

TOWNSHIP OF FALLS AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
July 26, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of the Township of Falls Authority Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, July 26, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

Salute to the Flag

Roll Call – James Goodwin, Chairperson, Brian Binney, Vice Chairperson, William Beier, Treasurer and Thomas Miles, Secretary were present. John Haney, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer was absent. Michael Levin, Authority Solicitor was via teleconference. James Bulicki, Authority Engineer, was present. Vanessa Nedrick, Authority Engineer was absent. Timothy Hartman, Executive Director, John Ryba, Operations Manager, Megan Parmer, Business Manager and Tammy McAnulty, Recording Secretary, were present.

Solicitor's Report on the Executive Session – Mr. Levin reported that the Executive Session consisted of discussions regarding operational and business matters.

Approve Meeting Minutes for June 28, 2023 Meeting – Mr. Beier made a motion to approve the minutes for June 28, 2023. Mr. Miles seconded the motion.

Poll of the Board:

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

Motion Carried 4-0

Public Comment – No comment.

Solicitor's Report – Mr. Levin reported that the Aqua/Lower Makefield agreement has been sent back to counsel in its revised form. Mr. Levin is expecting to have the agreement back in the next couple of weeks.

Engineer's Report –

Mr. Bulicki asked the Board if they would like to downscale the renovations of the Vactor bay to help bring down the cost. He noted that KPN's quote does include the bay area as well as the locker room expansion. Mr. Binney asked how much of a difference it would make to exclude the locker room. Mr. Bulicki stated he is unsure but can look into it. Mr. Binney stated that at this point it doesn't make sense to remove it and pay the cost to have RVE re-do it. Mr. Binney feels at this point we just need to protect the Vactor truck.

Mr. Beier made a motion to approve KPN to do the work in the amount of \$250,000.00. Mr. Binney seconded the motion.

Poll of the Board:

Mr. Miles	Yes
Mr. Beier	Yes
Mr. Binney	Yes
Mr. Goodwin	No

Motion Carried 3-1

Mr. Bulicki reported that Local Share Grants are being accepted until November. He noted that he intends to submit for I/I and the lining project.

Mr. Bulicki stated that he will also be looking at the Local Share Grant for AMI system to replace meters and receive meter information. Mr. Binney noted that we have already spent \$80,000.00 this year on meters. Mr. Ryba explained that a majority of the meter costs this year were to take advantage of register discounts associated with non-functional register turn-ins before price increases diminish the turn-in value. Mr. Hartman reported that there will be another meeting with Utility Services on August 8th. He stated that possibly he could have them do a 15-minute presentation at the upcoming meeting. Mr. Goodwin requested that Mr. Hartman look into how Lower Bucks County Joint Municipal Authority and Bucks County Water and Sewer Authority do their program.

Executive Director's Report -

2024 Insurance Plan Renewals

Health Plan - Mr. Hartman explained that staff needed to provide clarifying information to the Board on out-of-pocket expenses and the premium increase for the recommended Personal Choice PPO Platinum Preferred Plan so that the Board could consider approving it at the August 23 Board meeting. Mr. Hartman noted that health plans were also solicited from the Delaware Valley Trusts but that they were not competitive with those presented by Vaughn Insurance Managers and its new partner the Weiss-Schantz Agency.

Dental Plan - Mr. Hartman advised the Board that the premiums for the renewal of the current MetLife dental plan will not be known until sometime in September for the policy year beginning January 1, 2024. He added that other plans could be vetted during the open enrollment period later this year.

Property and Liability Policy - Mr. Hartman advised the Board that staff has provided all of the information requested by the Delaware Valley Trusts for it to provide the Authority with a Property and Liability Policy Proposal to compare with the expected Vaughn/Weiss-Schantz recommendation. He added that the

Property and Liability Policy expiration is December 28, 2023.

Return-to-Work Policy – Mr. Hartman reported to the Board he and Mr. Ryba had met with the union representatives Chris Diesenbruch and Christina Chang last week to begin discussions on developing a Return-to-Work Policy per the requirements of Article 20 of the new Collective Bargaining Agreement. He added that since then the Authority and the union have exchanged examples of other organizations' Return-to-Work policies (including the Delaware Valley Trust's Sample Temporary Transitional Duty Program) and that he has consulted Authority Labor Counsel Keith Bidlingmaier on the assignment. Mr. Hartman said he expected future meetings to be convened before a Draft Return-to-Work Policy would be in shape to present to the Safety Committee and the Board for review and comment.

