Minutes: 6/23/2021

Attending Were: R. Stone, D. Hogeman, S. Stefanowicz, B. Newbould (Authority Members), C. Jordan (Plant Superintendent), C. Billet (Asst. Superintendent), C. Miller (Solicitor), D. Shirk (Engineer), M. Fleming (Public Works Director), L. Oswalt (Twp. Manager), and B. Funkhouser (Buchart Horn).

R. Stone called the authority meeting to order for June 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes: S. Stefanowicz made a motion to approve the May 2021 meeting minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by B. Newbould and unanimously approved.

Financial Report: PFM provided a summary report on funding for new projects to the Authority through D. Hogeman, who presented and discussed the funding. PFM provided scenarios for raising between $5M to $7M in new funds while also refinancing the 2015 Sewer Bonds. The refinancing would save roughly $45,000 on repayments for the 2015 Sewer Bonds. The new funding would likely be in conjunction with a new funding by the Township, being in the 1st or 2nd quarter of 2022 (assuming the amounts stay below the $10M threshold for bank qualified (interest free) bond issuance). The $5-$7M raised is based on rough estimates for projects in the next 2-3 years. The next step will be D. Hogeman working with Buchart Horn to better determine the project costs to know more precisely the amounts needed, which will take place over the next few months. Thereafter, Jaime from PFM would come to the meeting to discuss more certain plans and next steps.

Engineer’s Report: D. Shirk provided an Engineer's Report for late May through early June which is filed with these minutes and incorporated herein by reference.

D. Shirk provided an update on the status of the requisitions. The following requisitions were submitted by Buchart Horn for payment:

- DT-Joint 60 in the amount of $4,142.50 to Buchart Horn for engineering fees for the Joint Interceptor Project (this is the 242nd draw on the 2016 bond fund).
- DT-NOB 42 in the amount of $858.00 to Buchart Horn for engineering fees for the North of the Borough Project (this is the 243rd draw on the 2016 bond fund).
- DT-General-Joint 16 in the amount of $57,648.23 to Anrich, Inc. for general contracting fees for the Joint Interceptor Project (this is the 2nd draw on the 2019 bond fund).

D. Shirk reported on stormwater management issues for the pumping station in the NOB project, which BH hopes to address with BPM tactics. D. Shirk further provided that the plans for the project be posted for 30 day public comment per request/requirement by DEP. Accordingly, the plans will be posted on July 1st at the Township office. Thereafter, the Part II permit will be submitted as soon as the plans are accepted. D. Shirk also raised the issue of grinder pumps and connections to the new sewer line for the NOB project. All of the connections to the new sewer line will be gravity fed, except for 3 residential and 1 commercial. The single commercial (Jim & Nena’s Pizzeria) will also require a pump due to basement level bathrooms. The Authority recommended the Township inquire with the Borough about this property’s service remaining with the Borough. Regarding the 3 residential properties requiring a grinder
pump, the discussion turned to a recommendation (which isn’t immediately needed) on what, if any, costs the Township should incur with such connections and installation. The potential costs include connection installation (i.e. excavation and installation of the piping connection), grinder pump installation (cost of purchasing and placing the grinder pumps), and upgrading electrical service (if the current electrical supply cannot handle the additional amps needed for the grinder pump). The Authority discussed the different avenues, and agreed to revisit at a subsequent meeting after doing additional research on how similar situations were handled in the past. L. Oswalt also commented that the Township would likely be paying the costs of those properties that were mandated to connect to the Borough sewer line, since it will be another mandate in the near future. The Authority also discussed the interplay between gravity fed connection fees/costs of property owners against what all could/should be done for connection fees of grinder pumps.

D. Shirk reported on the status of the Headworks job, stating is has been completed and they only have a few punch list items remaining. The hoist has been repaired and has been operational for 2.5 weeks to date. The project will be closed out once the remaining punch list items are complete.

D. Shirk reported that the work on the Joint Inceptor project continued, with Anrich, as the general contractor, focusing on site work and paving work. It is anticipated that such work will be completed in July (or at least started), but a paving sub-contractor has not yet been identified. D. Shirk also reported on an additional change order for the remaining costs related to the Hilton Avenue alignment issue. A CO was provided to BH on Monday prior to the meeting, but was procedurally rejected due to deficiencies in the documentation. D. Shirk broadly reviewed the CO in order to keep the Authority updated on the status.

**Treasurer’s Report:** D. Hogeman’s treasurer’s report and financial summary for June are filed with these minutes and incorporated herein by reference. D. Hogeman reported on nearing a resolution with the Township regarding the return of the discrepancy $507 drawn from the wrong account. D. Hoegman also reported that the PFM arbitrage review of the 2021 bond had been concluded with no liability for the Authority.

**Plant Operator’s Report:** C. Jordan discussed the May-June operator’s report, which are filed with these minutes and incorporated herein by reference. C. Jordan reported the plant did not have any violations in the reporting period, and that it was a dry month. The monthly average flow was 3.32 MG/day, with a peak flow of roughly 4.83 MG/day. C. Jordan reported that the WWTP caught up with its biosolids. He also reported that they were working on getting the oxidation ditches cleaned out (pursuant to a cleaning schedule) now that the Headworks project was complete. The previous cost estimate (which could have changed) was roughly $160,000 for one ditch. However, the cleaning work now will be substantially reduced, so the WWTP is looking at possibly getting two of the ditches cleaned at once for the same price as one ditch.

**Collections Superintendent Report:** The Sewer Superintendent’s report was provided for June and is incorporated herein by reference. No additional report provided.

**Public Works Report:** M. Fleming reported on conversations the Twp. has had with the Cathcarts regarding obtaining an easement, and some of the concerns they voiced. At this point, they are going to continue discussions to see if they can come to an arrangement regarding the easement. Some of the concerns included tree removal and removal/replacement of boundary screening.

**Solicitor Report:** No report.
Public Comment: L. Oswalt reported that a meeting with Manchester and West Manchester regarding a new flow study for allocation of costs. Each was asked to provide flow data for their system (the portion that goes to the WWTP). The Township is still waiting on some of the flow data.

New Business: None.

Old Business: None.

Adjournment.

R. Stone adjourned the regular meeting at 6:35 P.M.

Next Meeting Date:
7/28/2021 at 6:00PM

Respectfully submitted,
C. Miller, Acting Secretary