

SPRING-BENNER-WALKER JOINT AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

May 13, 2019

ATTENDANCE:

AUTHORITY MEMBERS:

Spring	Joseph Galbraith Gregg Heny Chris McMurtrie Dondi Smeltzer
Benner	Dan Hoffman Timothy Miller
Walker	Dennis McDowell Joseph Swanderski

GUESTS: Gene Stocker

CONSULTING ENGINEER: Andy Johnson, P.E.

CONSULTING SOLICITOR: Robert Mix, Esq.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: N. Warren Miller

EMPLOYEES: Kelly Gill & Tasha Dutton

CALL TO ORDER:

The May 13, 2019, Regular Meeting of the Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Dennis McDowell, Chairman. Mr. McDowell thanked everyone for attending and stated that the meeting would be recorded for transcription purposes.

ROLL CALL:

Dondi Smeltzer, Secretary, took Roll Call, recording eight members present. Mr. Book was excused from the meeting. Mr. McDowell, Chairman, noted that with a quorum present, the Spring-Benner-Walker Joint Authority was permitted to conduct business under the laws of Pennsylvania.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mr. McDowell, Chairman, led the Board members, Employees and Guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

Mr. McDowell asked the Board if there were any questions and/or changes to the April 22, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. **Mr. Galbraith moved, seconded by Mr. McMurtrie to approve the Minutes of the April 22, 2019 Regular Meeting as presented.** 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. **The motion carried.**

CORRESPONDENCE:

Penn Terra Engineering, Inc. - We received an email from Tony Fruchtl of Penn Terra Engineering requesting a letter of intent to provide sewer service of 26 EDUs for the Steeplechase Phase 7 Final Subdivision located within Spring Township. Mr. Fruchtl was provided with a letter of intent for the 26 EDUs for the Steeplechase Phase 7 Subdivision on May 7, 2019.

Christine Kondash – We received a letter from Christine Kondash of 1436 Majestic View Road, State College addressed to the Benner Township Supervisors questioning the necessity of public sewer being extended to Walnut Grove Estates. Mr. McDowell questioned where Ms. Kondash received the information regarding her sewer rentals fees because the letter indicates her sewer service fees would be a minimum of \$1,200.00 per year, which is not correct. It was noted that there were many discrepancies in the letter and with information being provided to the residents regarding this project, outside of this Authority.

Gene Stocker – Benner Township forwarded an email they received from Gene Stocker regarding the extension of public sewer to the Walnut Grove area. Mr. Stocker indicated a majority of Walnut Grove residents did not want this development to be served by public sewer.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENTS:

Approval of Requisitions:

Revenue Fund Requisition 2012-146– Mr. Heny presented the Board with Revenue Requisition #2012-146 in the amount of \$660,244.62. Mr. McDowell asked if there were any questions regarding the presentation of Revenue Fund Requisition 2012-146. Mr. Swanderski asked how much additional money we can expect to pay to Bellefonte Borough for these Capital Improvements. Mrs. Gill stated she ran some numbers after receiving the last payment applications and with what is remaining on the electrical and general/mechanical contracts, she stated a little over \$400,000.00 for our

portion remains. There are currently a few change orders that the amounts haven't been finalized; therefore, Bellefonte was not able to provide Mrs. Gill with the additional costs associated with these change orders. Mr. Swanderski asked if the treatment plant upgrades were completed. Mr. W. Miller spoke with Mr. Cook and he had indicated substantial completion should be within the next few weeks. Mr. Galbraith asked why we rented a trailer from Best Line Equipment. Mr. W. Miller stated the trailer was used when moving the rented skid steer during the clearing of our right-of-ways. Mr. Galbraith indicated he thought we had a trailer and that is why he asked this question. Mr. Heny asked how much DEF exhaust fluid the Authority goes through and if we are able to purchase this item through Co-Stars. Mr. W. Miller stated that the maintenance department uses several gallons of DEF exhaust fluid a month and he is unsure of where he can make this purchase under Co-Stars. In the past our maintenance staff would fill a 55 gallon drum with DEF at a local truck stop; however, it ended up being more expensive due to the time involved with making the purchase. **Mr. Hoffman moved, seconded by Mr. Swanderski to approve Revenue Requisition 2012-146 payable to SBWJA in the amount of \$660,244.62. 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. The motion carried.**

GUESTS:

Gene Stocker/Shiloh Road Project – Gene Stocker took a moment to thank Mr. W. Miller for speaking with him last week regarding the Shiloh Road Project. Mr. Stocker stated there has been a lot of confusion concerning the Shiloh Road sewer extension. Mr. Stocker stated that he had attended the last Benner Township Supervisor's meeting and asked that the Supervisors clarify their motion regarding public sewer to the Shiloh Road/Rock Road/Walnut Grove areas. The Supervisors indicated they made a motion to have the Act 537 Special Study completed to assist in updating their current Act 537 Plan but not to extend public sewer to the Shiloh Road/Rock Road/Walnut Grove areas.

