



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
Steven Hann, Interim Solicitor
Dr. Horace Strand, Executive Manager

MINUTES
Board of Directors
STORMWATER AUTHORITY
OF THE CITY OF CHERSTER
February 8, 2022

The Board of Directors of the Stormwater Authority of the City of Chester held a telephonic board meeting on Tuesday, February 8, 2022, at 10:07 a.m. Prior to this meeting there was an Executive Session held at 9:00 a.m.

Call to Order

The Stormwater Authority meeting was called to order at 10:07 a.m. by Chair Livia Smith.

Verification of Published Meeting

It was confirmed by Vanessa Gosa, Executive Secretary of the Stormwater Authority, that the Notice of Published meeting was sent to the Delaware County Times and published on January 25, 2022. The Notice of Publication announcement was emailed to Joseph Oxman, Solicitor in his absence of today's meeting. To suffice as verification of Notice of Publication, Executive Secretary of the Stormwater Authority read the Notice of Publication announcement to the public.

Roll Call of the Board

The following persons were present: Ms. Portia West, Vice-Chair; Ms. Joan Neal, Secretary; Mr. William Riley, Treasurer; Mr. John Shelton, Board Member; Ms. Joy Taylor, Board Member; Mr. Fred Green, Board Member; Ms. Livia Smith, Chair. Dr. Horace Strand, Executive Manager was also present. Joseph Oxman, Solicitor was absent.

Prayer/Pledge of Allegiance

Prayer led by Dr. Horace Strand. Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Public Comments on Agenda Items Only

None

Action Items from the Executive Session – There were two items from the Executive Session

1. Approval of Leasing Opportunity of the 410 Welsh Street property to Children’s First America of Delaware County

Ms. Ms. Portia West made a motion to approve that the Stormwater Authority of the City of Chester leases their Welsh Street property to Children First America of Delaware County pending Solicitor’s review. Mr. John Shelton seconded.

Motion for Approval of Leasing Opportunity of the 410 Welsh Street property to Children’s First America of Delaware County

Ms. Portia West (Yes), Ms. Joan Neal (Yes), Mr. William Riley (Yes), Mr. John Shelton (Yes), Ms. Joy Taylor (Yes), Mr. Fred Green (Yes), and Ms. Livia Smith (Yes). Motion approved.

2. Approval of Retaining H.R. Personnel as a full-time employee at the salary of \$75,000 per year plus benefits

Ms. Joan Neal made a motion to approve retaining H.R. personnel as a full-time employee at the salary of \$75,000/yr. plus benefits. Mr. John Shelton seconded.

Motion for Approval of Retaining H.R. Personnel as a full-time employee at the salary of \$75,000 per year plus benefits

Ms. Portia West (Yes), Ms. Joan Neal (Yes), Mr. William Riley (Yes), Mr. John Shelton (Yes), Ms. Joy Taylor (Yes), Mr. Fred Green (Yes), and Ms. Livia Smith (Yes). Motion approved.

Approval of Minutes of December 7, 2021

Ms. Portia West made a motion to approve the minutes of December 7, 2021. Ms. Joan Neal seconded.

Motion for Approval of Minutes of December 7, 2021

Ms. Portia West (Yes), Ms. Joan Neal (Yes), Mr. William Riley (Yes), Mr. John Shelton (Yes), Ms. Joy Taylor (Yes), Mr. Fred Green (Yes), and Ms. Livia Smith (Yes). Motion carried.

Approval of Report of Current and Most Recent Expenditures

Ms. Joan Neal made a motion for approval of the report of current and most recent expenditures. Ms. Portia West seconded.

Motion for Approval of Current and Recent Expenditures

Ms. Portia West (Yes), Joan Neal (Yes), Mr. William Riley (Yes), Mr. John Shelton (Yes); Ms. Joy Taylor (Yes), Mr. Fred Green (Yes), and Ms. Livia Smith (Yes). Motion carried.

