

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

February 14, 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
Jody Freni

Absent:

None

Others in Attendance:

James M. Greenfield, Authority Solicitor
Jim Wetzel, Fire Chief
Kurt McFadden, City of Franklin
Scott Stoltenburg, Water Network
Devin Hines, Water Treatment Plants
Michael Gorman, Tech Resources Coordinator
Joshua Kalp, The EADS Group
Tracy Jamieson, City of Franklin
Glenn Brown, Wastewater Treatment Plant
Mike Moore, Wastewater Network
Harmony Motter, City of Franklin
T.J. Parks, Recording Secretary
Helen Fielding, The Derrick
George Singh, The Quality Inn
Brian Spaid, Dale Woodard Gent McFate
Alex Spaid, Dale Woodard Gent McFate

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

In regard to the Election of Officers, Mr. Greenfield recommended that future minutes should reflect who made the motions and seconds to close the nominations and have the Secretary cast the unanimous ballot.

Motion by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Eckel to approve the minutes of January 10, 2023, as noted.

5. Citizens' Inquiries –

Mr. George Singh, owner and general manager of The Quality Inn, said that he had been erroneously double-billed for sewer services since June 23, 2015. He did not realize the mistake until this past January and has paid \$49,989.74 in overpayments since that time. Mr. Singh is requesting reimbursement for the overage amount, in addition to accumulated interest in an amount equal to the amount that would be assessed for late fees and inflationary adjustments for the value of the U.S. dollar since that time until the double billing stopped.

Mrs. Motter stated that she looked through the Quality Inn's records, starting in the second quarter of 2015, and could not find any evidence showing how the second sewer charge was added to the account.

Mr. Dunkle advised that written notice will be given to Mr. Singh within the next week to describe the Authority's action to rectify the overage payments.

6. Executive Session

Mr. Dunkle requested to enter into Executive Session at 6:07 P.M. The Executive Session ended at 6:33 P.M., at which time Mr. Dunkle entertained a motion to suggest an appropriate remedy to The Quality Inn's overage payments.

Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. O'Polka to reimburse Quality Inn in the overage payment amount of \$49,989.74, with no inclusion of interest, inflation or any other incidental costs. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Greenfield said he would draft a letter outlining the terms of the reimbursement payment to Mr. Singh.

7. Water

7.A. Operations/Project Reports

1. Staff

Mr. Hines reported that:

- The first VFD for Coefield Corners was ordered. He said to expect a 40-week lead time.
- Wells 3 and 4 at Barrett Flats have been rehabbed by Moody and are in good condition, resulting in a lower than anticipated cost.
- W.C. Weil will be in on Thursday to make sure all the facilities' valves are functioning properly.
- Softener tanks have been removed. Salt tanks remain.

Mr. Stoltenberg reported that there have been 4 or 5 mainline leaks and a sink hole was discovered on Elk Street and was fixed by Mortimer's Excavating.

7.1.a. In-House Water Line Replacement Discussion

Mr. Stoltenberg distributed quotes for waterline replacements on Polk and Cedar Streets and Evergreen Drive. Pricing is as follows:

- Evergreen Drive - \$36,202
- Polk Street - \$12,819
- Cedar Street - \$24,500

Mr. Dunkle noted that the work and associated material costs on Cedar Street would be done at the request of Sugar creek Borough and that Sugar creek Borough would be responsible for 100% paving costs and splitting the material costs. This work would be covered under a Memorandum of Understanding between both parties. Regarding Evergreen Drive, Mrs. Jamieson advised that funds used would have to come from the Line Maintenance line item, since this project was not in the capital budget for 2023. There was concern from Mr. Leyda that taking this amount of money out of Line Maintenance will not leave enough wiggle room for emergencies; however, Mr. McFadden assured that that was taken into consideration and feels this is doable. The Authority decided to postpone the work on Polk at this time.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Leyda to approve the work proposed for Evergreen Drive (320 LF of 12" PVC) as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Leyda to approve the supply and manhour costs for Cedar Street, in accordance with an agreement with Sugar creek Borough. The motion passed unanimously.

7.1.b. 3rd Street Building Drain Work Proposal

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Leyda to approve the quote from Shingledecker's Welding to include the stainless steel option for the total amount of \$10,781.60 in order to make necessary repairs to the floor drain at the 3rd Street Water Plant. The motion passed unanimously.

2. *EADS Group*

PennVest Legacy Waterline Project

Mr. Kalp reported that all the work outlined in Change Order 2, as described November's minutes, is expected to be complete by spring of 2023. As previously mentioned, Mortimer's was called in to fix a sink hole at 1034 Elk Street. Mr. Kalp stated that this is just a temporary fix; a permanent solution will be implemented this spring.

