

WEST GOSHEN SEWER AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
November 10, 2020
7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the West Goshen Sewer Authority was held on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 as a Video/Teleconference due to the COVID-19 Emergency Declaration that prevented an in-person Public Meeting. Those participating in the conference call were:

Authority

Theodore Murphy
Tina Smith
Walt Wills
Shaun Walsh

UTBF

Ross Unruh

Administration

Casey Lalonde
Dave Woodward
Mike Moffa

HRG

Cory Salmon

1. The regular meeting of the Authority was called to order at 7:02 PM by Chair, Ted Murphy.
2. Ted Murphy performed a roll call of the Sewer Authority, Township staff and professional services participants.
3. The Authority meeting minutes for the regular meeting of October 7, 2020 were motioned for approval by Tina Smith. Seconded by Walt Wills. Approved 4-0.
4. Ted Murphy announced:
 - a) Procedures for the video/teleconference were included in the agenda posted to the Township website. Public meetings via video/teleconference are permitted and preferred during a pandemic period where public health concerns make an in-person public meeting undesirable.
 - b) There was no Executive Session held this evening or during the prior month. This evening's meeting was rescheduled from November 4, 2020 due to technical difficulties connecting to the meeting.
 - c) Solicitor Ross Unruh has communicated that he is transitioning clients to other attorneys at his firm in preparation for his retirement.
 - d) Bond Counsel, Ben Reid, has departed from the firm Eckert Seamans and joined the Harrisburg firm of Mette, Evans & Woodside effective November 1, 2020.
 - e) The next regular meeting of the Authority is scheduled for December 2, 2020 at 7:00 pm.
 - f) A Special Session will be held on Nov. 19, 2020 at 7:00 pm to address the 10-year CIP. There were no other announcements.
5. Solicitor's Report dated November 4, 2020 was presented by Ross Unruh.
 - a) Ross advised that the developer's attorney for Woodlands at Greystone continues getting all the documents on sanitary sewer right of ways for conveyance to the Township fully executed by the property owners and the mortgage lenders. Ross believes these will be completed for Authority signature by the December meeting.
Ross also advised that the developer for Woodlands at Greystone has belatedly realized that the Authority had previously approved (April 1, 2020) a reduction in the financial security required of the developer. The Authority authorized Ross to provide a letter to the developer's bond agent acknowledging the Authority's approval of a reduction in the

amount of financial security. Ross will charge his time for this activity to the developers escrow account.

- b) Legal work is in-progress to support a new subdivision single family home development at 504 S. Concord Road (former Boy Scout property) which requires a new sewer Right of Way and extinguishment of the existing one.
 - c) Jerrehian 3-Lot subdivision on Pottstown Pike with connection to WCASD private system. No new information.
6. Wastewater Superintendent Report for the month of October, 2020 presented by Mike Moffa.
- a) The treatment plant operated in compliance with the NPDES permit for October. Treated 121 million gallons of wastewater. Average of 3.904 mgpd. Pressed for disposal approx. 280 tons of dewatered sludge. Average Total Phosphorous discharge concentration = 0.72 mg/L.
 - b) Mike advised that the installation of a new Automatic Transfer Switch (ATS) at the Taylor Run Pump Station had now been completed. The total installation cost was \$18,100, which was lower than originally quoted.
 - c) Mike described the revisions made to the draft 2021 Sewer Authority budget that were requested at the October meeting. Shaun Walsh asked if the anticipated Interest Earnings for both the Sewer Authority Fund and the Bond Construction fund were too optimistic given the expected interest rates on the accounts and declining fund balances during 2021. Walt Wills suggested the Bond Construction Fund Interest Earnings shown at \$13,830 was likely too high as the fund is anticipated to reduce to a zero balance by Q3 2021. It was agreed to reduce the 2021 Interest Earnings for the Bond Construction Fund to \$3,000. **ACTION: Mike Moffa.** The Authority intends to formally adopt the 2021 budget at the regular December meeting.

Casey Lalonde described the responses he had received to the letter sent to 7 property owners on S. Concord Road enquiring about a possible extension of the sewer main, which would require these properties to connect to the WGSA system with financial implications to the owners. There were 3 replies, one response was favorable, one unfavorable and one was mixed. The Authority members discussed the feedback and concluded there was not sufficient support by the majority of the property owners at this time to warrant further investigation. Shaun Walsh suggested sending Mr. Pileggi a letter stating the current lack of positive responses from his neighbors and suggesting he might consider gathering more support for the modified approach he had described with a shorter extension of the sewer main and a smaller number of properties connecting. The Authority concurred with this approach. **ACTION: Shaun Walsh/Mike Moffa**

