



Livia Smith, Chair
Portia West, Vice Chair
Joan Neal, Secretary
William Riley, Treasurer
John Shelton, Board Member
Fred Green, Board Member
Joy Taylor, Board Member
Susan Dennis, Board Member
Elizabeth Williams, Board Member
Steven A. Hann, Esquire, Solicitor
Dr. Horace Strand, Executive Manager

MINUTES
Board of Directors
STORMWATER AUTHORITY
OF THE CITY OF CHESTER
June 11, 2024

The Board of Directors of the Stormwater Authority of the City of Chester held a Board meeting on Tuesday, June 11, 2024, at the Stormwater Authority office located at 29 East 5th Street, Chester, PA 19013.

Call to Order

Ms. Portia West (Vice-Chair) called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Verification of Published Meeting

Ms. West asked the Executive Secretary (Vanessa Gosa) of the Stormwater Authority to provide verification of the published meeting.

Executive Secretary (Vanessa Gosa) stated that the verification of published meeting was forwarded via email to Solicitor, Steven Hann on Tuesday, May 28, 2024. The notice of published meeting appeared in the Delco Times on Monday, May 27, 2024. Mr. Hann confirmed receipt.

Roll Call of the Board

The following people were present: Mr. William Riley (Treasurer); Mr. Fred Green (Board Member); Ms. Joy Taylor, (Board Member); Ms. Susan Dennis (Board Member); and Ms. Portia West (Vice-Chair).

The following board members were absent: Ms. Joan Neal (Secretary); Ms. Elizabeth Williams (Board Member); Mr. John Shelton (Board Member); and Ms. Livia Smith (Chair).

Let the record reflect that Elizabeth Williams (Board Member) joined the meeting via phone. There are six board members in attendance.

Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer led by Dr. Horace Strand, Executive Manager. Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

None.

Action Items from Executive Session

▪ Reorganization – Board Member, Susan Dennis asked that a motion be made to keep the present officers in place. Mr. William Riley seconded the motion.

Vice-Chair West asked if there were any questions. Board Member, Fred Green asked if that was a proper way to conduct a reorganization; does the board have to take a vote? The question was directed to Solicitor, Steve Hann. Solicitor Hann stated that a reorganization has to be done in a public meeting, and you can make a blanket motion to appoint more than one person to a position such as the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, etc.

Vice-Chair West stated that the motion has been moved and seconded and the question that was asked has been answered.

Motion for Approval of Reorganization of Board Members

Mr. William Riley (Yes); Mr. Fred Green (Yes); Ms. Joy Taylor (Yes); Ms. Elizabeth Williams (Yes); Ms. Susan Dennis (Yes); and Ms. Portia West (Yes). Motion carried. Vice-Chair West confirmed the motion that the officers of the Stormwater Authority board will remain the same.

Approval of the April 17, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

Ms. Susan Dennis made a motion approving the April 17, 2024, board meeting minutes. Ms. Joy Taylor seconded the motion.

Motion for Approval of the April 17, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes

Mr. William Riley (Yes); Mr. Fred Green (Yes); Ms. Joy Taylor (Yes); Ms. Elizabeth Williams (Yes); Ms. Susan Dennis (Yes); and Ms. Portia West (Yes). Motion carried.

Approval of Report of Current and Most Recent Expenditures

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chesterstormwaterauthority@chesterstormwaterauthority.com

Vice-Chair West asked that a motion be made to approve the Report on Current and Most Recent Expenditures.

Ms. Joy Taylor made a motion for approval of the Report on Current and Most Recent Expenditures. Mr. William Riley seconded the motion.

Motion for Approval of Report of Current and Most Recent Expenditures

Mr. William Riley (Yes); Mr. Fred Green (Yes); Ms. Joy Taylor (Yes); Ms. Elizabeth Williams (Yes); Ms. Susan Dennis (Yes); and Ms. Portia West (Yes). Motion carried.

