

MINUTES OF THE OLEY TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
MEETING HELD JUNE 1, 2023

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Oley Township Municipal Building by Paul Herb with the following board members in attendance....Amandus Reichert and Kim Seidel. Also, from Entech Engineering Kim Mazur, Christopher Hannum, and Marcy Poli; Solicitor John Muir; Nicholas Bieber of Herbein+Company; sewer plant operator Michael Eshbach; Supervisor Mark Hoch; and eight citizens were in attendance. The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was observed.

The meeting agenda was posted in the meeting room and the township website twenty-four hours prior to the start of the meeting. No public comment was heard on any of the listed agenda items.

Nicholas Bieber of Herbein+Company, Inc. provided us with the audit report for the year ended 2022 which he reviewed with us.

Action will be tabled on the minutes of the May 4, 2023 meeting until our next meeting since not enough members were present from that meeting to approve the minutes.

The treasurers report was presented for the month. Sewer Fund: in the OPERATION & MAINTENANCE account the balance is \$25,282.40; in the REVENUE account \$538,663.64; in the INVESTMENT FUND \$290,868.76. Water Fund: in the OPERATION & MAINTENANCE account the balance is \$1,468.61; in the REVENUE account \$83,298.35; in the INVESTMENT FUND \$208,771.55; and in the PROJECT FUND \$12.18. A motion was made by Amandus Reichert and seconded by Kim Seidel to approve and accept the treasurers report as presented. Paul Herb – yes; Amandus Reichert – yes; Kim Seidel - yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Following is a list of past due accounts: (1) Oley Meadows Apartments, account #87, \$220.50; (2) Oley Meadows Apartments, account #100, \$316.01; (3) Matthew & Kelli Hoch, account #300, \$260.00; (4) Michael W. & Bethany Kline, account #318, \$282.47; (5) Brian P. & Traci L. Yorgey, account #344, \$244.33; (6) Timothy M. Kummerer, account #372, \$296.33; (7) Alon Touti, account #430, \$315.00; (8) Matthew J. & Marisa Horne, account #468, \$260.00; (9) Jennifer L. Essig, account #601, \$260.00; and (10) Mark Smolarski, Jr., account #643, \$143.00. A motion was made by Amandus Reichert and seconded by Kim Seidel to have the billing company mail a notice to account numbers 87, 100, 300, 318, 344, 372, 430, 468, 601, and 643 informing them that on June 14, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. their water will be turned off unless payment in full is received prior to that time. Paul Herb – yes; Amandus Reichert – yes; Kim Seidel – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

A report was provided on the operation at the sewer plant during the month. The following was reported: (1) set up oven in lab to run weekly MLSS tests; (2) moved influent sampler into wet well; and (3) dumped 250 gallons of decant water in cleanout at 17 Cherry Lane to help with water flow issue .

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A report was provided on the operation at the water plant during the month. The following was reported: (1) pumped 3,438,300 gallons for the month; (2) Bryer Eshbach passed both sub classes needed to apply for water operator license; (3) fire hydrants flushed; and (4) replaced LMI CL2 pump at Well #2 with a Peristaltic ChemTech Pulsafeeder pump.

Incoming communications:

1. Letter dated May 23, 2023 from Beverly Haas-Keim stating that the decision to electronically issue water and sewer bills and only accept payments through a third party non-local entity is very problematic, error-ridden, and highly inefficient for the customer. She attempted seven times to login to her accounts to setup payments and it failed each time. When contacting the bill processing center they told her she could also pay the bills in person or by mail to the municipal authority locally, she thought it was stated in previous correspondence that this was not an option. She also indicated that the mailed bills were only received May 15th. Mr. Herb said he will contact Ms. Haas-Keim but he believes the payment issue has been resolved.

