

PENN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY

Minutes from Regularly Scheduled Meeting September 5, 2024

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Penn Township Municipal Authority was held on Thursday, September 5, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Penn Township Municipal Authority Office located at 2595 Route 522, Selinsgrove, PA. Chairman Thomas Ferry presiding.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Thomas Ferry, Vice-Chairman Pete DeWire, Treasurer Michael Kuhns, Secretary Gregory Aungst, and Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Isaac Ramer

MEMBERS EXCUSED: *None*

OTHERS PRESENT: Solicitor Robert Cravitz, Operator Cody Cutler, Engineer Joseph Pfirman, and Admin. Secretary Susan Seebold

VISITORS PRESENT: Tony Paar and Matthew Casey of Bright Farms / PENN Greenhouse and Margaret Hill of Blank Rome

Chairman Thomas Ferry called the September 5, 2024 meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

MINUTES:

The Authority members reviewed the minutes of the August 1, 2024 PTMA meeting. After a brief discussion, Chairman Thomas Ferry motioned to approve the minutes of the August 1, 2024 Penn Township Municipal Authority meeting as presented. Vice-Chairman Pete DeWire seconded the motion and unanimously approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT: *None*

CORRESPONDENCE: *None*

BRIGHT FARMS / PENN GREENHOUSE WATER USAGE:

Mr. Tony Paar and Mr. Matthew Casey of Bright Farms / PENN Greenhouse along with their legal representative, Ms. Margaret Hill of Blank Rome, came before the Authority to discuss their solutions to remedy Bright Farms / PENN Greenhouse's permitted water usage violations. According to Mr. Matthew Casey, Bright Farms / PENN Greenhouse has found several areas where corrective actions were taken to decrease their water usage. Mr. Casey further reported that the facility only exceeded their permitted water usage one day within the past month when a valve was inadvertently left open overnight. After a brief discussion, the Authority members directed the Bright Farms / PENN Greenhouse representatives to continue their ongoing investigation to ensure that they do not exceed their maximum permitted water usage of 34,400 gallons per day.

(Mr. Tony Paar, Mr. Matthew Casey, and Ms. Margaret Hill left the meeting at 7:13 p.m.)

PENN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY – September 5, 2024 minutes (cont.)

After further discussion, Engineer Joseph Pfirman and Solicitor Robert Cravitz were directed to research the installation of a water valve that can be automatically closed when Bright Farms / PENN Greenhouse reaches their daily permitted water usage limit and then reopened the following day at 12:01 a.m. to start the process over again. Further discussion was tabled until the next PTMA meeting.

ALTERNATE WELL #2 PROJECT:

The Authority members reviewed the September 5, 2024 email from Jennifer Reese of GeoServices, Ltd. concerning the status of the Alternate Well #2 Test Well Project. Vice-Chairman Pete DeWire reported that Alternate Well #2 test well has been installed at 541 feet deep and is only yielding 57 gpm; however, the test well was only partially developed, because the drill rig did not have enough air power to clean out the entire test well. Vice-Chairman DeWire further reported that the driller plans to use a pump to complete the development of the test well and estimates the yield to be approximately 80 to 100 gpm, which is much lower than the preferred yield of 200 gpm. It shall be noted that the aforementioned pump is scheduled to be installed in the test well on September 25, 2024 with the pumping to begin on September 26, 2024. It shall be further noted that screening samples will be collected for testing after the test well has been pumped for a half of a day with the test results arriving in about three weeks. Further discussion was tabled until the next PTMA meeting.

WATER BOOSTER PUMP STATION REPAIR:

Operator Cody Cutler stated that he has nothing new to report on the Water Booster Pump Station Repair. Further discussion was tabled until the next PTMA meeting.

WELL #1 REPLACEMENT PUMP:

Engineer Joseph Pfirman reported that the Well #1A Replacement pumps have arrived at Modern Pump, who plans to install them in Well #1A later this month. Further discussion was tabled until the next PTMA meeting.

2025 PTMA MEETING SCHEDULE:

After a brief discussion, Secretary Gregory Aungst motioned to schedule the PTMA meetings in 2025 to be held on the first Thursday of each month with all meetings scheduled to begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Penn Township Municipal Authority Office with the exception of the January and July 2025 meetings, which will be held the second Thursday and first Wednesday of the month, respectively. Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Isaac Ramer seconded the motion and unanimously approved. The Authority office was directed to advertise the 2025 PTMA meeting schedule in the next edition of the Snyder County Times.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Thomas Ferry:

Chairman Thomas Ferry stated that he had nothing further to report.

VICE-CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Pete DeWire:

Vice-Chairman Pete DeWire stated that he had nothing further to report.

INSPECTOR'S REPORT – Pete DeWire:

Inspector Pete DeWire stated that he had nothing further to report.

PENN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY – September 5, 2024 minutes (cont.)

OPERATOR’S REPORT – Cody Cutler:

The Authority members reviewed and discussed the Monthly Operating Reports submitted by PTMA Operator Cody N. Cutler. (See Attachment A) Operator Cody Cutler reported that the August 11, 2024 water system leaks on Clifford Road and Route 522 have been repaired. Operator Cutler further discussed the need to start replacing the PTMA water system valves that were installed in 1994.

TREASURER’S REPORT – Michael Kuhns:

Financial Reports / Authorization of Bill Payments:

The Authority members reviewed and discussed the financial reports. (See Attachment B and C) After a brief discussion, Secretary Gregory Aungst motioned to approve the Treasurer’s Report, Payments, and Timecards as presented. Assistant Secretary/Treasurer Isaac Ramer seconded the motion and unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT:

With no further business to discuss, Vice-Chairman Pete DeWire motioned to adjourn the September 5, 2024 PTMA meeting at 8:08 p.m. Treasurer Michael Kuhns seconded the motion and unanimously approved.

***Respectfully Submitted,
Susan L. Seebold, Administrative Secretary
Penn Township Municipal Authority***