

TOWNSHIP OF FALLS AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

February 27, 2019

The regular monthly meeting of the Township of Falls Authority Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, February 27, 2019, in the Board Room at 557 Lincoln Highway, Fairless Hills, PA, at 7:00 P.M.

Salute to the Flag

Roll Call – Anthony Rosso, Chairperson absent, James Goodwin, Vice Chairperson was present, Brian Binney, Secretary and William Beier, Treasurer were present. Thomas Miles, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer was absent. Randy Flager, Authority Solicitor was present, Vanessa Nedrick, Authority Engineer, present, Timothy Hartman, Executive Director, John Ryba, Operations Manager were present, Megan O’Neill, Business Manager and Tammy McAnulty, Recording Secretary, were present.

Solicitor’s Report on the Executive Session – Mr. Flager reported that Executive Session consisted of legal and potential litigation matters as well as administrative and professional services.

Approve Meeting Minutes for January 23, 2019 Meeting – Mr. Beier made a motion to approve January 23, 2019 meeting minutes. Mr. Binney seconded the motion.

Poll of the Board:

Mr. Binney Yes

Mr. Beier Yes

Mr. Goodwin Yes

Motion Carried 3-0

Public Comment – Mr. Broadnix from 712 Beaumont Road was in attendance. He voiced his dislike for the way TOFA handles past due bills by mailing certified letters. He feels email would serve better than taking on the cost of a certified letter to a bill that someone is already struggling to pay. Mr. Binney stated that certified letters are the way the Authority handles these notices so we can receive something stating the customer received the late notice. Mr. Broadnix also expressed his embarrassment for receiving a shut-off notice on his door. Mr. Binney also stated that this is how the Authority handles the past due accounts prior to shutting the water off. Mr. Binney also stated that payment plans can be set-up with the office prior to receiving the final notice. Mr. Binney explained that if he only receives one check a month he can set-up to make some type of payment monthly so it is easier than paying the quarterly bill.

Solicitor's Report – Mr. Flager stated that Bucks County Water and Sewer has their court date next week and he is hopeful that this will give the clarification that is needed.

Mr. Flager also stated that another meeting will be held in the next couple of weeks with Neptune and Rio regarding the meter issue.

Mr. Flager noted that he received a letter from Mr. Butler from BCWSA that DEP has approved the Neshaminy Interceptor Connection Management plan and that BCWSA will be releasing the connections that have been held up.

Engineer's Report –

2018 I/I – Ms. Nedrick is requesting payment for Payment Certificate #3 in the amount of \$14,523.60.

Mr. Beier made a motion to pay Payment Certificate #3 in the amount of \$14,523.60. Mr. Binney seconded the motion.

Poll of the Board:

Mr. Binney	Yes
Mr. Beier	Yes
Mr. Goodwin	Yes

Motion Carried 3-0

Tyburn Road Pump Station Bypass – Ms. Nedrick stated that the bid package is ready and is waiting on TOFA staff to approve.

Fallsington Interconnection - Ms. Nedrick stated that the bid package is ready and is waiting on TOFA staff to approve.

Modeling of Water System – Ms. Nedrick stated that she is working with the Operations Manager to collect data to create the model. She is hoping to have the final report to the Board for the March meeting.

Nottingham I/I Project – Ms. Nedrick stated that the specs are ready and the bid opening will be advertised and held March 26th at 10:30am.

New Falls Interconnection Generator – Ms. Nedrick is requesting final payment for Payment Certificate #5 in the amount of \$2,228.00.

Mr. Beier made a motion to pay the final Payment Certificate #5 in the amount of \$2,228.00. Mr. Binney seconded the motion.

Poll of the Board:

Mr. Binney	Yes
Mr. Beier	Yes
Mr. Goodwin	Yes

Motion Carried 3-0

Executive Director's Report – Mr. Hartman reported to the Board on the status of the TOFA office building center space renovations. He told the Board:

- TOFA staff had completed the fire rated wallboard installation and will be filling the gaps between the walls and ceiling with fire retardant, foam,
- The heating duct outlets have been raised to the appropriate height,
- Work has begun on the installation of fume sensors and the control Panel,
- Work has begun on the mechanical components of exhaust system,
- The sprinkler alteration (raising the height) permit application has been submitted to the Fire Marshal.

