

TOWNSHIP OF FALLS AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING

February 25, 2015

The regular monthly meeting of the Township of Falls Authority was held on Wednesday, February 25, 2015, in the conference room at 557 Lincoln Highway, Fairless Hills, PA, at 8:01 P.M.

Salute to the Flag

Roll Call – Anthony Rosso, Chairperson, James Goodwin, Vice Chairperson, John Palmer, Treasurer and Bill Beier, Secretary, were present. Edward Zanine, Authority Solicitor, Tom Beach and Vanessa Nedrick, Authority Engineers, David Busch, Resigning Executive Director, Keystone Alliance Consulting, Inc., Timothy Hartman, Executive Director, Edna Miller, Business Manager and Megan O’Neill, Recording Secretary were also present.

Item #1 – Solicitor’s Report on the Executive Session – Edward Zanine reported the Executive Session consisted of litigation and personnel matters.

Item #2 – Approve Meeting Minutes of January 28, 2015 – Bill Beier made a motion to approve the January 28, 2015 minutes. John Palmer seconded the motion. Motion Carried 3-0-2. James Goodwin abstained due to not being at the meeting.

Item #3 – Public Comment – No one signed up for Public Comment.

Item #4 – Solicitor’s Report – Edward Zanine has been working with the Union Contract.

Item #5 – Engineer’s Report –

Headley Pump Station – Vanessa Nedrick informed the Board the contract was signed and the preconstruction meeting will be held shortly.

Queen Anne Interceptor Investigation – Vanessa Nedrick reported the flow data is not available for the month of February on the website.

Flow Monitoring – Vanessa Nedrick reported she has received information on the purchasing of equipment and will look into how much training would cost for the staff to be trained and the equipment to be installed.

Falls Township Act 537 Plan – Vanessa Nedrick report she will review the letter she just received from the DEP and go over it with the Township.

Item #6 – Executive Director’s Report - Executive Director’s Report attached.

David Busch received an email from Bucks County Water and Sewer Authority New meters will be installed in the next 90 days and the Authority will be able to get flow records faster.

David Busch informed the Board that two of the TOFA Building heaters are no longer working. New heaters will be installed next week.

David Busch presented the Board with the new 2015 Operating Budget. The Budget includes a thirteen percent sewer rate and a five percent water rate increase.

Anthony Rosso made a motion to approve the 2015 Operating Budget with the water and sewer rate increases. Bill Beier seconded the motion.

Poll of the Board:

Bill Beier	Yes
John Palmer	Yes
James Goodwin	Yes
Anthony Rosso	Yes

Motion Carried 4-0.

Item #7 – Review of Bill List– Bill Beier made a motion to approve the bill list for February 25, 2015, in the amount of \$543,255.34. James Goodwin seconded the motion.

Poll of the Board:

Bill Beier	Yes
John Palmer	Yes
James Goodwin	Yes
Anthony Rosso	Yes

Motion Carried 4-0.

Anthony Rosso made a motion to approve Requisition #18 in the amount of \$9,200.42 and Requisition #19 in the amount of \$7,161.00 to Advance Rehabilitation. Bill Beier seconded the motion.

Poll of the Board:

Bill Beier	Yes
John Palmer	Yes

James Goodwin     Yes

Anthony Rosso     Yes

Motion Carried 4-0.

Bill Beier made a motion to recess the meeting at 8:20 to go into Executive Session. James Goodwin seconded the motion. Motion Carried 4-0.

Bill Beier made a motion to reconvene the meeting at 8:30 pm. James Goodwin seconded the motion. Motion Carried 4-0.

Edward Zanine reported Executive Session consisted of union and personnel matters.

Bill Beier made a motion to approve the SEIU/TOFA Labor Agreement changing the duration from five years to three year term. John Palmer seconded the motion.

Poll of the Board:

Bill Beier             Yes

John Palmer         Yes

James Goodwin     Yes

Anthony Rosso       Yes

Motion Carried 4-0.

Item #10 – Board Comment – The Board welcomed Timothy Hartman as TOFA's new Executive Director.

The Board thanked David Busch for his service.

