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. O'Polka to approve the minutes of August 13, 2024 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

5. Citizens' Inquiries –

Molly Stahlman, new owner of the former armory building at 1280 Franklin Avenue, expressed concerns about the plans for the A-108 project and how the plans, as presently drafted, will hinder the ability to add onto the building or add a parking area. The plans call for installation of pipe within the already limited area of buildable land on the property. She explained that she has been in contact with Mr. Fritz of The EADS Group and they are working together to discuss a possibly comparable solution. Mr. Dunkle stated that the plans have been years in the making, but will see if there can be a compromise.

6. Water

6.A. Operations/Project Reports

1. Staff Updates

Mr. Hines

- Reported on a small leak at the 15th Street booster station. It has been fixed.
- Pump at Barrett Flats blew up, which is not allowing water to be pumped to Miller Hill. Mr. Kalp interjected to discuss various options and recommended purchasing a vertical turbine pump and new variable frequency drive for roughly \$50,000.
 - Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. Eckel to approve the purchase of a vertical turbine pump and new variable frequency drive to replace the existing Miller Hill pump for approximately \$50,000. The motion passed unanimously.
- Corrected valve leaks on Front Street
- Working on addressing items in the DEP inspection checklist

Mr. Hoffman

- Started the waterline replacement work at Dale Avenue
- Working with Sugarcreek Borough to coordinate waterline replacement and street paving. Mr. Hoffman shared potential costs to be considered in the 2025 budget.

2. *EADS Group*

Front Street Waterline and Allegheny Boulevard Waterline

Mr. Kalp reported that the Highway Occupancy Permit was received on August 22. The project will be ready to be advertised for bids by November 12 and open bids on December 18. After a phone conference with PENNVEST in January of 2025 and a PENNVEST settlement call in March, 2025, construction is expected to start in April, 2025.

Dam Removal

Mr. Kalp advised that USG began cleaning the drain on August 26-28, but ran into an obstruction 270 feet into the line. Mr. Moore will contact a local excavator to see if there is equipment that can reach out to the middle of the dam.

Reno Water System

Mr. Kalp is assisting the solicitor as needed.

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. A PENNVEST consultation meeting will be held on September 26, 2024 at 8:30 A.M.

15th Street Pump Station

Mr. Fritz reported that a leak was detected due to loose bolts at a fitting; Terra Works replaced a gasket which will hopefully correct the problem.

Approval of Engineering Proposal – Washington Crossing Control Valve Vault

Mr. Kalp presented a proposal for engineering services to complete the design engineering services for the construction of a concrete vault and appurtenances along the existing 10” water distribution main on the northeast side of Washington Crossing. The cost for basic services is \$30,000 and includes designing the project, preparation of bid documents and completing the bid activities, and complete construction administration

activities. Additional services include base mapping, erosion and sediment control, and preparation of DEP Public Water Supply Permit for an additional \$20,000.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Leyda to enter into the Engineering Services Proposal, including the additional services, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

DEP Notice of Violation Response

Following a DEP inspection, it was noted that the Authority needs to address following items:

- Bulk Water Loading permit
- Pressure check valve is leaking excess polyphosphates. Requires a drawing on how to fix the problem

The EADS Group will prepare the required permit and the drawing for \$3,000.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Ellis to approve The EADS Group to prepare the Bulk Water Loading Station permit and the drawing to remediate the pressure check valve in the amount of \$3,000. The motion passed unanimously.

6. B. Water Financial Report

Total Unrestricted Water Funds Balance is \$927,152. Motion by Mr. O’Polka and seconded by Mr. Ellis to accept the financial report for September. Motion passed unanimously.

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

City of Franklin General Services Fee for September	\$ 18,166.67
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Water General Matters	\$ 52.50
The EADS Group for 15 th Street Pump Station Permit	\$ 2,375.00
Anthony Parks for August Meeting	\$ 50.00
USG for Franklin Reservoir Outlet Cleaning	\$ 34,890.00
The EADS Group for Allegheny Blvd. Water Line	\$ 900.00

LB Water for Dale Avenue	\$ 16,921.80
Water Fund Monthly Invoices for Approval	\$ 41,851.85
Totals:	\$ 150,207.82

Additional items to be reviewed:

Pre-approved invoice and payroll reimbursements to General Fund

Pre-approved payroll for 8/09/24, and 8/23/24

8/31/24 YTD draft budget including a detail of invoices paid and revenue received.

