MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HILLTOWN TOWNSHIP WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY OF JUNE 8, 2022

The June 8, 2022 meeting of the Hilltown Township Water and Sewer Authority was called to order by Chairman Frank Beck at 7:30 PM. Other Board members in attendance included John Rankin, Keith Weiss, Melvin Wright and Bruce Knipe. The Authority Manager, along with staff members Tom Kelso of Castle Valley Engineering (Authority Planner) and Jack D. Wuerstle, Esquire (Authority Solicitor), were also present.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Chairman Beck called for action on the minutes from the Authority's May 2022 meeting. Mr. Rankin made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Mr. Knipe seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

As there was no Public Comment or Confirmed Appointments, the Chairman then called upon the Authority Manager for presentation of the Staff Report.

Mr. Groff reported normal operations of the water system for the previous month, with the wells combining to pump just under 9.5 million gallons (or 45% of the capacity allowed by the Delaware River Basin Commission). The Authority has yet to experience this year the typical increase in water usage often associated with warmer weather. Mr. Groff also reported that the Authority has purchased a gate valve box cutter, allowing the Authority to replace damaged valve boxes internally, which will eliminate significant cost over time.

As to sewer operations, Mr. Groff reported normal operations throughout the system last month. In addition, the new electric line to the replaced PWTA meter (former meter damaged during hurricane event) has been installed.

With respect to capital projects, paperwork is being submitted to PaDEP regarding backwash effluent on the proposed new well. As to the Route 313 water/sewer extension, the Act 537 advertising has been published, and the revision has been submitted to both the Township Planning Commission as well as the Bucks County Department of Health. The E&S permit is complete and expected to be submitted shortly. Finally, the easement documents necessary for the water/sewer extension along Route 313 have now been secured from the two (2) property owners.

As to current development projects, matters have generally progressed slower but surely. The Regency at Hilltown continues towards completion, which is expected within the next several months. Both Tice Estates and the Arbors at Hilltown remain in the 18-month maintenance period, while the homes at Hilltown Glen remain under construction. The Act 537 has been received for both the Johnson Tract and the Buccafuri property. Payment of tapping fees for the Lohin tract is expected within a week or so.

With respect to proposed projects, there was nothing new to report on the Sensinger subdivision, and alternative development plans, depicting a through road, have been submitted for the Weidner Tract.

There was no Executive Session.

Chairman Beck then called for the monthly Treasurer's Report and review of bills. Following discussion, Mr. Rankin made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report and payment of bills; Mr. Wright seconded. The motion carried 5-0.

There were no escrow releases and there was no Old Business.

With respect to New Business, Mr. Groff discussed possibly pursuing a different banking relationship for the Authority. The Authority's current bank has gone through various changes over the past several years, and old relationships no longer exist. In addition, service levels have dropped off. Mr. Groff will continue to pursue alternatives and report back to the Board accordingly. Also, Mr. Groff advised the Board of the purchase through COSTARS of the required pipe for the Route 313 extension, which proved to be the most cost-effective approach.

With no further business before the Board, Mr. Knipe made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:02 P.M., seconded by Mr. Weiss. The motion carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

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