New Sport Utility Vehicle - Mr. Hartman reported that the Authority had taken delivery of the new Chevrolet Tahoe for use by the Operations Manager and that the Operations Manager's 2017 GMC Sierra pickup had been placed into field service.

In response to a question, Mr. Ryba explained that the reason the vehicle is black in color is because it was in stock and that ordering a white vehicle would have caused a significant delay.

Geographic Information System (GIS) Mapping Technology - Mr. Hartman informed the Board that he had been contacted by Falls Township Manager Peter Gray with the news that the Township Board of Supervisors had approved

the purchase of GIS software and that TOFA would be offered the opportunity to avail itself of it. Mr. Hartman said that staff is excited to begin mapping TOFA's assets and building on that foundation.

Website Design - Mr. Hartman put before the Board a \$16,200 (base price) website design proposal developed by the Oxford Communications firm with substantial staff input and recommended Board approval. Mr. Beier motioned to approve the recommendation. There being no second, the matter was tabled until the March meeting.

Training Cooperation - Mr. Hartman reported to the Board that TOFA was offered and accepted a trench safety training opportunity from Upper Southampton Water and Sewer Authority. He added that TOFA, working through the Pennsylvania Rural Water Association and Exeter Supply, is offering Inflow and Infiltration Detection, Correction and Prevention training on April 23 at the Falls Township building that is be open to other municipalities.

Other Matters - Mr. Binney asked Mr. Hartman the status of Verizon's interest in placing a cellular antenna on the Austin water storage tank. Mr. Hartman responded that he had involved TOFA's water tank maintenance contractor, Sothern Corrosion, in assessing the viability of placing another antenna on that tank and that Verizon and Southern Corrosion had been corresponding. He committed to learning the status of Verizon's intention and reporting back to the Board.

Mr. Binney questioned the \$1,500.00 for a headlight for a newer truck. Mr. Ryba stated that it happened last May on Lower Morrisville Road during the water main replacement project. He said a tree limb cracked it and unfortunately

the whole light casing needed to be replaced. Mr. Goodwin noted that we should be getting more than one estimate before getting the work done, and not with just this but with everything.

Mr. Binney also asked if we can get some of the old escrows cleaned up. Ms. Nedrick said she would work with Ms. O’neill and get the escrows cleaned up.

Bills for Payment – Mr. Beier made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$832,934.99. Mr. Binney seconded the motion.

Poll of the Board:

Mr. Binney	Yes
Mr. Beier	Yes
Mr. Goodwin	Yes

Motion Carried 3-0

Mr. Beier asked if the TOFA field staff have orange jackets and pants for flagging. Mr. Ryba stated that they do have safety vests but he could look into ordering pants. Mr. Ryba will discuss during their next safety meeting.

Mr. Ryba noted that Nottingham’s 4” portable pump is back in service. He said the flow has been more manageable this month. He stated that the TOFA field staff met with the pump manufacturer to make sure everything was operating properly. He said it was recommended to upgrade the pump at the station. Mr. Goodwin asked if the lines could handle it and Mr. Ryba said it

would. Mr. Ryba believes that once the relining is done it should help correct some of the issues. Ms. Nedrick stated that with the relining of 4000 linear feet we should see a reduction.

Mr. Ryba noted that Penn Village flow meter has been installed and running.

Board Comment –

Mr. Beier – Mr. Beier thanked everyone and said he is happy to hear that the center space is getting done and a lot is being done in-house. Mr. Beier stated that he has been on the Board for 5 years and we have come a long way.

Mr. Binney – Mr. Binney asked Mr. Hartman if we have heard anything about Verizon on Austin Tank. Mr. Hartman stated he will reach out to Southern Corrosion and follow-up. (see Executive Director's Report)

Mr. Goodwin – Mr. Goodwin thanked everyone for the support to him and his family during this difficult time.

Adjournment – Mr. Goodwin made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. The Board was unanimously in favor.