

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP
WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY OF OCTOBER 14, 2015**

The October 14, 2015 meeting of the Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Authority was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by Chairman Bruce Knipe. Members in attendance included Frank Beck, John Rankin, Keith Weiss, and Melvin Wright. Staff members in attendance included Gary Weaver of Castle Valley Engineering, the Authority's Engineer; Jack D. Wuerstle, Esquire, the Authority Solicitor; and James Groff, the Authority Manager.

Following the formal Roll Call and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, the Chairman asked for action on the minutes from the September meeting. Mr. Weiss made a motion to approve the minutes; Mr. Rankin seconded. The motion carried 5-0. There was no public comment, confirmed appointments, or visitors.

Chairman Knipe then called upon the Authority Manager for the monthly Staff Report. As to the water system, Mr. Groff reported that Wells #1 and #2 experienced normal operations for the month with a combined pumping of 10 million gallons (or 62% of capacity allocated by the Delaware River Basin Commission). With regard to the water replacement project, all water meters in stock have now been installed, with further meter replacement to occur once additional meters are ordered. Mr. Groff also reported that it is time to change out the arsenic media for each well and that this should be completed within the next two (2) weeks.

As to the sewer system, Mr. Groff reported normal operations for the month at both treatment plants. The original 25 EDUs sought from PWTA have been secured; however, PWTA has yet to advise as to the second batch of 25 EDUs that were requested. As to the proposed accessory building at the Highland Park property, the E&S Permit application has now been approved. As to Berry Brow, the Authority successfully completed some algae removal at the plant.

In terms of capital projects, the temporary generator on the arsenic removal system for Well #5 has been installed. Demolition is to begin later in the week and the arsenic skid is expected within two (2) weeks. As to the Route 113 water extension, the main is completed in Route 113, with curb stops to be installed once the pipe is charged. Pipe installation is also completed along Forest Road and the contractor has begun work on the stream crossing.

With regard to the muffin monster installation, the contractor has been cooperating thus far and the repaired unit should arrive in the next three (3) weeks. The supplier has verified that the machine can and will be repaired in full and that the manufacturer's warranty will remain in place going forward.

At Well #3, E&S controls have been installed. Mr. Groff intends to meet with local representatives about potential funding options for the project, given reports of some groundwater issues in the general area. Staff will also be meeting with a hydro-geologist to discuss the potential presence of TCE nearby.

As to current projects, all homes have been connected at Ashland Meadows. At the Estates at Hilltown (Oskanian), 23 homes are now connected (water only) with three (3) homes currently under construction. The Preserves now has 18 homes connected to water and sewer; Hilltown Walk now has 36 homes connected.

With respect to Regency at Hilltown, water and sewer mains have been completed within the development. The pump station wet well will soon be installed and the sample home is almost complete. As to the Hallmark project at 914 Hilltown Pike, the internal water and sewer mains are installed.

Regarding proposed projects, the sewer route for Envision has been finalized and the Part 2 permit application has been submitted to PaDEP. As to the Hallmark development commonly known as the Bethel College Property, the Solicitor has been advised by developer's counsel that the newest version of the plan includes one additional home - thus bringing the total homes to eleven - and that the developer is requesting that the proposed fee-in-lieu of agreement be amended to include this additional unit. The Solicitor explained that the yet unsigned agreement forwarded to developer's counsel last month only allows for ten homes - no more. While the Board did not conceptually have a problem with one (1) additional home being added to the agreement, and a corresponding fee-in-lieu being paid by the developer for that one (1) additional home, the Board would like to see an approved plan from the developer before making any further commitments.

No Executive Session was needed. Thus, Chairman Knipe called upon Treasurer Beck for the monthly Treasurer's Report and review of monthly bills. Following Mr. Beck's presentation, Mr. Wright made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and payment of bills, which was seconded by Mr. Rankin. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote. There were no escrow releases for the month. There was no Old Business before the Board.

Under New Business, Mr. Groff reported that the Authority, as a gesture of good faith, will be paying the auto repair bill for the resident who struck a valve box on Green Street back in August. The bill was only about \$300.00 +/- . The developer, whose unfinished roadwork exposed the valve box, is refusing to reimburse this resident for these damages. Mr. Groff also reported that Hawkeye's Tavern, who is interested in tying into the Authority's sewer system, is still undecided about which route to take to the system. Finally, Mr. Groff discussed a proposed re-financing of one the Authority's debt obligations to take advantage of today's favorable rate conditions. A proposal letter from Univest Corporation (who currently finances the Authority's debt) has been reviewed by both Mr. Groff and Chairman Knipe. As the proposed financing terms appear both reasonable and acceptable, Mr. Beck made a

motion to pursue this re-financing. The motion was seconded by Mr. Wright and then carried 5-0.

With nothing further before the Board, Mr. Beck made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 P.M., which was second by Mr. Rankin. The motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Melvin Wright