

NORTH HUNTINGDON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING, APRIL 8, 2015, 7:00 PM
YOUGHIOGHENY WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT
4222 TURNER VALLEY ROAD, NORTH HUNTINGDON, PA 15642

ROLL CALL:

Jeffrey Fisher	- Present	Michael Branthoover, General Manager	- Present
Todd Fry	- Present	Charles J. Gilbert, System Supt.	- Present
Timothy Hondal	- Absent	Christy J. Raspotnik, Finance Director	- Present
Joseph Korenic, Jr.	- Present	Christopher Sanner, Asst. System Supt.	- Present
William H. Miller	Present	Daniel J. Hewitt, Solicitor	- Present
		David A. Coldren, KLH Engineers	- Present

The Regular Meeting of the North Huntingdon Township Municipal Authority was called to order at 7:01 P.M. by Joseph Korenic, Vice Chairman. Michael L. Branthoover called the roll and a quorum was present.

CITIZEN'S INPUT

Michael Free – 10561 Center Highway – Account #000494

Mr. Free requested relief from charges. There has not been water in the building since 2009 according to the Municipal Authority of Westmoreland County. He has a letter that states that. He didn't need water in the building for the past six years. He lives next door and uses the bathroom. He doesn't have any employees. He didn't know the drains had to be closed off. No one ever told him that and he never received anything from the Authority. He does not use the service of the Authority at all. He would greatly appreciate anything that could be done as far as a reduction of the charges. He spoke with Michael who has been very helpful but was told he had to address the Board to get any relief. He had no idea that he would be charged even though he wasn't using our service. The outstanding balance is not over \$2,000. Since the last six years he's been paying on this, he's paid almost \$5,000.

Mr. Branthoover stated since November he's paid \$2,700 and there has not been a payment since 2011. That's the last time the balance had been paid in full on the account.

Mr. Free said that is correct and he recently made a payment. They came to an agreement. We're talking thousands of dollars. He really didn't use the service. Now he's educated, he didn't know he had to close off the drains and things like that he had no idea that's the absolute policy. He thought if there wasn't water in there, you can't be using any sewage.

Attorney Hewitt stated just as the water company has procedures for turning it on and off, so does the sewage authority and that's been the policy here for about 20 years. You certainly

would've had some knowledge of dealing with the water company and we're not the water company. You have to deal with us separately. The concern that he would express to the member of the Board is establishing a precedent which would fly in the face of what this Board has upheld for the last 20 years as far as how we handle shut offs and accounts. The difficulty that we've seen historically is that individuals manage to get water back into facilities such as running a hose to have plumbing facilities in buildings. That may not be your case, but we can't carve out an exception for everyone who has their own unique circumstance. That's why rules and regulations provide for how shut offs would be considered. That's from the legal perspective.

Mr. Free stated the water company does not charge you when your service is turned off. He had no use for water in that building whatsoever and he didn't use any. He's not looking for any money to be refunded but is hoping for some type of credit possibly. It's been six years of charges.

Mr. Branthoover said it's been six years and mostly there's been no response until November 2014. There have been no payments. Bills have been issued. Late notices have been sent and there's been no response.

Mr. Free said he hasn't been receiving those. The last bill was paid by the bankruptcy attorney back in 2011.

Mr. Branthoover said the bills were being mailed to the property address.

Mr. Free said he wasn't at the property address.

Mr. Branthoover said he lives right beside the property.

Mr. Free said he's just asking for relief. If he would've used the service he would say he owes and would pay the bill. These charges are a lot of money and he's hoping for some type of relief in the form of a reduction or credit.

Attorney Hewitt asked if he is in the process now of filling the drains and properly meeting the rules and regulations of the Authority.

Mr. Free replied no, he would like to have the water turned back on after six years. He promised Michael it would get paid.

Mr. Branthoover said he's still waiting for the agreement to be signed and returned. It was sent March 31 to his home address at 10563 Center Highway.

Mr. Free said he is willing to sign that agreement and everything from now on will be current and if not, shut off the water. There was confusion on his part, no one ever told him the drains needed to be closed off. He never knew this until recently. He would like to have the water turned back on but these charges are astronomical for him.

Mr. Branthoover said the current balance is \$1,633.07.

Mr. Branthoover said we have current residents and customer that do apply for the disconnect procedures and we go and inspect.

Mr. Free asked how they know to do that.

Mr. Branthoover said they receive a bill and they contact us because they are not using the service.