2. Letter dated May 23, 2023 from Kim & Kathy Seidel informing us they had a sewage blockage at their 17 Cherry Lane residence and based on that the blockage was in the street sewer line they request payment of the Captain Clog invoice in amount of \$650.28, sewer and water credit for 490 gallons used on May 10th to flush line, and a monthly/quarterly service by the Authority to flush sewer line along Cherry Lane to prevent future build-up in this minimal slope line. Mr. Herb said this blockage is occurring in this area due to low flows, he would agree to pay the Captain Clog invoice, as for the credit for the 490 gallons used to flush line we will act on this if necessary once the second quarter bills are generated. A motion was made by Paul Herb and seconded by Amandus Reichert to have the Captain Clog invoice reissued in the name of the Municipal Authority and pay this \$650.28 invoice. Paul Herb – yes; Amandus Reichert – yes; Kim Seidel – abstained. Two in favor, one abstained....motion carried.

Committee reports:

Administrative: (1) Atty. Muir said the amendment to our Rates, Rules & Regulations to include a policy to issue credits for excessive water consumption due to leakage is complete, Mr. Reichert would like more time to review and make changes to this policy prior to adopting the resolution, action on this amendment will be tabled. (2) Mr. Herb had Dallas Data Systems address some of the billing concerns that were brought up at last months meeting by Kevin Bieber and their responses were provided to Mr. Bieber this evening. Mr. Hoch indicated that the M&M Sandwich Shop received the bill for Dunkin Donuts. Shirley Moyer indicated that the township has not yet received the fire hydrant billing and Oley Fire Company has not yet received the sprinkler system billing, it was also observed that Berks Career and Technology Center received a minimum bill listing zero usage for the first quarter and their normal usage for this quarter is between 160,000 to 170,000 gallons. Mr. Hoch asked if would help to have a part-time secretary at the sewer plant to handle these billing complaints. Kevin Bieber said it appears that the Authority is losing money by improper billing.

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Finance: Nothing to report.

Wastewater Plant: Nothing to report.

Water Plant: There are some dead trees near the water storage tank which are located on Anne Gehret's property but she is not pursuing the removal of these trees, these trees could potentially damage the tank. Atty. Muir will check until our next meeting what could be done in this situation.

Ms. Poli provided us with a basis of design, existing sewage facilities, and existing capacity and alternatives relative to the Earl Township alternative analysis study, the alternatives and costs are as follows: SBR's - \$4,115,000; MBR's - \$7,545,000; New Digesters - \$1,409,000; and Ultraviolet Disinfection - \$1,088,000. The content from the memos along with the cost opinions will now be compiled into a final report for incorporation into the Earl Township Act 537 Plan update. Mr. Hannum said Oley Township will also need to update their Act 537 Plan if we agree to provide public sewage to a portion of Earl Township. Mr. Mazur will look into this until our next meeting.

Mr. Mazur provided an update on the status of the Main Street Water Main Replacement Project – Phase II, work began on May 22, 2023, approximately 750 feet of eight inch main has been installed to date on Main Street. The school board president signed the Oley High School Water Main Loop easement agreement but his signature still needs to be attested and notarized, the cost of second connection to the school is \$21,211.50, a reimbursement agreement was prepared by our Solicitor and will be sent to the school board for execution. Received Pay Application #1 in amount of \$93,574.35 from N. Abbonizio Contractors, Inc. and this is being recommended for payment by Mr. Mazur. A motion was made by Kim Seidel and seconded by Amandus Reichert to approve Pay Application #1 in amount of \$93,574.35 for N. Abbonizio Contractors, Inc. for the Main Street Water Main Replacement Project – Phase II. Paul Herb – yes; Amandus Reichert – yes; Kim Seidel – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Received letter dated May 9, 2023 from Oley Township informing us the Supervisors passed a motion adopting Resolution No. 633-23 to approve the Oley Township Municipal Authority New Water Storage Tank Land Development Preliminary Plan contingent on this Resolution being signed by the applicant accepting all the terms of the Preliminary Plan approval. A motion was made by Kim Seidel and seconded by Amandus Reichert to authorize the Chairman and Secretary to execute Resolution No. 633-23 accepting all the terms of the Oley Township Municipal Authority New Water Storage Tank Land Development Preliminary Plan approval. Paul Herb – yes; Amandus Reichert – yes; Kim Seidel – yes. All in favor....motion carried. Received letter dated May 11, 2023 from Berks County Conservation District informing us they reviewed the NPDES and General permit applications and have identified technical deficiencies which will need to be addressed before the review can continue. Mr. Mazur reported that the easements for Retew, Hoshall, and Auchter have been prepared and will be sent out for execution, Met-Ed was instructed to relocate the existing electrical pole from private property to the road right-of-way.