Mr. Stocker stated that Mr. Wise historically has provided him with a construction date of 2021 or 2022. Mr. W. Miller stated townships do not ask to have public sewer extended to an area and then dictate the timing of the project. Mr. W. Miller explained once the Act 537 Special Study is completed, it will be presented to the Benner Township Supervisors and they will open it for a 30 day public comment period. Once the comment period is over, the Supervisors will vote to approve or reject the plan.

Mr. Stocker stated that all the homes in Walnut Grove were constructed after 1972 and they do not have any failing on-lot systems as they were checked two (2) years ago. It was noted that PA DEP requires public sewer be investigated if 30% to 35% of the homes in any drainage basin has a failing or suspected failing on-lot system. Most public sewer extensions normally involve an entire drainage basin due to the costs associated with an extension. Mr. Stocker then questioned why the flow is not being conveyed to University Area Joint Authority (UAJA) because he spoke to Cory Miller of UAJA and he stated they could accept the flows. The Board informed Mr. Stocker of a letter dated August 23, 2016 from Cory Miller and his Board that indicated they would only provide sewer service if the customers are served directly by UAJA and if nutrient credit offsets are

purchased by the developers, or some other entity other than UAJA. Mr. W. Miller also mentioned it would take additional approval from the Centre Region Council of Governments before UAJA would be eligible to accept flows from Benner Township.

Mr. Stocker asked if there was an alternative route that can be established that would remove Walnut Grove from this project. He also asked that SBWJA provide him with a cost to connect to the public sewer in five (5) years. Mr. W. Miller stated that running the line through Walnut Grove is the most efficient due to the topography. Mr. W. Miller indicated he could give a price to connect to the public sewer now; however, he could not provide a price for five (5) to ten years from now as construction costs would change.

Mr. Hoffman stated there is nothing more SBWJA can do at this time until the Benner Township Supervisors approve the sewer extension. Mr. Stocker stated that he was not here for himself that he was here for his neighbors.

Mr. Stocker stated a developer spoke with him and indicated he would save over \$500,000.00 if SBWJA provides sewer service to the Shiloh Road area and Mr. Stocker wanted to know why he said this. Mr. W. Miller stated he wasn't sure but it may be due to our tapping fees and quarterly usage fees being less than UAJA. Mr. W. Miller indicated SBWJA would not pay to extend sewer service to Shiloh Road if it was strictly for the developer. Mr. Smeltzer stated that SBWJA is not in this business to make money but to protect the water in the community.

Mr. W. Miller reiterated the current Act 537 Plan does not fully cover the entire drainage basin in the Shiloh Road and Big Hollow areas. It was noted the Act 537 Special Study will incorporate all the properties in the area and this information will assist in updating the Township's current Act 537 Plan, which will indicate where the sewer will be extended and when. Mr. W. Miller stated this Act 537 update will not determine any alignment of sewer lines and does not involve any permitting or any other project construction details.

Mr. Stocker thanked the Board and Mr. W. Miller for their time.

Gene Stocker exited the meeting at 8:04 p.m.

SYSTEM OVERVIEW REPORT:

April 2019 System Overview – Mr. W. Miller reviewed the April 2019 System Overview with the Board.

Mr. W. Miller stated there were 51 in-home inspections completed in the month of April. The maintenance department identified an HVAC unit and two (2) sump pumps that were connected to the sanitary sewer. There were also broken sewer laterals and root intrusion noted. Our maintenance department completed 13 new sewer lateral inspections and our office staff received 10 sewer permit applications in the amount of 10 EDUs and issued the permits.