John Palmer informed the Board he has spoke with people at the Township and they are interested in renting the middle space at 557 Lincoln Highway.

Adjournment – John Palmer made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 P.  
M. James Goodwin seconded the motion. All in favor. Motion carried 4-0.



# Township Of Falls Authority

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

DATE: FEBRUARY 25, 2015

## **Key Performance Indicators for the current month:**

### **1. Health & Safety:**

- a. No vehicle accidents

### **2. Environmental Compliance:**

3. Bacteria test results continue to be acceptable.
4. Office heating system was found failed on 2/13. Service technician recommended unit replacement.

### **a. Sewer**

- 01/18 Comminutor at Tyburn Lift Station found jammed with PVC pipe material. Remove blockage and return to service.
- 01/19 Backflushed both pumps at Nottingham Lift Station to try to improve pump performance.
- 01/19 Repair broken phone line to Oxford Valley Station alarm system.
- 01/22 Installed another float switch at Amesbury Station for added monitoring.
- 01/23 Replaced worn Pump #1 at Nottingham Station with refurbished standby unit.
- 01/28 Generator at Tyburn Station will not start. Cummins was brought in for emergency repair. Needs non stock circuit board.
- 01/31 Reported sewer backup into 110 Lebbie Lane. Our lines found to be clear and no backup was observed at the residence.
- 02/02 Heavy rains put Nottingham Station into alarm. Brought in back up diesel pump to get station out of trouble.
- 02/04 Greased the Comminutor at Rock Run Station.
- 02/05 Cummins in to repair Genset at Tyburn Station. Different field technician determined no board replacement necessary. He stated the unit was fine.
- 02/07 Found Pump #2 out on overload at Headley Station.
- 02/09 Assist Morrisville Borough with a sewer blockage in their system since their own truck was down for repairs.
- 02/09 Electrician in to check Pump #2 at Headley Station. During testing, the pump seemed to have dislodged material in it and seemed to perform normally. We will need to keep a closer eye on this.
- 02/11 Regular testing of Genset at Tyburn Station found the unit again inoperable. Called Cummins. Manipulation of a DPDT toggle switch leads Authority staff to believe this to be something to address. Ordered Cummins to replace it.
- 02/11 Found water leak at Tyburn Lift Station. Contractor called to investigate. (see water highlights).
- 02/12 Broke down the hoses and dewatered the pump casing for the rental pump at Nottingham Station. Flows have returned to levels that can be handled with

station pumps and will make one of our neighbors happy after she complained of too much noise from the diesel pump.

- 02/14 Pump #2 out on overload again.
- 02/17 Police alert to alarm condition at Bargain City Lift Station. One of the main electrical fuses was found blown. Replaced the fuse with a spare and got one pump to run. The second pump drive motor is bad and will need repair (probably what caused the fuse to blow).

#### **b. Water**

- 01/19 The water meter at 505 Drexel Road was stolen and we replaced it.
- 01/20 The water meter at 404 Ingram Road was stolen.
- 01/22 The fire hydrant that was damaged on Lower Morrisville Road was repaired.
- 01/22 A gate valve used to perform meter work was broken at LaMont Plaza and will need to be replaced.
- 01/23 Repair water main break at South Olds Boulevard and Kavanaugh Road.
- 01/29 Water meter was stolen from 1 Pennsylvania Avenue.
- 02/05 New two way water meter installed at the Morrisville Interconnection by the old Acme Store.
- 02/06 Working with the staff at the Warner Northside Plant to un-freeze the service line and meter pit.
- 02/07 Multiple rust water complaints from "H" Section. 206 Welsford Road, 257 Yorkshire Road, 229 Yorkshire Road, 244 Wyandotte Road and 213 Welsford Road. The exact cause contributing to the problem was not readily apparent but it seemed unusual that a resident on Stanford Road, which is very close by, had a very large tree cut down and felled right on top of where our water main is located.
- 02/08 Rusty water complaint at 206 Welsford Road would seem to be from leftover disturbance on 02/07.
- 02/11 Water service leaking at Tyburn Sewer Lift Station. Contractor brought in to repair.
- 02/12 Removed broken fire hydrant, repaired and replaced same at Tewksbury and Blough Roads.
- 02/12 Replaced broken valve and serviced the water meter at LaMont Plaza.
- 02/13 Water meter missing and probably stolen from 255 Collingswood Road.
- 02/13 Fire hydrant was hit on Trenton Road in front of Amato's Pizza. The associated protective bollards should be replaced with substantially larger ones.
- 02/17 No water complaint from Meineke Muffler Shop. Piping is frozen.
- 02/17 Responded to panicked resident who broke her water valve at 701 Trenton Road. Shut service down to help with repair.
- 02/17 Water meter stolen from 600 Arlington Road. Turned water off at the curb stop.
- 02/17 Shut water off to 368 Ivanhoe Court. Complaint received from 374 Ivanhoe Court that the water running into their basement was coming from next door and they couldn't alert their neighbor of the problem.
- 02/18 Frozen and broken water meter at 914 Trenton Road.

