## DOYLESTOWN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY Minutes of 2023 Budget Work Session Meeting September 15, 2022

A 2023 Budget Work Session meeting of the Doylestown Township Municipal Authority was held at 2:00pm on Thursday, September 15, 2022 in the Township Building with the following members in attendance: Joseph Van Houten, Chairman; Kevin Green, Vice-Chairman Daniel Stairiker, Secretary and Robert Shaffer Assistant Secretary/Treasurer, Also present at the meeting was Keith Hass, Executive Director and Ken Wallace, Finance Director of DTMA.

## WELCOME

The DTMA Chairman, Mr. Joseph Van Houten, opened the meeting at 2:00 pm.

## **DTMA Water Rate and Investment Discussion**

Mr. Van Houten led an overall discussion about DTMA's water rates in comparison to neighboring water utilities. The 2021 Water Cost Report was briefly reviewed highlighted by the fact ancillary revenues help offset any rate increases. A discussion followed on the dependence of ancillary revenue and depreciation factoring into the water costing report. Mr. Hass indicated he would follow up with our auditor about the topic of depreciation and rates. After further discussion about capital costs related to future PFAS projects the water rate will be recommended in the 2023 DTMA Budget to remain unchanged.

Also discussed was the idea to create a separate capital fund for future water system expansion projects. With the increasing rates on investments, DTMA could utilize the earnings to help offset construction costs for individual property owners. Mr. Wallace and Mr. Hass suggested investing \$3 million in a PLGIT fund. Detail will be provided at a future DTMA Regular Meeting. Finally, it was discussed the system expansion of new customers such as the proposed Whole Foods, Biotechnology Center, and Wawa help generate added revenue.

#### 2023 Capital Budget

Mr. Hass reviewed individually the proposed Capital Improvement projects listed in the 2023 proposed budget. Highlights included Central Booster Station and South Booster Station Emergency Generators Project and the Northern Tank Transmission Project.

Mr. Green asked for clarification on the SCADA Project Capital line item. Mr. Hass indicated he'll provide a breakdown of total costs.

#### **2023 Operations Budget**

Mr. Hass reviewed general fund expenditures are projected to remain steady with the exception of water purchases. Mr. Green asked about the tree removal budget and Mr. Hass indicated DTMA is working with the Township's contractor. Mr. Stairiker asked about the potential early detection of customers leaks to avoid high bills. Mr. Hass indicated DTMA can record the leaks in a meter data collector but are not notified immediately.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Authority, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Keith Hass Executive Director

Date