

Board Members:
James Goodwin, Chairperson
Brian Binney, Vice Chairperson
John Haney, Secretary
William Beier, Treasurer
Paul Hartzell, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer



557 Lincoln Highway
Fairless Hills, PA 19030
Phone: 215-946-6062
Fax: 215-946-6322
After Hours: 215-945-3100
Email: info@tofa-pa.com

Township of Falls Authority

November 20, 2024 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The regular monthly meeting of the Township of Falls Authority Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, November 20, 2024, at 7:00 P.M.

Salute to the Flag

Roll Call

James Goodwin, Chairperson, Brian Binney, Vice Chairperson were present. William Beier, Treasurer; John Haney, Secretary, Paul Hartzell, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer were present. Mike Levin, Authority Solicitor, and James Bulicki, Authority Engineer were present.

Peter Kim, Executive Director, John Ryba, Operations Manager; Megan Parmer, Business Manager; Tammy McAnulty, Recording Secretary, and Rachel Jardine were present.

Solicitor's Report on the Executive Session

Mr. Levin reported that the Executive Session consisted of discussions regarding budget matters.

Approve Meeting Minutes for October 23, 2024 Meeting

Mr. Haney made a motion to approve the minutes for October 23, 2024. Mr. Beier seconded the motion.

Poll of the Board:

Mr. Hartzell	Yes
Mr. Haney	Yes
Mr. Beier	Yes
Mr. Binney	Yes
Mr. Goodwin	Yes

Motion Carried 5-0

Public Comment

No public comment.

Solicitor's Report

Mr. Levin requested Board approval of a sewer agreement for 930 Big Oak Road to tie into our sewer system.

Mr. Binney made a motion to approve the sewer agreement for 930 Big Oak Road. Mr. Beier seconded the motion.

Poll of the Board:

Mr. Hartzell	Yes
Mr. Haney	Yes
Mr. Beier	Yes
Mr. Binney	Yes
Mr. Goodwin	Yes

Motion Carried 5-0

Engineer's Report

Mr. Bulicki recommended Board approval for Payment Certificate #2 in the amount of \$114,892.83 to Vortex for 2023 I/I project.

Mr. Binney made a motion to approve Payment Certificate #2 to Vortex for 2023 I/I project. Mr. Beier seconded the motion.

Poll of the Board:

Mr. Hartzell	Yes
Mr. Haney	Yes
Mr. Beier	Yes
Mr. Binney	Yes
Mr. Goodwin	Yes

Motion Carried 5-0

Mr. Bulicki recommended Board approval for Resolution #13 to apply for the Local Share Grant for the water main lining in the amount of \$583,252.00.

Mr. Binney made a motion to approve Resolution #13 to apply for the Local Share Grant in the amount of \$583,252.00 for the water main lining project. Mr. Haney seconded the motion.

Poll of the Board:

Mr. Hartzell	Yes
Mr. Haney	Yes

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

Motion Carried 5-0

Mr. Bulicki recommended Board approval for Resolution #14 to apply for the Local Share Grant for the water meter replacement program in the amount of \$1,000,000.00.

Mr. Binney made a motion to approve Resolution #14 to apply for the Local Share Grant for the meter replacement program in the amount of \$1,000,000.00. Mr. Haney seconded the motion.

Poll of the Board:

Mr. Hartzell	Yes
Mr. Haney	Yes
Mr. Beier	Yes
Mr. Binney	Yes
Mr. Goodwin	Yes

Motion Carried 5-0

Operation Manager's Report

Mr. Ryba reported that Penn Power has installed the new generator at the Oxford Valley pumping station. He noted that there will be a start-up meeting with the field staff to go over the operation and maintenance of the new generator.

Mr. Ryba stated that FRANCO Environmental was out to perform wet well cleaning at a few of the stations. He noted that he is in the process of working on a plan where we clean the wet wells out in-house and utilize FRANCO for disposal. He stated that we would need to go to Reading for disposal. Mr. Binney asked where things were with the drying bed. Mr. Ryba reported that the DEP denied the request.

Mr. Ryba reported that the field staff has finished the fire hydrant replacements for the year. He noted that next year the field staff will continue to target hydrants that are in need of repair or replacement that were discovered from the annual hydrant flushing.

Mr. Ryba stated he is preparing for next year's lining project.

Mr. Ryba reported that the illegal connection letter has been completed and the field staff will hand deliver starting with the Nottingham section.

Mr. Goodwin stated that with regards to the EPA survey we should know the material from the homes that we did the lining project. Mr. Ryba responded that the problem is DEP is requiring actual verification in 2 forms. Mr. Goodwin asked why we would waste the money on sending out the letters. Mr. Kim responded that the letter was mandated by the EPA. Mr. Bulicki stated that they require two forms of verification; field verification and record verification. Mr. Goodwin asked how long we have to complete this. Mr. Bulicki stated that we have until the end of 2025. Mr. Ryba stated that they are looking again at the possibility of doing the modeling, however that is \$30,000.00. Mr. Binney asked how many letters were sent. Mr. Kim responded 5596. Mr. Ryba noted that this all started with the EPA however now the DEP is involved. Mr. Kim stated that we are scheduling appointments for any that noted lead, pictures were not legible or areas with much older homes.

Executive Director's Report

Mr. Kim reported that we will have a holiday luncheon on Monday, December 23.

Mr. Kim stated that the 2025 budget discussions continue.

Mr. Kim requested Board approval for the 2023 audit as presented.

Mr. Binney made a motion to approve the 2023 audit. Mr. Beier seconded the motion.

Poll of the Board:

Mr. Hartzell	Yes
Mr. Haney	Yes
Mr. Beier	Yes
Mr. Binney	Yes
Mr. Goodwin	Yes

Motion Carried 5-0

Mr. Kim noted that door tagging will begin for illegal connections starting with Nottingham section.

Mr. Kim stated that final inspections have resumed.

Mr. Kim stated that there is a delay with Exact Payroll but is still hoping to go live on 1/1/25.

Mr. Kim stated that he is working with Cintas to remove unused uniforms and will be ordering the hoodies.

Mr. Kim reported that the Harris data is being cleaned up and we are in a much better state with the data.

Mr. Kim stated that truck 314 has been sold and truck 318 is listed for sale on Municibid. Mr. Haney asked if the crane was removed, and Mr. Kim stated it was.

Mr. Kim reported there is a rate increase for RVE for 2025 and the rate schedule will be forwarded to the Board.

Review of the Bill List

Mr. Haney questioned why the bill for Lafayette was just getting paid. Ms. Parmer stated she just received the invoice.

Bills for Payment

Mr. Beier made a motion to pay the bills in the amount of \$757,072.25. Mr. Haney seconded the motion.

Poll of the Board:

Mr. Hartzell	Yes
Mr. Haney	Yes
Mr. Beier	Yes
Mr. Binney	Yes
Mr. Goodwin	Yes

Motion Carried 5-0

Board Comment

Mr. Hartzell had no comment.

Mr. Haney

Mr. Haney wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Beier

Mr. Beier thanked everyone for their efforts and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Binney

Mr. Binney asked why we owe Tremmell Communications \$254.00 on the aging report. Ms. Parmer responded that they never cashed the check, so a new check had to be issued. Mr. Binney wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mr. Goodwin

Mr. Goodwin wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and noted the next meeting will be December 18th.

Adjournment

Mr. Goodwin suggested a motion be made to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. He noted that the next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 18, 2024, at 7:00 p.m. The Board was unanimously in favor.