

MUHLENBERG TOWNSHIP AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD

A regular meeting of the Board of Muhlenberg Township Authority, Water and Sewer Projects, was held on Thursday, July 9, 2026, beginning at 7:00 p.m., at 210 George Street, Reading, Muhlenberg Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania, 19605, pursuant to notice both advertised and posted according to law.

The following members of the Board were present:

Jim Kelly
Walt LaSota
Rick Mountz

In attendance were Authority Director of Operations, Nathan Roush; Timothy Feltenberger, Facility & Project Manager; Jamie Lorah, PE, of Spotts, Stevens and McCoy (SSM), consulting engineer to the Authority; Thomas A. Rothermel, Solicitor, of Bingaman, Hess, Coblenz & Bell, P.C.; and Scott Boehret, Transcend Business Advisors, Authority controller consultant.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Kelly.

Mr. LaSota made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the previous meeting of the Board held on June 11, 2026. That Motion was seconded by Mr. Mountz and passed unanimously.

Engineering bills for the preceding month were reviewed. Mr. LaSota made a Motion to approve the engineering bills for payment. That Motion was seconded by Mr. Mountz and unanimously adopted.

The accounts payable for both the water and sewer departments for the preceding month were distributed prior to the meeting, a full listing of which has been appended to these Minutes. Mr. Mountz made a Motion to approve payment of the accounts payable for both the water and sewer departments, as presented. That Motion was seconded by Mr. LaSota and unanimously adopted.

There was no comment under the first public portion.

Mr. Roush presented the Operations Report for the preceding month, a full copy of which has been appended to these Minutes. Three (3) water main leaks were identified and repaired, and no water service leaks were identified or repaired this past month. The crew performed miscellaneous services including equipment maintenance, leak detection, flow testing, and sewer trunk line maintenance. The crew also participated in PA-1 Call on-site training. Sewer laterals were cleaned and checked, including six (6) customer owned lines, two (2) traps, and three (3) Authority owned lines. Mr. Roush reported on updated tank level data that was included as part of the Operations Report, which reveals that tank levels remain steady. The Operations Report then concluded.

Under the Engineer's Report, Ms. Lorah of SSM provided a formal report of the Authority's consulting engineer for work completed from June 12, 2026 through July 9, 2026. Ms. Lorah referenced an eleven (11) page report that SSM circulated to the Board in advance of the meeting. The report provides a narrative of the status of each of the projects of the Authority on which SSM is currently engaged.

With regard to the Rivervale pump station upgrade project, Ms. Lorah reported that SSM reviewed drawings and specifications pertaining to installation of a natural gas generator. Apart from added efficiency and safety over the existing diesel unit, the natural gas unit would essentially be sound proof. Mr. Mountz made a Motion to approve the proposal of Pagoda Electrical, a Costars vendor, totaling \$86,580, which price includes demolition of the existing diesel generator, cost of the new gas unit, and installation of the same. Mr. LaSota seconded that Motion, which was unanimously approved. Separately, Mr. LaSota made a Motion to approve installation of a service line to the new gas generator unit at a total cost of \$6,745.80, performed by UGI. Mr. Mountz seconded that Motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further active projects on which to report, and no additional questions posed by the Board, Ms. Lorah's report to the Board concluded. Mr. Mountz made a Motion to accept the Engineer's Report as presented. That Motion was seconded by Mr. LaSota and unanimously approved.

There were no substantive updates on which the Solicitor reported.

Under the Treasurer's Report, Mr. Boehret recommend transfer of \$2,000,000 from the sewer escrow account to PLGIT. Mr. LaSota made a Motion to authorize such transfer, which Motion was seconded by Mr. Mountz and unanimously approved.

Regarding MTA's financials, Mr. Boehret reviewed the Treasurer's Report, a copy of which is appended to these Minutes. The water division realized a net increase of \$182,039 in June, for a total operating account balance of \$3,152,638. Total interest earned over the past month, across both operating and certificates of deposit in the water division, was \$26,834. The sewer division realized a net decrease compared to the prior month in the amount of \$9,465,212, for a total account balance of \$4,784,710. The sizable decrease was due to a recent payment made to the City of Reading under the Intermunicipal Agreement, as amended. In June, interest earned in the sewer division operating and certificate of deposit accounts totaled \$96,129. Total interest earned in the sewer escrow account this past month yielded \$37,717.

