

**HOWE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY (HTMA)
300 NORTH FOURTH STREET
NEWPORT, PA 17074
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
November 21, 2016**

Members present: Burd, Campbell, Kessler, and Sheaffer.

Members absent: Turner

Guests: Sarah Doyle, Stock & Leader, Josh Fox, HRG, Tim Seiber, Newport Borough Municipal Authority (NBMA), Residents: Carson Walker, Christine Campbell, Rick Reisinger, and Joanne Johnston.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Chairman Campbell.

- 1. The meeting opened with public comments. Tim Seiber, NBMA, stated that they been in contact with DEP and USDA, but do not have permits and an offer yet. The delays and additional plans have added \$200,000 in engineering fees to their project. Their project is at \$14 million now, of which \$12.1 million is the plant, HTMA share is 21.6%.**
- 2. Josh Fox has been in contact with Josh Owens, NBMA engineer regarding plant design.**
- 3. Carson Walker inquired regarding moving the line on Church Road. The Red Hill Church of God has a meeting 12.1.2016. Further discussion is tabled until after their meeting. The original easement was approved and signed.**
- 4. Joanne Johnston asked to confirm that the Church on Burd Road is not in the service area. It is not.**
- 5. Rick Reisinger had questions regarding funding, loan terms and rates. Also the operation of the grinder pumps, and planned maintenance and service.**
- 6. Christine Campbell is now the owner of the 132 E. Juniata Parkway where a pumping station will be located. She was presented with a revised agreement, which she signed.**
- 7. Burd presented the minutes from the October 17 regular meeting.**
- 8. Kessler moved, Sheaffer seconded, motion carried to approve the October 17 minutes.**
- 9. Sheaffer presented the treasurer's report.**
- 10. Burd moved, Kessler seconded, motion carried to approve the treasurer's report.**
- 11. An extended discussion ensued regarding the establishing tapping fees and user rates.**
- 12. Fox noted assets and liabilities in the consideration.**
- 13. It was decided that the current options of tapping fees and user rates are not affordable to the residents. The figures were roughly 40% higher than the original PENNVEST projection of what would be considered affordable.**
- 14. Fox is to set up a meeting with PENNVEST to discuss options.**
- 15. Sheaffer moved, Kessler seconded, motion carried to authorize Campbell to reject the PENNVEST offer if there is no change. If there are any substantive changes the offer will be returned to HTMA for further discussion at the regular December meeting.**
- 16. Fox will also talk to Tesra at PENNVEST to suspend the interest payments.**
- 17. If this PENNVEST offer is rejected, we will reapply in the next round. We will also request an extension of the PennWorks grant.**
- 18. The construction bids will be addressed depending on the outcome of the PENNVEST meeting. Either rejecting or asking for an extension.**

- 19. Kessler moved, Burd seconded, Resolution 2016-4 passed to condemn properties listed in exhibit A of Resolution 2016-4, and to have the solicitor prepare paperwork for filing condemnation.**
- 20. Burd moved, Sheaffer seconded, Resolution 2016-5 passed authorizing payment to grantors, and request release of funds from PennWorks for payment.**
- 21. The CFA grant application has been filed. There meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2017.**
- 22. Fox and Campbell will set a meeting with Senator elect DiSanto and Representative Keller for early 2017 to update on project.**
- 23. Burd moved, Sheaffer seconded, motion passed for Sarah Doyle to prepare Resolution 2016-6 for ratification at the December meeting. The resolution is to remove Earl Solomon as a signatory on HTMA accounts, and set Campbell, Sheaffer, and Kessler as signatories.**
- 24. Kessler moved, Sheaffer seconded motioned carried to pay Janice Shaw \$125.00 for notary services.**
- 25. Sheaffer moved, Burd seconded, motion carried to adjourn at 8 PM.**
- 26. Next meeting: December 19, 2016**

Respectfully submitted,

**Charles Burd, Secretary
Howe Township Municipal Authority**