Front Street Waterline

Mr. Kalp stated that the final designs are complete and will hopefully be bid out soon, depending on funding and PennDOT's schedule. The current cost estimate for the project is \$1,450,000. Highway Occupancy and ES Permits have been approved.

Allegheny Boulevard Waterline

Mr. Kalp informed that the ES permit has been approved and that the Highway Occupancy Permit approval is to be issued upon PennDOT's completion of the trail project. EADS is still waiting on information from the sub consultant that is needed to complete the final design. In the meantime, work for easement acquisition continues to be ongoing. Bidding is dependent upon PennDOT's schedule. The current cost estimate for the project is \$1,500,000. Mrs. Jamieson interjected that the award announcement for the Local Shares Grant is expected in April.

15th Street Pump Station & Miller Hill Waterline

Mr. Fritz reported that Terra Works has completed the waterline work from the pump station up to Big Oak Drive. Terra Works submitted their second payment application in the amount of \$227,299.35. Motion by Mr. Freni and seconded by Mr. Ellis to approve Terra Works' Payment Application No. 2 in the amount of \$227,299.35. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Fritz said that Mortimers plans to start their portion of the work mid to late February but that is not definite. He then introduced Mortimer's Change Order 2 in the amount of \$98,335 to add 550 feet of 8-inch pipe, 3 manholes and 4 lateral connections to the sanitary sewer on Sibley Avenue, as the sewer lines were unforeseen, due to non-existent mapping.

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Freni to approve Mortimer’s Change Order No. 2, as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

7. B. Water Financial Report

Total Unrestricted Water Funds Balance is \$85,377. Motion by Mr. Freni and seconded by Mr. O’Polka to accept the financial report for January. 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 January	\$ 18,166.67
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Water General Matters	\$ 777.50
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Allegheny Boulevard Waterline Project	\$ 1,283.75
The EADS Group for 2022 Engineering	\$ 300.00
Anthony Parks for January meeting	\$ 50.00
PA DEP for Chapter 109-Safe Drinking Water Annual Fee	\$ 10,000.00
The EADS Group for 15 th Street Pump Station	\$ 3,097.69
The EADS Group for GACF Front St. Water Line	\$ 1,260.25
The EADS Group for GACF Allegheny Blvd. Water Line	\$ 19,006.09
Water Fund Monthly Invoices for Approval	\$ 42,572.40
Totals:	\$ 96,514.35

Additional items to be reviewed:

Pre-approved invoice and payroll reimbursements to General Fund
Pre-approved payroll for 1/13/23 and 1/27/23
1/31/23 YTD draft budget including a detail of invoices paid and revenue received.

8. Sewer

8.A. Operations/Project Reports

1. Staff

Mr. Brown informed that:

- SCADA is still at a standstill.
- There was a trailer that was stolen out of the “boneyard” around 2 P.M. this past Saturday afternoon. Mr. Gibbons was contacted to get a quote for surveillance cameras.
- Regarding the waterback, Mr. Kalp interjected that it will be shipped at the end of February. EADS will coordinate installation with Mr. Brown’s schedule as the weather gets warmer.

Mr. Moore reported on an issue with a sewer line on Erie Street that services four (4) houses. He explained that the pipe is clay tile, and that one of the tiles came loose and is wedged sideways where the sewer line crosses paths with an electric pole and a gas line. To complicate matters further, the manhole access is brick and could cave in if the crew tries to access the pipe that way. Mr. Moore doesn’t feel comfortable performing the maintenance in-house. Mr. Fritz offered to get in touch with a contractor the following day to assist.

1.a. Sewer Jet Purchase/Disposition Discussion

Mr. Moore presented a COSTARS quote from Bortek Industries Inc. for a new sewer jet. The quote includes a trade-in value of \$45,000 for the Authority’s 2011 Vaccon International.

Motion by Mr. Leyda and seconded by Mr. Eckel to purchase the Aquatech B10-1450 Combo Truck as described in the quote dated October 26, 2022 from Bortek Industries Inc. in the amount of \$570,212. The motion passed unanimously.

2. EADS Group

15th Street CSO Project Update

Mr. Kalp reported that the remaining warranty items are expected to be completed in the spring of 2023.

WWTP

Mr. Kalp stated that the shipment date for the influent pumps is scheduled for February 17, 2023 and they are scheduled to be installed in August when the flow levels are typically low. The water back will be installed by CS&E at a date that has not been scheduled yet.

A-108 Phase I Sewer Replacement & CSO Elimination Project

Mr. Fritz reported that the preliminary drawings are still being reviewed and preliminary permitting applications are scheduled to be submitted in spring of 2023 for funding to be received in 2024. The DEP permit will be submitted in the fall, along with the finalized drawings and specifications.

