# DOYLESTOWN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY Minutes of Meeting June 21, 2018

A meeting of the Doylestown Township Municipal Authority was held at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 21, 2018 in the Township Building with the following members in attendance: Richard A. Bach, Chairman; C. Edward Hege, Vice-Chairman; Joseph C. Van Houten, Secretary; Kevin Green, Assistant Secretary/
Treasurer, and Rod Stone, the newest member of the Doylestown Township Municipal Authority. 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.

# **ACTION ITEMS**

The Chairman, Mr. Richard Bach, welcomed the newest member of the Doylestown Township Municipal Authority, Mr. Rod Stone to the DTMA, and stated that Mr. Stone is joining the Authority as a retired educator as the former Principal of Central Bucks South High School.

## **MINUTES APPROVAL: May 17, 2018**

Upon a motion by Mr. VanHouten, seconded by Mr. Green, and unanimously approved by the Authority the minutes of the May 17, 2018 DTMA meeting was approved as submitted:

#### BILL'S LIST: June 2018

Mr. Van Houten made a motion to approve the June 21, 2018 Bills List for the General Fund Account in the amount of \$47,972.19; Developers Escrow Fund in the amount of \$396.00; Capital Improvement Fund in the amount of \$470,828.98; Prepaid Invoices in the amount of \$267,751.15; Prepaid ACH Credit Invoices in the amount of \$8,450.83 and Transfers to the Township in the amount of \$83,147.70. Mr. Green seconded the motion which was then unanimously approved by the Authority.

# TREASURER'S REPORT: June 21, 2018

Mr. Green made a motion to approve acceptance of the June 21, 2018 Treasurer's Report as presented. Mr. Hege seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved by the Authority.

# APPLICATION FOR PAYMENTS #5 JEV CONSTRUCTION, INC. APPLICATION FOR PAYMENTS #6 AJM ELECTRIC, INC.

Mr. Ciottoni, Engineer for the Doylestown Township Municipal Authority, referenced his letter to the DTMA dated June 5, 2018 relative to the Ridings Well Upgrade. He noted that the project is substantially complete and operational at this point. Based on Mr. Ciottoni's recommendation, Mr. Van Houten made a motion to approve JEV Construction, Inc., 116 West Main Street, Clinton, NJ 08809, Payment Request #5 in the amount of \$29,626.51 for work completed to date on Contract No. 2017-2A: Ridings Wellhouse Upgrade – General Construction as well as AJM Electric, Inc., 2333 Concord Road, Chester Township, PA 19013, Payment Request #6 in the amount of \$43,929.00 for work completed to date on Contract No. 2017-2B: Ridings Wellhouse Upgrade – Electrical Improvements for a total expenditure of \$73,555.51. Mr. Hege seconded the motion which was then unanimously approved by the Authority.

## APPLICATION FOR PAYMENT #2 PACT ONE, LLC.

Mr. Ciottoni referenced his letter of June 12 relative to the Furlong Area Water System and reported that the project is 50% complete at this time. At the recommendation of Mr. Ciottoni, Mr. Van Houten made a motion to approve PACT One, LLC Payment Request #2 in the amount of \$392,941.10 for work completed on Contract 2018-1: Furlong Area Water System. Mr. Green seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by the Authority.

# DEVELOPER PROJECT UPDATES

Mr. Hass referenced a separate update sheet provided in the meeting packet and stated that the Metro Storage project just started to cross the creek.

# **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **PRIVATE WELL REQUESTS**

Mr. Hass introduced discussion of the current Rules and Regulations for Water Service for private well abandonment once a landowner is connected to DTMA water, versus the ability to maintain the private well after connecting to public water. A resident at 671 Limekiln Road formally requested to connect to DTMA public water, if allowed to keep their private well for irrigation purposes. In the DTMA Rules and Regulations for Water Service, individual requests to maintain private wells for irrigation purposes may be granted if specifically approved by the Authority.

This specific homeowner provided a plumbing quote and scope of work that totally isolates the plumbing between the private well and plumbing connected to

the DTMA system. Once the work is completed, DTMA and Doylestown Township inspect the work for compliance.

The consensus of the Authority was to direct Mr. Keith Hass to canvas other municipalities as to their practice in this regard. Mr. Hass agreed to do some research regarding the protocol of other municipalities via a consortium meeting he will be attending July 16<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Hege recommended that the DTMA postpone a vote on this request pending more information from the consortium meeting on July 16. Mr. Van Houten made a motion to allow the landowner at 671 Limekiln Road to connect to public water, while keeping their well for irrigation purposes pursuant to Section 2.3 Well Abandonment of the Rules and Regulations for DTMA Water Service. Yearly backflow prevention testing of the plumbing will be required. Mr. Stone seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a vote of 3-1 with Mr. Hege voting no.