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It was agreed to table action this evening on revising the sewer and water tapping fees.

Mr. Mazur said filters will be installed by a licensed plumber on the water systems at the Kratzer and Angstadt properties to address cloudy water issues they have been experiencing. Mr. Reichert said the total estimated material and labor cost would be \$1,000 per water connection, the Authority could hire the plumber or the property owners could hire their own plumber to perform this work, the Authority would provide the material to the plumber, Jules Hull was the plumber the Authority contacted. Joshua Kratzer said he is agreeable with the Authority hiring the plumber to perform this work. A motion was made by Kim Seidel and seconded by Amandus Reichert to authorize the Municipal Authority to hire Jules Hull Plumbing to install water filter systems with the Authority supplying all materials for this project at the Joshua Kratzer and Barry Angstadt properties at a cost not to exceed \$2,500. Paul Herb – yes; Amandus Reichert – yes; Kim Seidel – yes. All in favor....motion carried. Mr. Mazur said we still need to investigate the line coming out of Well #1 to determine if it will need to be replaced. Mr. Herb suggested to wait until the Main Street project is complete to determine if any of these improvements rectify this issue.

Received letter dated May 31, 2023 from Spotts, Stevens & McCoy informing us they will address the issue of replacing the wastewater treatment plant doors at overhead bean but the Authority must address the matter of their outstanding invoice from July 22, 2022 in the amount of \$12,704.23. Mr. Herb said he received another quote in amount of \$5,641.40 for a different type of steel door.

Received quotation from Envirep, Inc. in amount of \$3,024.86 for repairs and service to Meadowview Pump Station. A motion was made by Kim Seidel and seconded by Amandus Reichert to authorize the repairs and service to the Meadowview Pump Station by Envirep, Inc. in amount of \$3,024.86. Paul Herb – yes; Amandus Reichert – yes; Kim Seidel – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Received quote from Hach Company in amount of \$2,075.00 for a multiparameter portable colorimeter. A motion was made by Amandus Reichert and seconded by Kim Seidel to authorize the purchase of a multiparameter portable colorimeter from Hach Company in amount of \$2,075.00. Paul Herb – yes; Amandus Reichert – yes; Kim Seidel – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

Received quote from Amazon in amount of \$1,644.00 for SH scientific laboratory muffle furnace (\$1,390.00) and Rocker 300 oil free vacuum pump (\$254.00). A motion was made by Amandus Reichert and seconded by Kim Seidel to authorize the purchase of a SH scientific laboratory muffle furnace and Rocker 300 oil free vacuum pump from Amazon in amount of \$1,644.00. Paul Herb – yes; Amandus Reichert – yes; Kim Seidel – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

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Received quote of \$4,741.00 (plus labor for M&A Excavating) for a fire hydrant replacement at Rose Virginia Road and Cherry Lane. It was questioned as to the cost of M&A Excavating to perform this work, no quote was obtained from them but it should be between \$3,000 to \$4,000. A motion was made by Kim Seidel and seconded by Amandus Reichert to authorize the replacement of the fire hydrant at Rose Virginia Road and Cherry Lane at a total cost not to exceed \$9,000.00. Paul Herb – yes; Amandus Reichert – yes; Kim Seidel – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

The following bills were presented for payment for the Sewer System:

Michael A. Eshbach	---	3,595.65
Paul A. Herb	---	791.12
Bryer M. Eshbach	---	2,594.49
Shirley M. Moyer	---	1,965.59
Michael A. Eshbach	---	3,141.03
Paul A. Herb	---	421.88
Bryer M. Eshbach	---	2,197.23
NCR Payroll	---	4,352.66
NCR Payroll	---	31.60
NCR Payroll	---	2,633.45
NCR Payroll	---	31.60
Met-Ed	---	1,660.05
Windstream Conestoga, Inc.	---	317.75
Cardmember Service	---	15.89
Gotwals Sanitation, LLC	---	1,850.00
Delaware County Solid Waste Auth.	---	1,245.00
Denali Water Solutions, LLC	---	220.48
M.J. Reider Associates	---	1,299.70
Spotts, Stevens & McCoy, Inc.	---	428.00
Entech Engineering, Inc.	---	7,255.00
Verizon Wireless	---	143.07
Oley Township	---	143.44
Cardmember Service	---	322.60
Ridge Support Technologies	---	35.00
Dallas Data Systems, Inc.	---	<u>1,210.50</u>
TOTAL SEWER BILLS	---	\$37,902.78