Misc. Sewer Items:

Mr. Fritz reported that the first month of CSO flow monitoring with EADS went well and presented the data to the Authority.

Mr. Fritz asked the Authority if they would like to obtain COSTARS prices for 2023 interceptor CCTV work. The Board agreed and indicated an amount not to exceed \$250,000.

2.a. Chapter 94 Report Proposal from EADS

Mr. Kalp noted that the proposal for the 2022 Chapter 94 Report and CSO supplement was in the Board's packets. Motion by Mr. Freni and seconded by Mr. Williams to approve The EADS Group's proposal, dated January 6, 2023, to conduct the Chapter 94 Report and CSO Supplemental Report, in the amount of \$3,300. The motion passed unanimously.

8.B. Sewer Financial Report

Total Unrestricted Sewer Funds Balance of \$33,296.00.

Motion by Mr. O'Polka and seconded by Mr. Freni to accept the sewer financial report. 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 January	\$ 18,166.67
Dale Woodard Gent McFate for Sewer General Matters	\$ 697.50
Dale Woodard Gent McFate for Rules, Regulations and Policies	\$ 1,080.00

Dale Woodard Gent McFate for Uniontown Heights	\$ 20.00
The EADS Group for 2022 Engineering	\$ 982.15
The EADS Group for DEP CAP Semi-Annual Report	\$ 658.20
Anthony Parks for January meeting	\$ 50.00
Drnach Environmental, Inc. Flow Monitoring 5 CSO sites – December services	\$ 4,030.00
The EADS Group for Flow Monitoring 5 CSO Sites – January Services	\$ 3,875.00
The EADS Group for A-108 Planning S03-21	\$ 13,478.25
Sewer Fund Monthly Invoices for Approval	\$ 7,283.86
Totals:	\$ 50,321.63

Additional items to be reviewed:

Pre-approved invoice and payroll reimbursements to General Fund

Pre-approved payroll for 1/13/23, 1/27/23

1/31/23 YTD draft budget including a detail of invoices paid and revenue received.

9. Reports

Chair's Report

Mr. Dunkle had nothing to report, but gave the floor to Mr. Eckel to provide updates on the waterline inventory committee.

Mr. Eckel reported that there is one more meeting for the committee on February 27. He feels that there should be standardized, minimal diameter for waterlines, dependent upon how many houses the line services. Following the final committee meeting, Mr. Eckel would like to set up a special meeting to discuss the what the committee has assessed.

City Manager's Report

Mrs. Jamieson reminded the members that, following the large water leak on Prospect Street in 2022, the street will need to be repaved. Sugarcreek Borough would like to add storm drains to the street and would be willing to split the cost with the Authority. The total cost is estimated to be \$39,468. No decision needs to be made at this meeting, but the project would need to be bid out.

Mrs. Jamieson reintroduced the issue of the rising cost of flood insurance for the 9th Street Water Plant. After speaking with the insurance agent, she found that raising the deductible amount from \$10,000 to \$25,000 will slightly lower the premium. Mr. Ellis feels that there is no need to insure the building since it is not in an area that is historically known to flood. He suggested, instead, to only insure the contents of the building.

Public Utilities Director's Report:

Mr. McFadden reported that the build date for the Kenworth truck has been pushed back once again. He is still waiting for next possible date.

He reported on an issue with a service bill for the Case backhoe, stating that the service is not covered under the warranty. The 2021 backhoe has had a number of issues relating to the bucket and pins. Groff Tractor has indicated that Case will not cover one of the service repair dates under warranty, but the issue seems to be that the original problem was not properly repaired when it was under warranty. Groff Tractor has asked that the Authority help to cover their labor costs on the invoice which totaled \$9,750. Mr. Greenfield has reviewed the warranty and it seems that the work should have been covered under the warranty.

Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. Eckel to reject the invoice for work that should have been covered under the warranty. The motion passed unanimously.

Utilities Coordinator's Report:

Mr. Gorman reported on inconsistencies with previous mapping of waterlines and is working on updating the maps in conjunction with the waterline inventory.

Solicitor's Report:

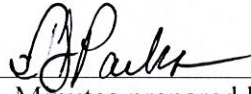
Mr. Greenfield completed the initial draft of the sewer rules. He is also working on service agreements for Uniontown Heights.

9. Meetings

The next committee meeting is February 23, 2023 at 10:00 A.M.
The next regular meeting is March 14, 2023 at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall.

10. Adjournment:

Motion by Mr. Eckel and seconded by Mr. Leyda to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 P.M. Motion passed unanimously.



Minutes prepared by T.J. Parks