7. The Treasurers Report dated November 4, 2020 was presented by Walt Wills (See report for details)
- a) Walt Wills motioned to approve as Requisition #506 from the Bond Construction Fund, Application for Payment No. 1 as submitted by MJK Electrical Contracting, Inc. in the amount of \$10,035.00 for Contract TD-2 (Trinity Drive Pump Station Improvements – Electrical Contract). Seconded by Tina Smith. Approved 4-0
 - b) Walt Wills motioned to approve as Requisition #507 from the Bond Construction Fund, Application for Payment No. 23 (FINAL) as submitted by Eastern Environmental Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$303,907.78 for Contract 17-3 (Anaerobic Digester Replacement Project - General Construction Contract). Seconded by Tina Smith. Approved 4-0

- c) Walt Wills motioned to approve as Requisition #508 from the Bond Construction Fund, Application for Payment No. 8 as submitted by Blooming Glen Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$166,900.35 for Contract 19-1 (WWTP Phase II Improvements - General Contract). Seconded by Shaun Walsh. Approved 4-0
 - d) Walt Wills motioned to approve as Requisition #509 from the Bond Construction Fund, Application for Payment No. 2 as submitted by PSI Pumping Solutions, Inc. in the amount of \$105,133.14 for Contract TD-1 (Trinity Drive Pump Station Improvements – General Contract). Seconded by Ted Murphy. Approved 4-0
 - e) Walt Wills motioned to approve for payment, as listed on the Treasurers Report, Requisitions #510 through #517 from the Bond Construction Fund in the total amount of \$60,493.25 and Tapping Fee Fund Requisitions #2018 to #2022 in the total amount of \$18,509.20 and Developer’s invoices (6) in the amount of \$2,539.60. Seconded by Shaun Walsh. Approved 4-0.
8. Engineers Report dated October 30, 2020 was presented by Cory Salmon from HRG (See report for details).

Walt Wills advised that Josh Fox had confirmed the cost for the Priority A Interceptor Rehabilitation Project was currently projected at \$1,277,217.17

Shaun Walsh motioned to Authorize HRG to issue the Notice of Intent to Award Contract WWTP-20-1 Aeration System Improvement Project General Construction Contract to Cuick Precision Solutions, Inc. in the amount of \$154,661.00 and, subject to solicitor review and approval of the agreements, bonds and insurances, to issue the Notice of Award and Notice to Proceed to Cuick Precision Solutions, Inc. Seconded by Tina Smith. Approved 4-0.

Shaun Walsh motioned to Authorize HRG to issue the Notice of Intent to Award Contract WWTP-20-2 Aeration System Improvement Project Electrical Contract to MJF Electrical Contractor, Inc. in the amount of \$64,500.00 and, subject to solicitor review and approval of the agreements, bonds and insurances, to issue the Notice of Award and Notice to Proceed to MJF Electrical Contractor, Inc. Seconded by Ted Murphy. Approved 4-0.

9. Developers Activity Report, dated October 30, 2020 presented by Cory Salmon (See report for details).
10. Ted Murphy introduced the topic of legal professional services for the Authority and offered Ross Unruh the opportunity to describe the staff resources at UTBF available to support the Authority as he scales back his own involvement. Ross advised that Ryan Jennings would be the solicitor supporting the Authority, described his background, and that in addition, UTBF continues to have the range of expertise that the Authority may need from time to time, e.g. litigation, etc. The Authority members discussed the situation and agreed that the Board had a responsibility to reassess the provision of legal services in these changing circumstances. It was decided to solicit, using an RFP approach, responses from several law firms in Chester County. Ted Murphy motioned to proceed with an RFP for legal services to the Authority. Seconded by Walt Wills. Approved 4-0
ACTION: Casey Lalonde to prepare the RFP, obtain Board member comments, and send to the prospective companies by 11/13. Responses to the RFP to be provided by Tuesday, December 1st.

11. Ted Murphy advised that Bond Counsel, Ben Reid, has departed from the firm Eckert Seamans and joined the Harrisburg firm of Mette, Evans & Woodside effective November 1st, 2020. Shaun Walsh motioned to continue with Ben Reid as Bond Counsel for the Authority and to authorize the transfer of West Goshen Sewer Authority files from his previous company to his new company; Mette, Evans & Woodside. Seconded by Ted Murphy. Approved 4-0
12. Shaun Walsh introduced the topic of opening a dialogue with the West Chester Borough Council and their Public Works department regarding the possibility of an inter-municipal agreement for the Authority to provide sewage treatment services to the Borough (or a portion thereof) at the West Goshen Treatment Plant. The exploratory discussion at the meeting concluded that much needed to be determined in order to understand the viability of such an inter-municipal agreement and the potential benefits to the overall West Chester area community. However, such an approach could offer an alternative to a possible privatization of the West Chester sewage system that the Borough Council is considering, with longer-term benefits to residents and businesses. It was agreed to pursue arranging a virtual meeting to brainstorm this option with appropriate representation. **ACTION: Shaun Walsh** to initiate a dialogue with the WCB Council President.
13. Any Other Business:
None

Tina Smith motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 PM, seconded by Walt Wills.
Approved 4-0

Respectfully submitted,

Shaun Walsh,
Secretary