

NORTH HUNTINGDON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY  
 Work Session, June 1, 2011, 5:30 P.M.  
 North Huntingdon Township Town House  
 11265 Center Highway, North Huntingdon, PA 15642

**Roll Call:**

Andrew Blenko	- Present	Kate Petrosky, Manager	- Present
Edward P. Shields	- Present	Donald J. Snyder, Jr., Solicitor	- Absent
Drew Polczynski	- Absent*	Daniel J. Hewitt, Solicitor	- Present
Timothy J. Hondal	- Present	Chuck Gilbert, System Superintendent	- Present
Joseph M. Korenic, Jr.	- Present	David A. Coldren, KLH Engineers	- Present
		Michael L. Branthoover	- Present

The Work Session of the North Huntingdon Township Municipal Authority was called to order at 5:30 P.M. \* Mr. Polczynski participated via speakerphone.

**Citizen's Input**

No citizens were present.

**Manager's Report**

Mrs. Petrosky reported to the Board that the developer of the Atwood Estates Plan, Centurion Homes, has gone bankrupt. The authority's line is a pier crossing, which means that it is exposed and extends across a stream. The home above it is built on fill which is sliding and is affecting our line. The Authority contracted with a soils consultant to investigate the site to prepare a report on what was needed to stabilize the ground before heavy equipment could be taken in and repair what was ours.

The contractor said they couldn't do this because mostly all of the problem is the responsibility of the property owner. It's his property that is sliding and the consultant, Ackenheil doesn't work for private property owners. Chuck has somewhat stabilized our line by reconnecting hangers that were breaking. The consultant recommended testing and a full scale subsurface investigation which is an estimated cost of \$10,000 - \$15,000 for what is a private property issue.

Attorney Hewitt said the Solicitors recommend getting the homeowner involved advising him of the damage that's being done to our line. Both the homeowner's and the Authority's insurance companies should be put on notice of the situation. The Board discussed the responsibility of the homeowner versus the Authority. Attorney Hewitt stated that all the preliminary reviews indicate this is a property issue and not a right-of-way or sewer line issue.

The survey for the Parkside Pump Station has been sent to Bill Chapman for appraisal. After the appraisal is received, the property will be posted, the surrounding property owners will be notified and offers will be solicited.

Optimus Risk Services Proposal is the safety training proposal. The trainers come to us and the training is tailored to us. The Board is concerned it is going to cost more than what we currently pay for safety training. They would like more information on what training they offer and how often. Mrs. Petrosky is going to get more specific information.

The Authority would like to switch GIS software from Wallingford to ArcView which is compatible with what the Township is using. The Wallingford was an excellent program but it was too much for our needs. We have struggled with it for a couple years trying to get it to operate to our needs. At a cost of \$1,500 per license, the ArcView is just a tenth of the cost of the Wallingford.

On the budget overview, there is a rate resolution raising the rate by \$1.25. Of that, \$0.75 goes to operating and \$0.75 to capital improvements. The tap fee is being raised from \$3,070 to \$3,300.

The auditors informed us that we are required to get a fair market valuation of the Swaption. This has to be done before the audit can be issued. Mrs. Petrosky will be getting a quote and will provide more information when she gets it.

### **Financial Director's Report**

Mr. Branthoover stated we are going to have two servers. There is going to be the main work horse that is going to house our financial software, the GIS and the document imaging. It can have up to ten different operating systems going at once. The one we have now is out of memory and space and it's running only two servers. Also included are two Smart UPS's that will shut things down properly in the event of a power failure so that hard drives aren't crashed. The secondary server is used as the backup to the primary in the event of some failure or catastrophe. Also included are new fire walls, software licensing and a new router. The total of the quote is \$19,400 but there's a \$1,000 contingency in there which makes it \$18,400. This is all Costars pricing. All the installation and labor charges are included in our Protech agreement which we pay now. There are no additional charges for any type of labor. This is all government pricing.

The last property appraisal was done in January 2005. It's updated annually with all the new assets but now a new pump station is being added, all the SCADA equipment we're seven years in so a new update should be done. It is \$1,125 for us to provide them updates and they generate reports. The whole appraisal is \$6,500. They will come in and evaluate every asset we have. They will assign a value to it and cross reference it. The entire amount of \$6,500 had been budgeted under insurance. This is what the insurance company uses for our property values. The auditors also use this for the GASB reports. The Board wondered if the updated appraisal was really necessary because the Authority knows the values because they've paid for everything. Attorney Hewitt noted that the Authority's insurance company needs current appraisal figures to be certain that the valuation is something more than guesswork. Without a third-party review and opinion, the Authority runs the risk of an increased insurance rating to cover the value of the assets.

**Solicitor's Report**

WWMA has adopted the Fifth Amendment to the service agreement. This amendment will allow the Shuster project at Hampden Heights to proceed. It's a reciprocal agreement that says as long as everybody required is on board, the Fifth Amendment will be signed. The Board is concerned about the language on the calculation of any changes on the capacity fee.

**System Superintendent's Report**

Mr. Gilbert showed the Board televised portions of the main line and laterals where water was coming in offset joints while it was raining. They discussed the upcoming project on Richard Road, Wayne Drive, Torie Drive and Colonial Manor Road. The estimated cost is \$330,000 for about 2,400 feet of line.

Mrs. Petrosky reported that the force main at Indian Lake has broken again. Chuck believes this keeps happening because of the large rocks that were used in the backfill. The specs have since been changed to use full stone backfill. The Board discussed changing the specs even more to be sure this doesn't happen in the future.

**Adjournment**

The Work Session adjourned at 6:59 PM.

  
Edward P. Shields, Secretary