The maintenance department finished clearing the right-of-ways throughout the sewer system and cleaned multiple pump stations. A new roof was installed at Pump Station #9 (Penn Eagle) and Pump Station #6 (Rockview). There were multiple areas that were restored with topsoil and grass seed throughout the system including Clemens Lane. All the wet wells on the system were cleaned with the Vactor truck. Several manholes were exposed and raised to the surface due to them being buried and paved over. A leak was detected and corrected on Norman Avenue. The maintenance staff also inspected a sewer lateral that was broken as result of a concrete truck driving over a cleanout. Our personnel also completed 13,191 feet of video work for the month of April.

There were multiple tasks performed for Benner Township Water Authority, which included reading the water meters in Peru and obtaining a used generator from the Centre County Commissioners. This generator will be used to run the well that provides water service to the Benner Elementary School, Hampton Hills and Opequon subdivisions during a power outage.

The final as-builts for the Musser Hill Subdivision were reviewed and our staff started inspecting the installation of sewer main line at the Deer Haven subdivision in Walker Township.

The Vactor truck was used to clean State College Borough Water Authority's reservoir and lines for Murmac Farms.

Additional work was completed at Rockview to maintain the use of water at the pump station. The maintenance personnel made repairs to the grinder pump at Beaver Farms Apartments in Bellefonte Borough.

We received multiple call outs which consisted of a sewer back up at 911 Green Street, several pump fails at our pump stations, and a grinder pump alarm at 155 Serenity Lane. Mr. W. Miller ended the report with a total of 136 PA One Calls being located in April.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Radio Drive Right-of-Ways – Mr. Mix stated that he has been in contact with 4B's Partnership's solicitor, Betsy Dupuis, on several occasions regarding the 90 foot right-of-way that is needed to provide sewer service to Lot #1 on Radio Drive. Mr. Mix feels they are willing to execute a right-of-way agreement; however, they feel they are entitled to some type of compensation. Mr. Mix has asked for a dollar amount and they have been reluctant to provide one. Mr. Mix suggested a deadline be given to the 4B's Partnership before eminent domain is executed. Mr. W. Miller wanted to make the Board aware of the buyer's current situation. The buyer, Capperella Automotive, had his automotive repair shop located in Milesburg which he no longer has access to; therefore, he needs to begin construction of his new shop immediately. It was noted that PA DEP will not approve their planning for this new structure until there is public sewer available to the lot. The Board discussed the matter and decided they would give 4B's Partnership until the close of business on June 10, 2019 to provide a dollar amount. This request would then be discussed at the June 10, 2019 meeting and if a number is not provided SBWJA will begin eminent domain proceedings.

Shiloh Road Project – Mr. W. Miller recommended that the Authority finish the survey work and Act 537 Special Study for the Shiloh Road Project. Once the Benner Township Supervisors determine how they wish to proceed, this Authority can continue with its planning. The Board had no objections to this recommendation due to the costs associated with the additional work. The Authority will not proceed with the project until the Supervisors make a final decision on this sewer extension.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: Mr. Mix had nothing further to report.

ENGINEER' S REPORT:

Shiloh Road Project – Mr. Johnson reported the surveying crew has been working for approximately 3 weeks and is 20% to 25% complete. It was noted there may be another six (6) to eight (8) weeks of survey work remaining. Mr. Johnson is anticipating the Act 537 Special Study being completed within two (2) months and have a plan to submit to the Benner Township Supervisors. The developer interested in Shiloh Road recently submitted projected flows to Mr. Johnson, which will assist in future planning.

Mr. W. Miller and Mr. Johnson also mentioned the conversations they had with the University Park Airport and PennDOT.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no Old Business presented for discussion.

NEW BUSINESS:

Spring Creek Road – Mr. Hoffman asked if Spring Creek Road was going to be repaved due to green paint around our manholes. Mr. W. Miller stated that he believes PennDOT is re-grading the shoulders of the road.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Personnel & Community Relations Committee – Mr. Hoffman had nothing to report.

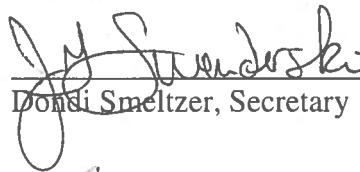
Facilities Committee: Mr. Galbraith had nothing to report.

Financial Committee: Mr. Heny had nothing to report.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. McMurtrie moved, seconded by Mr. Hoffman to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. 8 ayes, 0 nays, 1 absent. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Donni Smeltzer, Secretary



Tasha L. Dutton, Recording Secretary

CC: Benner Township _____
Spring Township _____
Walker Township _____