Solicitor's Report

Solicitor, Steve Hann reported that on April 26, 2024, the Authority received a Notice of Appeal of Stormwater Fee Assessment from 908 Hyatt Street Associates LLC. At the request of 908 Hyatt Street Associates LLC, a hearing on this matter will be scheduled at a later date.

Vice-Chair West asked if there were any questions. Board Member Green asked if the Solicitor's Reports for future meetings could be a little more in detail, outlining the number of issues that have been going on since the board meets every other month; he feels there is not enough in the reports to bring the Board up to date on issues relative to SAC.

Vice-Chair West addressed the question to Solicitor Hann about matters sometimes pending in Court that are sometimes not open for discussion. Solicitor Hann answered by saying "that is true," they are geared more to the Executive Session. However, he will take Mr. Green's request into consideration to include those matters more so geared to the public in the Solicitor's Report so the report will be more detailed.

Executive Manager's Report

Nothing to report.

Unfinished Business

None.

Board Matters

Susan Dennis (Board Member) asked how the progress is going on the Veterans Memorial Park project. Vice-Chair West asked Dr. Strand if he could answer that question. Dr. Strand replied that the project is going extremely well, and the contractors are doing a phenomenal job. The SAC foreman and crew have issued flyers to neighbors in the vicinity

of the work that is being done. If residents have any issues with the work that is going on, we have provided the office number for them to call if they have any questions.

Joy Taylor (Board Member) also added that the Stormwater Authority of the City of Chester is the only authority breaking ground on any project right now and that is something to commend. She is very proud to be a part of this organization that is doing great work in this community. She stated that she is also looking forward to the completion of the project because the space has been unused for so long, it has been flooding for so long, and there has been so much conversation about other things that could have been done. The Stormwater Authority took on the challenge despite all of the adversity that has been faced to even break ground to continue the progress in our community. She looks forward to the day when the ribbon can be cut on that project and for the community and all the benefits it has to offer.

New Business

None.

Public Comments on Other Matters

Katherine Flagg-Justice – 216 West 24th Street, Chester, PA – Ms. Flagg-Justice said she supports the Stormwater Authority on the project. Said that she has actually gone down to the site where the work is being done and it appears to be going well. She also stated that she had the opportunity to see the pipes and things that are being put in place and she is happy the Stormwater Authority is overseeing this project. She has prayed for the success of the project.

Carol White – 1426 West 11th Street, Chester, PA. Ms. White stated that the groundbreaking ceremony that was held down at Veterans Memorial Park on March 18, 2024, was excellent and she is looking forward to the completion of the project. She said more people need to come out to understand what is going on with the Stormwater Authority, because she feels it is a good thing. She reflected on when she was a little girl, her family lived on Engle Street, and she used to go and swim in the water that backed up in the park as a result of flooding. Ms. White said she is all in favor of the Veterans Memorial Park Project.

Deborah Turner – 101 West 21st Street, Chester, PA. Ms. Turner had a question in regard to billing and the increase of the stormwater fee. Wanted to know if the bill is going to increase again.

Dr. Strand answered Ms. Turner's question responding that SAC does not have any plans at the present time to increase the rate. He is hoping that as SAC continues to move

forward that more people will contribute to the Stormwater Authority's funds and pay their assessments as they are supposed to. If this happens, SAC will never have the need to raise our rates.

Ms. Turners asked what about business and church fees being increased. Are businesses and churches taking up the slack for residents that are not paying? Dr. Strand explained that no one is exempt from paying stormwater fees.

Deborah Sharp-Anderson – 2903 West 11th St., Chester, PA – Informed the Board that there is a prayer meeting tonight and she asked the Board if they would come out if they could come out because the City of Chester needs prayer.

Vice-Chair West thanked the community members for coming out and giving their input and asking questions to get a better understanding of stormwater. Also thanked them for their prayers.

Motion to Adjourn

Vice-Chair West asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Joy Taylor made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Fred Green seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Next Board Meeting will be August 13, 2024