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The following bills were presented for payment for the Water System:

Met-Ed	—	\$ 593.57
Bryer M. Eshbach	---	51.57
Bryer M. Eshbach	---	1,631.04
Cardmember Service	---	67.02
Pump & Corrosion Technologies, Inc.	---	978.09
M.J. Reider Associates, Inc.	---	350.00
Entech Engineering, Inc.	---	8,901.54
N. Abbonizio Contractors, Inc.	---	<u>93,574.35</u>
TOTAL WATER BILLS	—	\$106,147.18

A motion was made by Amandus Reichert and seconded by Kim Seidel to approve the above bills for the sewer and water systems as presented. Paul Herb – yes; Amandus Reichert – yes; Kim Seidel - yes. All in favor....motion carried.

The following sewer report was given as of May 31st -

<u>898</u>	Sewer tapping fees paid to date
<u>434</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 4-30-23
<u>\$73,799.45</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 4-30-23
<u>17</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 1-31-23
<u>\$3,099.41</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 1-31-23
<u>2</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 10-31-22
<u>\$379.54</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 10-31-22
<u>2</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 7-31-22
<u>\$405.16</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 7-31-22
<u>2</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 4-30-22
<u>\$404.46</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 4-30-22
<u>2</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 1-31-22
<u>\$430.22</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 1-31-22
<u>2</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 10-31-21
<u>\$846.39</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 10-31-21
<u>1</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 7-31-21
<u>\$210.00</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 7-31-21
<u>1</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 4-30-21
<u>\$210.00</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 4-30-21
<u>1</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 1-31-21
<u>\$210.00</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 1-31-21
<u>1</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 10-31-20

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<u>\$210.00</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 10-31-20
<u>1</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 7-31-20
<u>\$210.00</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 7-31-20
<u>1</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 4-30-20
<u>\$210.00</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 4-30-20
<u>1</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 1-31-20
<u>\$180.00</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 1-31-20
<u>1</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 10-31-19
<u>\$180.00</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 10-31-19
<u>1</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 7-31-19
<u>\$180.00</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 7-31-19
<u>1</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 4-30-19
<u>\$180.00</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 4-30-19
<u>1</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 1-31-19
<u>\$180.00</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 1-31-19
<u>1</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 10-31-18
<u>\$180.00</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 10-31-18
<u>1</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 7-31-18
<u>\$58.00</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 7-31-18

The following water report was given as of May 31st –

<u>811</u>	Water connections to date
<u>381</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 4-30-23
<u>\$21,209.04</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 4-30-23
<u>10</u>	Number of unpaid rental bills of 1-31-23
<u>\$814.41</u>	Total of unpaid rental bills of 1-31-23

No public comment was heard.

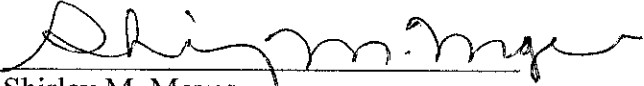
A motion was made by Kim Seidel and seconded by Amandus Reichert to retire to executive session at 8:10 p.m. relative to potential litigation. Paul Herb – yes; Amandus Reichert – yes; Kim Seidel – yes. All in favor....motion carried. A motion was made by Amandus Reichert and seconded by Kim Seidel to reconvene the meeting at 8:44 p.m. Paul Herb – yes; Amandus Reichert – yes; Kim Seidel – yes. All in favor....motion carried.

The next regular meeting will be held Thursday, July 6, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

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There being no further business, a motion was made by Amandus Reichert and seconded by Kim Seidel to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Paul Herb – yes; Amandus Reichert – yes; Kim Seidel - yes. All in favor...motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Shirley M. Moyer

cc: P. Herb
A. Reichert
K. Seidel
C. Italia

A. Schaeffer
J. Muir
K. Mazur