Mr. Boehret reviewed the Authority's income statements as of June 30, 2026. With respect to the water division, Mr. Boehret reported that the Authority has \$634,000 net income, \$517,000 of which is from PFAS settlement funds. To date, the Authority has expended \$529,000 in capital projects, which figure is expected to increase with bond funding and those projects already slated to commence. With regard to the sewer division, Mr. Boehret reported that the Authority has \$930,000 net income, \$900,000 of which is interest income. To date, the Authority has expended \$685,000 in capital projects in the sewer division.

Mr. Mountz made a Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. That Motion was seconded by Mr. LaSota and unanimously adopted.

Under New Business:

Mr. Roush advised that the annual BCW&SA Conference was scheduled for July 29, 2026. Crewmembers and office staff will be in attendance. The Board was welcomed to attend.

With respect to the current water and sewer rates, Mr. Roush indicated that he would be circulating proposed rates for a special meeting to review and discuss this issue. A rate study is currently being performed by SSM, which will aid in the Board's review.

Mr. Roush reported that the MTA will once again participate in the National Night Out event, which is scheduled for August 4, 2026 at Jim Dietrich Park.

With respect to union healthcare, Mr. LaSota made a Motion to approve Component Rate Structure for Plan 14, effective July 1, 2026, as evidenced by a Letter of Agreement between the Authority and Teamsters Local Union No. 429. That Motion was seconded by Mr. Mountz and unanimously approved. The switch to a component rate is anticipated to result in an annual cost savings to the Authority in the amount of \$35,000.

With respect to nonunion healthcare, Mr. Roush provided a benefit analysis, prepared by Tompkins Insurance Agency. In all, there are four (4) participants in the nonunion healthcare plan. For the renewal period, utilizing the same Capital BlueCross plan results in an increase of 17.4%, for a total premium cost of \$166,564.80, or a net cost increase of \$24,654.36. After discussion regarding the respective coverages and cost comparisons, Mr. Mountz made a Motion to authorize renewal of the Capital BlueCross Gold PPO HRA plan. That Motion was seconded by Mr. LaSota and unanimously approved.

Mr. Roush advised that Construction Master Services, LLC (CMS) submitted a proposal for trench restoration for street cuts performed this year. The total contract price is \$78,553.60, which is the equivalent of \$21.76 per square foot. CMS is an approved contractor per OMNIA Partners, by and through the Lion National Corporation Affiliate Compliance Management contract, which was competitively solicited and publicly awarded by a lead public agency through a formal RFP process. Mr. Roush further advised that other municipalities utilize CMS for trench restoration work, and CMS is known to perform quality and timely repairs. Mr. LaSota made a Motion to approve the proposal of CMS in the stated amount. That Motion was seconded by Mr. Mountz and unanimously approved. Mr. Feltenberger advised that he will transmit a list to CMS so that trench restoration work may commence without delay.

There was no comment under the second public portion.

Under Member and Staff Comments, Mr. Roush noted that the Muhlenberg Township picnic was tomorrow, which Authority personnel will plan to attend.

Mr. Roush commended Gavin Ream, an Authority crewmember, who recently obtained his wastewater and collections certification. Mr. Ream next intends to secure water certifications.

Chairman Kelly recommended that Mr. Roush attend an upcoming Township Meeting to provide the Commissioners with an update on projects and improvements the Authority has completed to date, and those projects and enhancements to the water and sewer systems that are planned for the future. As part of that report, Mr. LaSota suggested that the Township be apprised of any planned rate increases, once that issue is determined with finality.

Mr. LaSota inquired as to the status of electric bill rates and charges. In response, Mr. Roush indicated that the current rate offerings are being reviewed as part of a cost-savings plan. Mr. Roush will update the Board in that regard as further information becomes available.

There being no further business of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. on Motion of Mr. Mountz, seconded by Mr. LaSota, and unanimously approved.

The next regular meeting of the Board of the Muhlenberg Township Authority will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 13, 2026, at 210 George Street, Reading, Muhlenberg Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania.


Title: *SECRETARY*