Solicitor's Report – In the absence of the Solicitor, Livia Smith (Chair) asked the secretary of the Stormwater Authority of the City of Chester to read the Solicitor's report. The report read as follows:

Solicitor's Report for February 8, 2022

To the Board of Directors,

The Authority met with The City of Chester, The Act 47 Receiver and The Chester Economic Authority to finalize the land transaction for the Eyre Park land sale on December 15, 2021. Unfortunately, the City of Chester is unable to transact the Eyre Park property as their authority to transact any business, has been superseded by the Act 47 Receiver. As such, additional meetings are being planned exclusively between the Stormwater Authority and the Act 47 Receiver to present the Authority's plan for the Eyre Park property and to negotiate the transaction.

As you all well know, the Stormwater Authority has had numerous meetings with representatives of Widener University to finally complete the "in-kind" services agreement as per the 2018 settlement agreement with Widener to reduce their Stormwater fee assessments. To date, the Stormwater Authority has not received any tangible proposals of services in the form of engineering consultation and student intern obligation, from Widener, to fulfill the terms of the settlement agreement. Widener has continued to stall and ignore their obligation to fulfill their obligations according to the signed settlement agreement.

As such, I am recommending that the Authority sends to Widener's legal counsel and the Provost of the University a thirty-day notice to either comply with the settlement, or the Authority will file, with the Delaware County Court of Common Pleas, a Petition to Terminate the Widener Settlement Agreement as Widener has not complied with the terms of the settlement.

Sincerely,

Joseph Oxman

Joseph Oxman, Esquire

Ms. Livia Smith asked if there were any questions on the Solicitor's report. There were none.

Executive Manager's Report

To The Board of Directors:

Since our last meeting, we have successfully completed the PENNVEST Audit, and have received a letter of extension until June 2022 on the settlement of our \$10,000,000.00 grant promise. We are working now to close out remaining work on all tranches and preparing for a settlement date.

Corvias held a pre-bidding meeting on February 2, 2022, involving local contractors. This meeting is in preparation for the work to be done in Memorial Park.

The collections from Portnoff have been extremely helpful, and we were able to settle with a few major rate payers, Murphy Ford, Gallo Brothers, and Chester-Upland School District, who paid their accounts in full.

We have updated our office capabilities by bringing in the ability to accept credit card payments in-house, and online. We have also changed our check writing procedure to electronic checks through QuickBooks.

The Stormwater Authority has received recognition from the National Governor's Association. Chester is presented as a model for low-income and minority communities to address stormwater run-off and reducing poisons that enter our waterways.

We are beginning to prepare for the upcoming season. We will resume street sweeping as soon as the weather breaks but have not stopped sweeping Rt. 291 due to an agreement with DELCORA, who has been charged with the responsibility of keeping Rt. 291 clean.

We met with the Receiver to discuss the procedure of the Eyre Park project. At that time, the Receiver requested more information from us and a presentation on the proposed project. We are in the process of establishing a date to make a formal presentation on the project.

We are close to settling on our property at West 3rd Street and have successfully completed repairs on the sidewalks and garage area.

Finally, we are sound, and have ended 2021 in the black.

Respectfully submitted.



Dr. Horace Strand, Executive Manager

Ms. Livia Smith asked if there were any questions on the Executive Manager's report. There were none.

Councilwoman West thanked Dr. Strand and his staff for their hard work in the City of Chester. Stated that she is very appreciative as a community member and as a Board member she is very happy to be affiliated with the organization.

Unfinished Business

None.

Board Matters

None.

New Business

None.

Public Comments on Other Matters

Susan Dennis – 218 Arbor Circle, Chester, PA. Ms. Dennis shared that she was glad to be on the call today because the questions that she had for Mr. Oxman, Solicitor about what was progressing with Widener, and she was so glad after hearing his report what he was doing and how he is going to go forward with that. Thanked Mr. Oxman for an excellent report because he did follow through on some questions that she had asked earlier. Ms. Dennis also stated that she cannot understand why more people from the outside are not attending on the call. Said the Board is doing an excellent job getting the information out on what the Stormwater Authority is doing, and what has been accomplished thus far.

Delores Shelton – 138 East 18th Street, Chester, PA – No comment.

Motion to Adjourn

Mr. John Shelton made a motion to adjourn meeting. Mr. Fred Green seconded.

All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 10:31 a.m.

Next Board Meeting will be held on April 12, 2022 @ 10:00 a.m.