Attorney Hewitt said it's also available online.

Mr. Free said he's computer illiterate and doesn't have a computer.

Mr. Branthoover explained we go out to the property and inspect. Once they've complied with capping drains and removing toilets the owner will then sign off that they understand as of this date we'll discontinue service and if and when they want to reconnect, they send us via certified mail to notify us. We do periodic inspections and will back bill if they reconnect without notifying us.

Mr. Korenic asked if anyone had any further questions or comments.

Mr. Branthoover stated in the past the Board has never granted relief from charges. Sewage is lienable and we have procedures to disconnect. It's the Board's decision.

Mr. Free asked if he would be notified in writing.

Attorney Hewitt said it would be up to the Board and if they wanted to grant relief there would need to be a motion made.

Mr. Branthoover said if the Board isn't willing to make a motion this evening then he would need to proceed on with the agreement.

Mr. Free asked if anyone was willing to make a motion.

Mr. Korenic stated there were no motions made.

Mr. Free thanked them for their time.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Coldren recommended Contract 2014-5 be awarded to Advanced Contracting Inc. for the bid amount of \$1,040,244

Motion: Miller Motion to award Contract 2014-5 to Advanced Contracting
Second: Fry Inc. in the amount of \$1,040,244.

Motion Carried 4 – 0 – 0

Mr. Coldren recommended all bids be rejected for Contract 2015-1 the building laterals for Penn's Woods Phase 6 based on the amount of the bids. The scope of the project will be revised and the project will be rebid.

Motion: Fisher Motion to reject the bids for Contract 2015-1.
Second: Miller

Motion Carried 4 – 0 – 0

Mr. Coldren recommended approval of Change Order #1 in the amount of \$4,850 for Contract 2014-4 with Abeck Electrical for the pump station electrical controls relocation. This is to add two drywell pump switches at each of the five pump stations.

Motion: Miller Motion to approve Contract 2014-4 Change Order #1 in the
Second: Fisher amount of \$4,850.

Motion Carried 4 – 0 – 0

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Attorney Hewitt suggested a change order for the Penn's Woods Phase 1 project to grant a 35-day weather extension to the contract termination date that would extend the termination date to April 15, 2015. If approved, a letter will go to the attorney for the contractor indicating testing is ongoing, restoration remains a concern, noting that Bentley has not lived up to the staffing promises next month and advising the per diem liquidating damages with kick in as of April 16.

Motion: Fry Motion to approve Change Order #3 of Penn's Woods
Second: Miller Phase 1 for a 35-day weather extension to April 15.

Motion Carried 4 – 0 – 0

MANAGER'S REPORT

Motion: Korenic
Second: Fisher
Motion to approve the minutes of the Work Session on March 11, 2015.

Motion Carried 2 – 0 – 2 (Miller, Fry abstained)

Motion: Korenic
Second: Fisher
Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting on March 11, 2015.

Motion Carried 2 – 0 – 2 (Miller, Fry abstained)

Motion: Fisher
Second: Fry
Motion to approve payment of the bills:

Capital Reserve Requisition #171 -- \$318,704.13
Operation -- \$189,846.94
Payroll -- \$ 95,081.58

Motion Carried 4 – 0 – 0

OLD BUSINESS

There were no items of Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Branthoover requested approval of the Tuscan Hills Phase 1 Developers Agreement. It is located off Barnes Lake Road and it is 33 EDU's.

Motion: Korenic
Second: Miller
Motion to approve the Tuscan Hills Phase 1 Developers Agreement.

Motion Carried 4 – 0 – 0

Mr. Branthoover requested approval of a \$200 donation to Rescue 8 in lieu of their CPR and AED training that is done for our employees bi-annually.

Motion: Fry
Second: Fisher
Motion to approve Resolution #2 of 2015 titled Records

Motion Carried 4– 0 – 0

ANNOUNCEMENTS

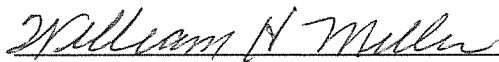
An executive session was held prior to the Regular Meeting for the purpose of discussing legal and personnel matters. A Budget Work Session was held prior to the Regular Meeting to discuss Fiscal Year 2016's Operating Budget and 5 Year Capital Plan

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Miller Motion to adjourn.
Second: Fry

Motion Carried 4 – 0 – 0

Meeting adjourned at 7:28 PM.



William H. Miller, Secretary