# DOYLESTOWN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY Minutes of Meeting August 17, 2017

A meeting of the Doylestown Township Municipal Authority was held at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 17, 2017 in the Township Building with the following members in attendance: Richard A. Bach, Chairman; C. Edward Hege, Vice-Chairman; Joseph Van Houten, Secretary and Kevin Green. Also present at the meeting was Keith Hass, Executive Director; Richard D. Magee, Jr., Municipal Authority Solicitor; Alfred S. Ciottoni, Municipal Authority Engineer and Rick Colello, Board of Supervisors Liaison to the Doylestown Township Municipal Authority.

# **VISITORS**

# **ACTION ITEMS**

MINUTES APPROVAL: July 20, 2017

Mr. Van Houten made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2017 meeting minutes as submitted. Mr. Hege seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved by the Authority.

## BILL'S LIST: August, 2017

Mr. Van Houten made a motion to approve the July 20, 2017 Bills List for the General Fund Account in the amount of \$14,297.88; Developers Escrow Fund in the amount of \$0.00; Repair and Replacement Fund in the amount of \$12,314.62; Capital Improvement Fund in the amount of 5,193.08; Prepaid Invoices in the amount of \$45,927.86; Prepaid ACH Credit Invoices in the amount of \$9,854.53 and Transfers to the Township in the amount of \$82,266.05. Mr. Hege seconded the motion which was then unanimously approved by the Authority.

# TREASURER'S REPORT: August 17, 2017

Mr. Van Houten made a request to the DTMA Chairman asking if he and Mr. C. Edward Hege could be assigned to the 2018 Budget Subcommittee in order to begin working on said budget and Mr. Richard Bach agreed. Mr. Van Houten made a motion to approve acceptance of the August 17, 2017 Treasurer's Report as presented. Mr. Green seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved by the Authority.

#### AUTHORIZATION TO BID RIDINGS LANE WELL UPGRADE PROJECT

Mr. Hass stated that this project is a budgeted item and that he is hoping to be able to recommend the bid award by October. Mr. Van Houten made a motion to authorize the advertisement for public bidding of the Ridings Lane Well Upgrade Project. Mr. Green seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved by the Authority.

# AUTHORIZATION FOR APPROVAL OF METRO STORAGE DEVELOPMENT PLANS

Mr. Ciottoni requested approval of this project subject to the conditions set forth in his letter dated August 9, 2017. Mr. Hass stated that a Developer Agreement has not yet been received for this project. Mr. Van Houten made a motion to authorize approval of the Metro Storage Development Utility Plans contingent upon SC Engineers, Inc., comments addressed in the Conditional Approval letter of August 9, 2017. Mr. Hege seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved by the Authority.

# CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATES

#### 2017 WATER METER REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Mr. Hass reported that a good response was received from the USPS certified letters mailed July 27, 2017 leaving only a few meters yet to be installed. One more attempt will be made to connect with the remaining customers before a door hanger is placed on their door indicating a water shut-off date as well as the fee that will be charged to turn the water back on.

#### **NEW BRITAIN BOROUGH MYERS AVENUE PROJECT**

Mr. Hass reported that he had a positive meeting on July 18 that confirmed two-thirds of Myers Avenue residents' interest in public water. He stated that easements and drawings are being finalized and a meeting is scheduled for August 22 with New Britain Borough representatives to discuss an Inter-Municipal Agreement. Mr. Hass hopes to have a signed agreement in hand for the DTMA's next meeting.

## DTMA SAW MILL ROAD CROSS KEYS WATER MAIN EXTENSION

Mr. Ciottoni reported that construction on this project is scheduled to begin on August 18, 2017.

# DEVELOPER PROJECT UPDATES

#### THE PAVILION AT FURLONG

Mr. Hass reported that the developer of this project, Souderton Associates, accepted bids the week of August 10 from contractors for construction of a water line for the Pavilion at Furlong project. Bid analysis is ongoing but the initial review looks favorable for this project to move forward.

#### **DOYLESTOWN HOSPITAL**

Mr. Ciottoni reported that he received revised plans from the Hospital which will necessitate the relocation of one or more of the Hospital's water mains, the cost of same to be incurred by the Hospital.

# **NEW BUSINESS**

#### PLUMSTEAD WATER CAPACITY

Mr. Hass reported that Plumstead Township has approached the DTMA about the possibility of providing water service to several private Plumstead Township developments and local elementary schools. Negotiations have begun with their developers and future developments seem imminent. Mr Hass reported that the DTMA would not own the mains; rather the DTMA would simply sell water to the Township and future improvements would be carried by Plumstead Township.

#### **NESHAMINY MANOR WATER SERVICE**

Mr. Hass reported that the agreement with Neshaminy Manor had come to an end and that he was pursuing a continued relationship with the DTMA's third largest customer. He explained that they are considering getting out of the water business and are currently looking at several options including the idea of the DTMA operating their systems and/or buying more water from us and giving up their tanks including one, 1 million storage tank. Mr. Hass stated that our competition is North Wales Water Authority and that discussions are on-going with all potential agreements to be brought back to the DTMA. Mr. Hass ended discussion of this topic by stating that they are very happy with our service but are looking at their bottom line.

# DTMA WATER SERVICE EXTENSION POLICY AND LETTER TO RESIDENTS

DTMA professionals, Mr. Alfred Ciottoni and Mr. Rich Magee, along with Mr. Hass provided an overview of their staff recommendations for a water main extension policy.

Mr. Magee stated that the goal of this initial proposal was to establish a matrix by which water provision for existing neighborhoods would be considered going forward. Mr. Ciottoni reviewed the following scenarios:

- A \$5,000 plus tap-in fee residential flat rate
- A commitment level of at least 2/3 of the property owners before a project could move forward
- Two-thirds of any water main extension project cost would be paid by the DTMA

Unanswered questions included the following:

- When would a property be assessed?
- Would all properties be assessed or only the committed 2/3?

Members of the DTMA thanked the DTMA professionals, Messrs. Magee Ciottoni and Hass for an excellent start to this concept and recommended that the Doylestown Township Board of Supervisors be approached for their input regarding the implementation of this proposed matrix.

Members of the DTMA also gave Mr. Hass the "go ahead" to implement the above scenario for small projects going forward including the Myers Avenue project.

Mr. Bach concluded the discussion of this topic by stating that as a public entity it is the obligation of the DMA to provide for and serve our residents.

#### **FURLONG HSCA GRANT**

Mr. Hass reported on the favorable verbal notification of the \$688,400 grant request from the PA DEP to install public water to contaminated areas. He then distributed a map of the proposed area to be included in the grant project consisting of 15 total entities – 11 commercial and 4 residential units. Mr. Ciottoni reported that he had not yet seen the written documentation but maintained that an Inter-Municipal Agreement between Doylestown and Buckingham Townships would need to be created and that consideration would need to be given to the creation of a document regarding a mandatory connection requirement for those outside of the

service area to connect to the main. A discussion regarding how the overage might need to be split was also entertained.

# OTHER BUSINESS

# EASTON ROAD PFC HSCA SITE INVESTIGATION

Mr. Hass referenced the DTMA board packet for information on this project.

## **DOYLESTOWN PATCH WATER ARTICLE**

Mr. Hass referenced the DTMA board packet for information on this project.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** The next meeting of the Doylestown Township Municipal Authority will be held on Thursday, September 28, 2017 starting at 4 pm. Please note that this is the fourth Thursday of the month.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before the Authority, the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Keith Hass Executive Director

Date