

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP
WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY OF DECEMBER 13, 2023**

The December 13, 2023 meeting of the Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Authority was called to order at 7:36 PM by Chairman Frank Beck. Other Board members in attendance included Bruce Knipe, John Rankin and Keith Weiss. The Authority Manager, James C. Groff, along with staff members Gary Weaver of Castle Valley Engineering (Authority Engineer) and Jack D. Wuerstle, Esquire (Authority Solicitor), were also present.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Chairman Beck called for action on the minutes from the Authority's November meeting. Mr. Knipe made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Mr. Weiss seconded. The motion carried 4-0.

There was no Public Comment or Confirmed Appointments, therefore the Chairman called upon the Authority Manager for presentation of the Staff Report.

Mr. Groff reported normal operations of the water system for last month, with the wells combining to pump just over 9.3 million gallons (or 44% of the capacity allowed by the Delaware River Basin Commission).

Sewer system operations were normal as well last month. As to the potential EDU purchase, Mr. Groff advised that the Authority sent a letter to TBA rejecting their offer to sell EDUs for \$7,500.00 each, and recommending that, unless a sale can be made at or about \$5,500 per EDU, a re-rating of the plant would be in order.

With respect to capital projects, no further work on the new well site will take place until 2024. Meanwhile, the Route 313 Water/Sewer Project is complete and Living Hope Community Church has executed the repayment agreement for its contribution to the project.

As to current development projects, the formal punch list has been completed for Regency and the developer is looking to advance to the 18-month maintenance period, subject to the execution of an appropriate substitution agreement. Mr. Weiss made a motion to proceed accordingly; Mr. Knipe seconded. The motion carried 4-0. Otherwise, Hilltown Glen remains in the 18-month maintenance period (expires September 2024), a new water meter has been installed for Buccafuri, and nothing further has transpired on Lohin. Lastly, the 18-month maintenance period is about to begin on the Johnson Tract, with the cash security on-hand being reduced to the required 15% amount. Thus, Mr. Weiss made a motion to begin the 18-month maintenance period; Mr. Rankin seconded. The motion carried 4-0.

Regarding proposed projects, there has been no further progress on either the Sensinger subdivision or the Weidner Tract, the latter having provided an extension of the plan review period through May 2024.

An executive session then followed to discuss potential litigation.

The Chairman next called for the monthly Treasurer's Report and review of bills. Following discussion, Mr. Knipe made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report and payment of bills; Mr. Rankin seconded. The motion carried 4-0.

There were no escrows releases or old business.

With respect to new business, the Manager discussed the budget and answered questions regarding the same. The budget appears to be ready for approval in January with no rate increases. In addition, Mr. Groff discussed the painting of the contact tank at Well #1 and the roofing project at Well #5.

With no additional business before the Board, Mr. Knipe made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 P.M., seconded by Mr. Weiss. The motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,


