

**MUHLENBERG TOWNSHIP AUTHORITY**  
**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD**

A special meeting of the Board of Muhlenberg Township Authority, Water and Sewer Projects, was held on Tuesday, September 17, 2024, beginning at 6:30 p.m., at 210 George Street, Reading, Muhlenberg Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania, pursuant to notice both advertised and posted according to law.

The following members of the Board were present:

Scott Lehr  
Jim Kelly  
Walt LaSota  
Steve Wolfinger  
Rick Hoffmaster

In attendance were Authority General Manager Timothy Feltenberger, and Thomas A. Rothermel, of counsel.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Chairman Lehr. Chairman Lehr noted that the Board (Mr. Wolfinger, Mr. LaSota, Mr. Hoffmaster) previously met in Executive Session on August 17, 2024 to discuss matters involving personnel.

There was no public comment.

Under New Business, the Minutes of the Special Meeting conducted on August 26, 2024 were approved, on Motion of Wolfinger, seconded by Mr. Hoffmaster.

The proposal of PPI, a Costars vendor, was presented for approval in the amount of \$196,625 for the manhole lining project. Mr. Feltenberger reported that the proposal was based on installation of lining in fifty manholes at a depth of twelve vertical feet each. The proposal was within the budgeted amount of the Authority. Depending on the actual depth of the targeted manholes, the actual number of those lined may be more, but is not expected to be less than fifty. Mr. Feltenberger plans to first focus on those manholes located in low-lying areas of the Township, and then expand to other areas of concern relating to stormwater infiltration. Once the project is completed, Mr. Feltenberger will update the manhole data in the Authority's GIS system for purposes of tracking asset management. Mr. Wolfinger made a Motion to approve the proposal of PPI in the amount stated. That Motion was seconded by Mr. LaSota and unanimously approved. The work is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

A proposal of Wexcon, Inc., a Costars vendor, was presented for main replacement of the entirety of Lauralee Avenue, consisting of approximately 2,100 linear feet. The base price for such work totaled \$475,795, plus added costs for such options as system looping and line stop installation. After consideration of the proposal, and to ensure competitive pricing for the scope of work, the Board directed SSM to prepare a bid package.

Regardless of how the work is awarded, the project is expected to be completed before the spring of 2025, which will enable the Township to include the street on its paving schedule.

Mr. Feltenberger presented the Board with a proposal of OCC, a Costars vendor, for conversion of the entire SCADA system to cellular. The proposal totaled \$66,054, plus a one-time \$500 set-up fee, and recurring cellular charges of \$37 per month. As of now, half the system runs on radio and half the system runs on cellular technology. Mr. Feltenberger recommends the full cellular conversion to ensure a greater degree of reliability and access to parts and equipment. Mr. Feltenberger further confirmed that the conversion would include participation in the Firstnet system, which affords municipal agencies priority of cellular communications in the event of an emergency. Mr. Hoffmaster made a Motion to approve the proposal of OCC in the amount stated. That Motion was seconded by Mr. LaSota and unanimously approved.

Mr. Feltenberger reported that he planned to purchase SCBA chlorine safety equipment at a total cost of \$3,871.28, which is needed for DEP compliance. The safety equipment will be stored at the maintenance building. Should the Authority later convert to liquid chlorination, the safety equipment will be donated to the Township fire department. Mr. Feltenberger further advised that he was in the process of scheduling a mutual training session with the fire department regarding the chlorine safety equipment and the various types of equipment utilized by the MTA.

Mr. Feltenberger advised that the engine died in the 2018 Chevrolet truck utilized by the meter reader. The truck is out of warranty. Due to recurring transmission problems, and the cost of a replacement engine, Mr. Feltenberger plans to price the cost of a replacement truck. He will provide further information to the Board as it becomes available.

There being no further business of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. on Motion of Mr. Hoffmaster, seconded by Mr. Wolfinger, 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, October 10, 2024, in the main meeting room of the Muhlenberg Township Administration Building, 210 George Street, Reading, Muhlenberg Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania 19605.

  
Title: *S. Clerk*