- 02/18 Frozen and broken piping at 222 Wistar Road. Found the controlling curb stop on Stanford Road and shut service off to affect repairs.
- 02/18 Replace frozen and broken water meter at 809 Fairfield Road.

**5. “New Item” Field Staff Response to Off Hours Callouts.**

- 01/23 The water main break at South Olds Boulevard and Kavanaugh Road was handled with only two field staff. All four staff were polled concerning interest in the assignment with John Ryba and Ed Wiseley staying the extra hours.
- 01/31 The reported sewer backup at 110 Lebbie Lane was handled by contacting John Ryba first, who had been working that day and left prior to the problem. Since John lives on that street, I felt that he could assess conditions more quickly. At the same time, I managed to contact and holdover Bill Harding so that he could bring out the flush truck, if necessary. No other staff were contacted or were needed.
- 02/17 Keith Summerville was contacted to respond to water entering a residence in the Oxford Crossing development. No other staff were contacted or needed.
- 02/17 No field staff were contacted for Bargain City alarm since it occurred in the early morning hours and during that night’s snow storm. Management went out to assess the issue since a four wheel drive vehicle was at home and available.

**6. Finances:**

- a.** A monthly financial report will be distributed to all board members.

**Summary of last month’s issues and other items of note:**

1. Capital Projects – I / I Project
2. BCWSA Lawsuit – High Strength Surcharge
3. BCWSA High Flows
4. 2015 Proposed Operating Budget
5. Union Contract Meeting
6. Proposal from South Corrosion – Collingswood Tank



**Township of Falls Authority  
Engineering Status  
February 26, 2014**

1) **Norfolk Southern Morrisville Intermodal Yard:** Plans were approved at last month's board meeting. Applicant must enter into service agreement with Authority and pay all applicable connection fees and post inspection and construction escrows. Norfolk Southern provided cost estimate for review and approval. Escrow amounts were determined. **Nothing to report at this time.**

2) **Old Bristol Pike Public Sewer:** Project to provide a public sewer to residents and businesses on Old Bristol Pike with failing septic systems. Sewage from this area would be pumped to Lower Bucks County Joint Municipal Authority or Morrisville Municipal Authority for treatment. H2O PA Grant awarded in the amount of \$168,652.00 on May 5, 2011. Grant expires on June 30, 2013. Meeting with Lower Bucks County Joint Municipal Authority was held on April 10<sup>th</sup>. Met with Morrisville Municipal Authority on May 24<sup>th</sup>. Follow up meeting with LBCJMA was held on July 30<sup>th</sup>. **Extension was approved for grant funds. Nothing to report at this time.**

3) **Bucks County Water & Sewer Surcharge Billing:** We requested additional documentation on their sampling locations and to demonstrate how they arrived at their surcharge costs. BCWSA provided the formula used to calculate surcharges and the actual sampling records. Will compare TOFA's daily sampling records for one month to BCWSA sampling records. Reviewed surcharge bill for first Quarter 2012. RVB requested backup documentation. Letter requesting site meeting was sent on June 28, 2012. Site meeting was held on August 15<sup>th</sup>. **Nothing to report at this time.**

