

**LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP AUTHORITY    APRIL 12, 2021**

The Lower Pottsgrove Township Authority held their regular monthly meeting via Zoom on Monday, April 12, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm, the following attended:

James Toth-Chairman	Edward Wagner, Manager
Cody Robbins-Vice-Chairman	Stephen Kalis, Solicitor
Mark Loshnowsky, Secretary	Gus Meyer
James Vlahos, Treasurer	Kathy Kurtas
Sean Pence-Member	Tim Watson, Sewer Operator

Mr. Toth announced that this meeting is being recorded.

**APPROVAL OF AUTHORITY MINUTES:** Mr. Robbins made a motion to approve the March 8, 2021 meeting minutes and Mr. Vlahos seconded the motion, and all unanimously approved by a 3-0 vote. Mr. Toth and Mr. Loshnowsky abstained from the vote as they were not at the meeting.

**COMMENTS FROM VISITORS:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Update on Woodland Drive Phase 1 Sewer Main Replacement Project**—Mr. Wagner stated that in the packet Mr. Meyer prepared payment request #4 which represents the final payment of \$61,390.94 for the Woodland Drive Project. Mr. Wagner said the total project budget came in at \$329,759.92 and we budgeted \$400,000.00 so we are under budget. Mr. Loshnowsky made a motion to approve the final payment request of \$61,390.94 for the Woodland Drive project and Mr. Robbins seconded the motion and all unanimously approved by a 5-0 vote.

**Update on Woodland Drive Phase 1 Sewer Main Replacement Project**—Mr. Wagner reported that a pre-construction meeting was held on April 7, 2021 with Joao Bradley and they are projected to begin either on April 22 or April 26<sup>th</sup>. They will hand out notices to the residents several days prior to the start date. He said they are planning to start at the intersection of Woodland and Woodland where we finished phase 1. They will then proceed and complete the sewer extension on Blue Spruce Court. They are hoping to finish the project in 3 to 4 weeks pending weather conditions as well as any material delays. The School District has been informed and will reroute the bus services till the week of the Memorial Day holiday. Mr. Wagner said that Mr. Vlahos spoke with Brookside Country Club and they will allow us to use their maintenance yard at the end of North Adams St. & Woodland Drive.

**Update on the Gryphon Dryer**—Mr. Kalis said to the members of the Board that the Gryphon Dryer will be discussed at that the executive session after the regular meeting tonight.

**Update on Sanatoga Lake Pump Stations Improvements**—Mr. Watson stated that Sanatoga Pump Station is moving along. He said they are installing new piping in the wet wells and they are current on bypass pumping. The controller technician will be out early next week to install the new controller. Mr. Watson said everything is right on schedule.

**Discussion on Borough Authority April 15, 2021 Meeting**—Mr. Wagner said he received the latest updates today and their O & M contributions have increased last month to \$117,683.00. One of the contributing factors was that sludge disposal increased by \$84,000.00 in March. He reviewed some of the other expenses incurred with the Board such as cleaning the RAS tanks, legal expenses increased by \$6,100, engineering expenses increased by 16,000.00 and a few items with the dryer and these items will be discussed at the upcoming meeting on Thursday. Mr. Wagner reported that the bulk revenue was up to \$159,000 for the month of March, and is approximately \$26,000.00 over budget, which is a good thing.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Discussion on Flow Control Valve Repair at Porter Road Pump Station for \$13,750.00---**

Mr. Watson reported that the flow control valve needs to be replaced and the best way to purchase it as a one-piece unit. He said that way we get a guarantee with the purchase and do not have to replace old parts with new parts. Mr. Wagner asked Mr. Watson to explain why we need this control valve. Mr. Watson explained that the cylinder is leaking and during wet weather events the 200 hp pump runs and could run for 5 hours or 10 days. Mr. Toth asked what the consequences of this happening would be, and a discussion ensued. It was decided after the discussion that we will make a motion to purchase the flow control valve in compliance with the bidding requirements as outlined by Solicitor Stephen Kalis.

Mr. Pence made a motion to approve the purchase of a flow control valve for use at the Porter Road pump station for an amount not to exceed \$13,750.00 and subject further to compliance with all public bidding requirements for telephonic bidding and Mr. Robbins seconded and all unanimously approved by a 5-0 vote.