Executive Search Firms – Mr. Hartman reported to the Board that he had received two proposals from firms desiring to conduct the search for the Authority's next Executive Director and had forwarded them to the Board members for their review. He added that he expects to receive one or two more proposals which he will also forward to the Board. He added that if it were the Board's desire a selection could be made at the August 23 Board meeting. It was the sense of the Board that it could meet sooner than August 23 to select an executive search firm.

Trailer-Generator Disposition – Mr. Hartman reported that the winner of the GovDeals auction for the Authority's Trailer-Generator arrived at the Authority's offices last week to take possession. He added the Trailer-Generator was removed from the premises by the buyer following transfer of title. Mr. Hartman noted that payment was made to GovDeals the day the auction closed and will be forwarded to the Authority now that the transaction is complete.

2024 Field Truck – Mr. Hartman requested permission to obtain a quote for a new field truck for 2024 given the delivery schedule for these is still an

issue according to the COSTARS supplier. It was the sense of the Board that staff should obtain quotes for both 1500 and 2500 power level pickup trucks.

Delaware Valley Trusts Grant – Mr. Hartman reported the receipt of a \$500.00 safety grant from the Delaware Valley Trusts as partial reimbursement for additional exterior field truck lighting to enhance vehicle visibility.

Triton (Lining Contractor) Multi-year Engagement – In response to Mr. Hartman's inquiry on the status of the multi-year Triton engagement agreement, Mr. Levin responded he expected to produce a draft agreement for review shortly.

Operation Manager's Report –

Mr. Ryba reported that the THM results for NovaCare came back high. He stated that he will monitor them to make sure they are within the MCL limit. He noted that in his opinion it was weather, and heat related.

Mr. Ryba reported that the annual flushing has been completed and there were about 10 hydrants that will either need to be replaced or repaired, which should be done over the next few weeks.

Mr. Ryba stated that they will be starting to do the sewer preventative maintenance. He reported that they will start with the old sewer lines that have had issues.

Mr. Ryba stated that he met with Jason from RAFA and went over the installation of SCADA for the water side. He noted that the equipment has been ordered and should be here mid-August and should be installed by September.

Mr. Ryba stated that he has reached out to the Supervisors regarding taking the Vactor truck to the Touch-a-Truck event. He is working on getting

everything set-up for the Authority to participate.

Mr. Goodwin asked how the summer help is making out. Mr. Ryba stated their has been beneficial to station appearance and that they will be finished their assignments in the next week.

Business Manager's Report -

Ms. Parmer reported that Cycle 2 bills went out today. She added Cycle 3 past dues went out and Cycle 1 bills are due on August 1.

Ms. Parmer stated that there are no customers who are turned off for non-payment.

Ms. Parmer reported that the office is receiving a lot of customers looking for the township. Mr. Goodwin stated that she should make a sign for the door directing people to the new location. Mr. Goodwin also noted to make sure and follow-up with the Township regarding the increase in trash and recycling.

Review of the Bill List -

Mr. Miles asked about the Peruzzi bills that stated the vehicles were in for recall work but why were there charges. Mr. Ryba stated that while the vehicles were in the shop the inspections/oil changes were done.

Mr. Binney asked if there has been any increase in the electric charges now with the Township here. Ms. Parmer will look into this and report back for the next meeting.

Bills for Payment - Mr. Beier made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$1,237,235.21. Mr. Binney seconded the motion.

Poll of the Board:

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

Motion Carried 4-0

Board Comment

Mr. Miles – Mr. Miles reminded Mr. Ryba to have the field staff stay hydrated.

Mr. Beier – Mr. Beier thanked everyone for their efforts. Mr. Beier also stated that he is all for being a good neighbor however we need to keep our building looking good and not an eye sore.

Mr. Binney – Mr. Binney agreed with Mr. Beier as far as the building not looking like an eye sore. He noted that there should not be any of the Township's vehicles parked on the sidewalk. He feels that they need to respect our property. Mr. Goodwin stated that the overflow vehicles need to be parked on the side of the building.

Mr. Goodwin – No comment.

Adjournment – Mr. Goodwin suggested a motion be made to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. He noted that the next meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 23, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. The Board was unanimously in favor.