4) **CVA Warehouse Expansion in Falls Township:** We recommend approval of the water main extension, water service, and sewer connection from this land development located on Central Avenue in Falls Township. Project approved at April 2011 board meeting. Applicant must enter into a water and sewer service agreement with TOFA and pay all applicable connection and tapping fees along with posting construction and inspection escrows. RVB provided Solicitor a construction cost estimate and amounts for construction, inspection, and legal escrows. **Nothing to report at this time.**

5) **Headley Pump Station:** Discussion on assessing penalties and fines for businesses who violate TOFA's regulations on industrial waste discharges and/or Philadelphia's Industrial Pretreatment Program.

Penalties and fines are recommended to subsidize TOFA's costs to repair equipment (pumps, force mains, wet wells, etc.). Meeting with Siemens was held on March 27<sup>th</sup>. Siemens was contacted to request an update of their investigation. Second meeting was held on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Requested operation records for all sampling dates provided. Sampling began on June 19<sup>th</sup> and will occur twice a month. Laboratory was directed to reduce monitoring frequency to quarterly sampling. Directed laboratory to include chloride sampling with current sampling. **Nothing to report at this time.**

**6) Fallsington Water Main Replacement:** Per the Board's instruction at last August's board meeting, RVB with Authority Staff began investigating the rusty water complaints from residents of the Fallsington Section of the Township. Water samples were taken by Authority Staff on September 2, 2011 and analyzed by QC Laboratories. RVB and Authority Staff flushed the Fallsington area on September 7, 2011. Complaints were received by Authority staff during flushing operations. RVB prepared cost estimates last month for water main replacement and water main lining. Last month the Board authorized the design for water main replacement. Survey work started the week of July 23<sup>rd</sup>. One Call has been placed to obtain utility information. Bids were opened October 24<sup>th</sup> at 10am. Project was awarded on October 24, 2012 to Joao & Bradley for 1,143,524.35. The proposed water main in front of the Fallsington School was installed December 26 through December 28<sup>th</sup>. Construction resumed on January 7, 2013. Final paving is completed. Project is in the process of closeout. Contractor refuses to accept \$14,500.00 as final payment for temporary paving; Payment #5 is withheld. **Waiting on As-Built Drawings from Contractor.**

**7) 543 Lincoln Highway Water Service:** Project involves the extension of the existing water main on Lincoln Highway to provide a combination domestic/fire service to the existing building which uses well water. Project was granted conditional approval last month pending the satisfaction of Authority Staff and the Engineer. Board granted conditional approval at March 2013 meeting. Project was issued an amended HOP from PennDOT. Engineering concerns were addressed. Water Service agreement was executed in June. Preconstruction meeting was held on July 18, 2013. Construction is scheduled to begin in late September. **Construction is completed. Recommend Payment of Escrow Release #1.**

**8) Viking Associates:** The project, located along Trenton Avenue consists of a 40-unit townhome development. RVB performed two reviews for the proposed water and sewer connections. Plans were approved at July's meeting. Reviewed Water/Sewer Service

Agreement and Letter of Credit. Reviewed Component 3 Planning Module for Applicant for submission to PADEP. **Nothing to report at this time.**

**9) Mercer Court:** The project, located along Lincoln Highway, consists of a 50-unit townhome development. RVB performed one review for the proposed water and sewer connections. Township approved the plans for land development in December. Awaiting revised plans from Applicant's Engineer to perform review. Performed revised review on May 13th. Accompanied Authority Staff to meeting with the Township Fire Marshal and Engineer on June 3rd to discuss water main layout for firefighting purposes. Reviewed Water/Sewer Service Agreement and Tripartite Agreement. Pre-Construction Meeting was held on November 25, 2013. Construction began the week of January 13, 2014. **Sanitary Sewer is currently being installed.**