#### **EASTON ROAD DEP PFC SITE**

Mr. Hege referenced a newspaper (Inquirer) article about PFOA/PFOS and stated that he thought the DTMA should consider a contingency plan regarding acceptable PFOA/PFOS levels. He also stated that he would like to get a cost estimate for carbon treatment in the future.

#### **DELAWARE VALLEY OPERATIONS**

Mr. Hass stated that the DelVal water system is in its second year of the water operations agreement at the same pricing as the 2017-2018 agreement.

#### OLD BUSINESS

#### PEBBLE RIDGE/WOODRIDGE SURVEY UPDATE

The Chairman recognized and welcomed a Doylestown Township resident, Mrs. Anita Peters of 77 Stony Lane Circle to the meeting and invited her to speak to the Board. Mrs. Peters stated that her intention in coming to the DTMA meeting was as a volunteer representing her neighborhood of Stony Lane Circle with respect to the possibility of public water installation in the neighborhood.

Mrs. Peters stated that the consensus of her neighborhood is that most people are interested in public water but added that it's been quite a blow to see that dollar figure added to the current sewer expenses.

Mr. Hass reported that public water and public sewer are two distinct entities and he gave a brief explanation regarding the differences related to the type and depth of pipes used in both cases.

Mrs. Peters asked what would happen if 2/3 of the neighbors were in favor of public water leaving 1/3 uninterested.

Mr. Hass stated that no definitive decision has been made regarding a commitment to move forward with the project.

The Board Chairman, Mr. Dick Bach, stated that the Board is very much committed to the provision of public water to the township explaining that supplying water is what the Authority does but he maintained that cost is always a concern and that the DTMA does not have the money to fund the entire project and, therefore, he added that the project is not feasible unless we have enough of a commitment to say we can do it given the project costs and the future recoup of funds through subsequent water bills/payments.

Mrs. Peters asked if the DTMA or the interested homeowners would be responsible for making up the difference in costs.

The DTMA Engineer, Mr. Fred Ciottoni, explained that if 4-5 properties are involved, the Authority would pay the difference with the hope that those monies would be recouped as those houses are sold.

Mr. Bach reiterated the fact that, currently, there is no mandatory hook-up policy.

In response to a question from the resident, Mr. Van Houten explained the incentive currently being offered by the DTMA for public water hook-up. He also explained the fact that the homeowner does, ultimately, pay for a public water system as follows:

- If a development is new, the developer pays for the water system and that expense is added into the purchase price of each home in the development.
- 2. If a new system is installed in an existing neighborhood, the homeowners pay for the system upon installation.

Mr. Van Houten stated that the only time that the expense of a public water system does not fall upon the homeowner is when a current system becomes contaminated in which case the DEP is responsible.

Mrs. Peters asked if residents would still be permitted to use their private well water if they hooked up to public water.

Mr. Hass said that is currently not the case.

Mr. Hege clarified his understanding with Mrs. Peters that she (and some of her neighbors) was looking at the installation of public water as an investment concept.

Mrs. Peters said that she was not sure. She also questioned if the system would be installed if just her neighborhood was in favor of same.

Mr. Hege stated that it was *technically* feasible because her street could tap off of the Woodbridge main.

Mrs. Peters asked if the expense would be defrayed at all if people paid the full amount up front.

Mr. Hass responded that question would need to be brought for discussion by the DTMA Board.

Mr. Ciottoni reinforced the fact that the current numbers are not yet firm and clarified the fact that the dollar figures are, at this time, only an estimate.

Mr. Hege reiterated that it was the Board's intention to provide the homeowners with an approximate cost/reasonable estimate in order to assist the residents in making an intelligent, informed decision.

Mrs. Peters stated that it was her intention to approach the remaining neighbors who have not yet indicated what they planned to do.

Mr. Hege stated that he really would like more to have as many responses as possible in order for the DTMA to make a decision regarding this project.

In response to a question from Mrs. Peters regarding timing of the projects, Mr. Hass stated that the sewer project would come first followed by the water project.

Mrs. Peters expressed her appreciation to the DTMA for all that they were doing on behalf of the Township and Mr. Bach thanked her for all of her interaction with her neighbors, etc.

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The next meeting of the Doylestown Township Municipal Authority will be held on Thursday, July 19, 2018 starting at 3:30 pm.

# ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Authority, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Keith Hass

**Executive Director** 

Authority Secretary

Date Approved by Authority