

**isMINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP
WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY OF AUGUST 14, 2024**

The August 14, 2024 meeting of the Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Authority was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chairman Bruce Knipe. Other Board members in attendance included Melvin Wright, John Rankin, Keith Weiss and Frank Beck. The Authority Manager, James C. Groff, along with staff members Gary Weaver and Jack D. Wuerstle, Esquire (Authority Solicitor), were also present.

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

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 12.3 million gallons (or 59% of the capacity allowed by the Delaware River Basin Commission). Fire hydrant painting continues with 119 of the 355 hydrants now painted.

Sewer system operations were normal last month as well. Of particular significance, the PWTA Charter extension has been approved by the State.

In terms of capital projects, the damaged manhole on Route 113 has been scheduled for repair, and parts have been ordered.

With respect to current development projects, the Regency 18-month maintenance period expires December 2025, the maintenance period on the Johnson Tract expires June 2025, and the maintenance period on Hilltown Glen expires next month - September 2024. A pre-construction meeting on Lohin was held, and the process should now be moving forward.

As to proposed projects, the developer of the Weidner Tract submitted an alternative plan depicting a cul-de-sac, and that plan was opted for by the Township last month. However, for topographical reasons, both water and sewer service to the site may prove challenging. Consequently, the Board directed the Manager to explore the possibility of inter-municipal agreement to service the site. Otherwise, the construction agreement for the Burger King is near finalized. Land development agreements for the three (3) properties along Diamond Street connecting to the adjacent gravity line are all signed and recorded. The Pileggi Estate, owner of the property on Route 313 just south of the Wawa, wants to connect to public water and sewer. A capacity reservation agreement has been sent to counsel to the Schreiner tract for consideration (by-right plan). Finally, Quiet Acres (also a "by-right" plan at this point) has signed a capacity reservation agreement for 29 lots.

There was no executive session.

The Chairman next called for the monthly Treasurer's Report and review of bills. Following discussion, Mr. Weiss made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report and payment of bills; Mr. Rankin seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

There were no escrows releases or old business.

As to new business, Mr. Groff asked for approval to purchase a new truck through Co-Stars, thereby replacing an existing truck with 140,000 plus miles. The new truck is a Ford and the cost is approximately \$57,000.00. Mr. Beck made a motion to approve the purchase; Mr. Rankin seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Groff then spoke about a grant application to assist in the purchase of a carbon filter at Well #1. New regulatory requirements necessitate the eventual purchase of the filter, which could ultimately cost between \$1M-\$2M. Mr. Rankin made a motion authorizing the Manager to pursue the grant; Mr. Wright seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

Finally, Mr. Groff asked the Board for authorization to explore security upgrades to the Authority office, including a security door to the staff area, along with security/bulletproof glass at the payment window. Mr. Rankin made a motion to said effect; Mr. Wright seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

With no additional business before the Board, Mr. Weiss made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 P.M., seconded by Mr. Beck. The motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,