**Discussion on the Authority Engineer Interviews and Recommendations---**Mr. Robbins prepared a statement for Ebert Engineering to present to the Board. Mr. Robbins said first let me start off by saying thanks to the Board for the confidence you had in me to make this challenging yet most important decision. One of the most important things was to make sure that each member was aware that every piece of documentation that was received as a committee was also shared with all the members of the Board. Mr. Robbins continued with brief explanation as to why the committee decided on Ebert Engineering. He said Ebert Engineering's track record with helping municipalities with DEP imposed corrective action plans, their work with older systems and pump station experience was what sold the committee. Ebert Engineering specializes in water and wastewater only and the committee has chosen them as the number one pick. Mr. Robbins is happy to say that money was not a deciding factor in his recommendation, but we will have some savings of around \$23.00 an hour over our previous firm.

Mr. Pence gave a quick summary on his reasons for selecting Ebert Engineering. He said that we interviewed six firms but had reviewed more than 13 firm's proposals, and by far Mr. Pence said Ebert Engineering had the best interview. They are a firm that specializes in wastewater and they were able to answer all our questions. He stated that there is also a reduction in the pay rate which is good for our budget. Ebert Engineering has my recommendation that I put before you this evening. Mr. Toth agreed, and he felt that Ebert Engineering had very good qualifications and it looks like they will be a good firm.

Mr. Vlahos made the motion to accept the resignation of Bursich Associates with regret as per the email sent to the Authority Board and Mr. Loshnowsky seconded the motion and all unanimously approved by a vote 5-0.

Mr. Loshnowsky extended his thanks to Mr. Wagner, Mr. Pence and Mr. Robbins for the work that was done to get to this point tonight. It was well thought out and thank all three of you for that. Mr. Toth agreed.

Mr. Kalis said the previous motion was tabled and now its back before the Board for consideration. Mr. Robbins made a motion to hire Ebert Engineering at a rate of \$110.75 per hour and Mr. Pence seconded the motion and it was approved by a 4-0 vote. Mr. Vlahos abstained from the vote.

Mr. Toth asked when Ebert Engineering will be starting, and Mr. Wagner responded by April 16, 2021. Mr. Toth wanted to extend his thanks to Gus Meyer and Bursich Associates for making this a smooth transition for this change. Mr. Kalis added his thanks for all the many things they have done to benefit the Authority. Mr. Pence extended his thanks to Mr. Meyer for his service. Mr. Wagner extended his thanks to Mr. Meyer as well as the whole staff of Bursich Associates.

The Developers CAP/CMP # 39 and Engineering Report was emailed to the Authority Board for their review.

## **April 12, 2021**

### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

#### **I. TREASURERS REPORT:**

Mr. Vlahos read the Treasurers Report dated April 12, 2021:

<b>SEWER REVENUE ACCOUNT</b>	<b>\$4,260,501.57</b>
<b>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT RESERVE</b>	<b>\$ 719,705.51</b>

Mr. Loshnowsky made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and Mr. Robbins seconded the motion and all unanimously approved by a 5-0 vote.

#### **II. BILLS FOR PAYMENT**

Mr. Kalis read the Bills for Payment as presented:

#### **CAPITAL BILLS**

<b>SEWER CAPITAL VICTORY</b>	
<b>BURSICH ASSOCIATES-I&amp;I Contract</b>	<b>\$ 3,724.25</b>
<b>BURSICH ASSOCIATES-Misc Capital</b>	<b>\$ 335.00</b>
<b>BURSICH ASSOCIATES-Woodland Dr #1</b>	<b>\$ 2,784.00</b>
<b>BURSICH ASSOCIATES-Woodland Dr #2</b>	<b>\$ 464.00</b>

<b>FOX ROTHSCHILD</b>	<b>\$ 1,273.00</b>
<b>JWC ENVIRONMENTAL-Porter Rd</b>	<b>\$ 18,670.35</b>
<b>LONGACRE</b>	<b>\$ 225.00</b>
<b>M &amp; S SERVICE CO, INC-Porter Rd</b>	<b>\$ 2,860.00</b>

**OPERATING ACCT PAYMENTS**

<b>BURSICH ASSOCIATES</b>	<b>\$ 6,919.50</b>
<b>FOX ROTHSCHILD, LLP</b>	<b>\$ 551.00</b>

Mr. Pence made a motion to pay the bills as read and Mr. Loshnowsky seconded the motion, and all unanimously approve the bills for payment by a 5-0 vote.

Mr. Pence made a motion to adjourn the public meeting, the meeting adjourned at 7:02 pm and went into executive session and will not return to public meeting. The next scheduled Authority meeting is on May 10, 2021 via zoom.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward C. Wagner  
Authority Manager