**10) TOFA Generator Project:** The project entails the installation and wiring of back up, emergency generators at the TOFA Building, Amesbury Pump Station, and Penn's Place Pump Station. Plans and specifications are complete pending TOFA staff comments. Request to advertise and bid project upon staff approval. Construction cost estimate is \$141,500.00. Contracts are executed. Pre-construction meeting was held on July 18, 2013. Start of construction is dependent upon the delivery of the generators. Contractor is in the process of obtaining permits with the Township and awaiting the delivery of the generators. **Work is 90% complete.**

**11) Falls Township Act 537 Plan Update:** TOFA was approached by Falls Township to update the Township's Act 537 Plan. The Plan had not been updated since 1985. The Act 537 Plan is a planning tool Townships and other Municipalities use to plan for its existing and future sewage needs. The Plan was updated to provide current information on the collection and conveyance system that serves Falls Township, how Township sewage is treated, and how current and future sewage needs would be addressed in the Township. The current and future sewage needs are based on the existing and future populations, existing and future land development or redevelopment. Alternatives were provided to meet the sewage needs of the unsewered section of the Township. Alternatives were evaluated based on costs and feasibility, and one alternative was selected, i.e. the Old Bristol Pike Sewer Project. The draft plan was reviewed by the Board of Supervisors and DEP last year. A meeting with DEP was held last year and more comments were provided. The Plan Update has been revised and submitted to the Township. A Public Notice of the Plan Update will be issued shortly to begin the 30 day public review and comment period of the draft document. Received

comments back from the Bucks County Department of Health and the Bucks County Planning Commission. Update was submitted to the Falls Township for approval. **Nothing to report at this time.**

**12) Enterprise Rent-A-Car:** The Enterprise Rent-A-Car location at 208 Lincoln Highway is proposing the construction of a wash bay and oil/water separator on their site. Application was made for sewer service. Revised reviews performed in May and June. Project was approved at June's meeting. Pre-Construction Meeting was held on October 9, 2013. Sanitary sewer work began on November 14, 2013. Construction is complete. **Nothing to report at this time.**

**13) 2013 Inflow & Infiltration Program:** In an effort to continue the Authority's Inflow & Infiltration Removal Program, we would like to introduce the next phase of I/I removal for discussion and board approval. The scope of the project is consistent with the Authority's Inflow and Infiltration Removal Plan prepared by BCM Engineers. A Construction Cost Estimate and list of locations are enclosed with this report. Plans and specifications are prepared. Bid Opening occurred on December 11, 2013 at 10 AM. Recommend Award of Contract to Tri-State Grouting, LLC for the base bid amount of \$177,437.00 and Alternate No. 1 bid amount of \$20,000.00. **Contracts are out for signature.**

**14) Chatham Road Water Investigation:** RVB was asked to investigate the rusty water complaints on Chatham Road with Authority staff and provide a recommendation based on the investigation. Witnessed the flushing operation of Auburn, Trenton, South Queen Anne, and South Olds Boulevard on November 1, 2013. Authority staff will perform directional flushing in the area. **Nothing to report at this time.**

**15) I-95/Turnpike Interchange:** The Pennsylvania Turnpike is proposing the construction of an interchange connecting I-95 and I-276. The proposed construction affects the Authority's Queen Anne Interceptor at two locations. On November 8th, Authority staff met with the Turnpike's Engineers and Project Managers to discuss the impacts. All conflicts were addressed and the Turnpike will design and construct the resolutions to the conflicts. Costs are still being worked out. **Will discuss at the meeting.**

**16) Water Allocation Permit for Middletown Emergency Interconnection:** Per PADEP, TOFA must apply for a subsidiary water allocation permit for the emergency interconnection between TOFA's system and Middletown Township. **RVB submitted the package on January 29, 2014.**

**17) 2013 Chapter 94 Reporting:** In accordance with the requirements of Title 25, Chapter 94 of the Rules and Regulations of the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection, TOFA must report on the Wasteload Management of its system annually for the previous year. The report provides the summary of the existing usage and projected future usage of the sewage collection and conveyance system. It also provides a review of operation and maintenance, hydraulic and organic loadings from the past 5 years and projections for the next 5 years. This report is tributary to BCWSA, Morrisville, and LBCJMA. Report is due to all parties by the end of February. **RVB is currently preparing this report.**