7. Sewer

8.A. Operations/Project Reports

1. Staff

Mr. Bell

- Digester project going well and should be finished by next week. In-house grouting work to be completed.
- Power failure caused SCADA controller to fail, leaving only one (1) working. Storm controller sensor wiring is damaged. Cost to repair is \$3,177.

Mr. Moore

Nothing further to report.

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 from Whalen Contracting.

Survey for the placement of the Wastewater Treatment Plant's emergency generator occurred in July and was followed by a design kick-off meeting on July 24th. The project is anticipated to be bid out in January 2025. As soon as the sludge removal project is complete, he can begin inventorying loads for dewatering building before design can begin.

A-108 Phase I Sewer Replacement & CSO Elimination Project

Mr. Fritz reminded the authority of the following offer from PENNVEST:

- Construction costs: \$16,715,542 in grant funds and \$3,194,458 loan at 1% interest for 20 years.
- Professional fees: \$2,090,000 loan at 1% interest for 20 years
- Monthly payments of \$24,303, assuming all contingencies are used

Request for bids were advertised on August 26 and September 2. A prebid meeting is scheduled for September 25 at 11 A.M. with the bid opening to be held on October 8 at 11 A.M. at The EADS Group’s office location in Johnstown, PA. Construction is expected to start in March, 2025. October 11th is the final date for property owners to execute easement agreements; otherwise Eminent Domain proceedings will begin.

7.B. Sewer Financial Report

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

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

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

City of Franklin General Services Fee for September	\$ 18,166.67
Dale Woodard Gent McFate for Sewer General Matters	\$ 137.50
Dale Woodard Gent McFate for A-108 Project	\$ 412.50
Dale Woodard Gent McFate for Non-Disclosure Agreement & Hydrogen Gas Grant	\$ 25.00
The EADS Group for UHMA Tributary Basins and Davy Gas meeting	\$ 2,911.73
The EADS Group for CSO Flow Monitoring	\$ 3,875.00
Anthony Parks for August Meeting	\$ 50.00
The EADS Group for WWTP Improvements Project S02-24A	\$ 2,720.00

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The EADS Group for WWTP Emergency Generator	\$ 2,527.35
The EADS Group for A-108 Planning S03-21	\$ 17,545.44
Sewer Fund Monthly Invoices for Approval	\$ 25,766.84
Totals:	\$ 74,138.30

Additional items to be reviewed:

Pre-approved invoice and payroll reimbursements to General Fund

Pre-approved payroll for 8/9/24 & 8/23/24

8/31/24 YTD draft budget including a detail of invoices paid and revenue received.

8. Reports

A. Chair's Report:

Mr. Dunkle reminded of the Surface Water Protection Plan review meeting on Monday, September 16, 2024 at 10 A.M. at 150 Prospect Avenue.

B. City Manager's Report

- Mr. Hines reported that Moreland Drive tank needs addressed as soon as possible, as do other tanks. He will obtain pricing for the 2025 budget.
- FEMA noted a violation at the impound yard on Elk Street. The Authority will be required to put together a corrective action plan to address the violation.
- Offered budget workshops
- Requested time in Executive Session for matters of negotiations

C. Public Utilities Director's Report:

Lead and copper pipe inventory submission due in October.

D. Mapping Update:

None

E. Solicitor's Report:

Requested time in Executive Session for matters of negotiations and potential litigation.

9. Executive Session

The Authority entered into Executive Session at 7:27 P.M. Executive Session ended at 8:09 P.M. with no additional action.

Meetings

The next committee meeting is September 26, 2024 at 10:00 A.M.

The next regular meeting is October 8, 2024 at 6:00 P.M. at 150 Prospect Avenue.

10. Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:12 P.M.



Minutes prepared by T.J. Parks