

The Six Hundred Sixty Ninth and Regular Meeting

April 23, 2025

The meeting was called to order and roll call was taken.

In attendance:

Richard Pogwist
Daniel Weiksner
George Krajnak
Mary Ann Flyzik
Tommy Vadyak
Tobias Krajcirik
Keith Showalter
James Nanovic - Excused

Guests – Jennifer Staines

Motion to ratify action by the Chairman to approve monthly invoices of \$94,555.⁵⁶.

Motion by Mary Ann Flyzik. Seconded by George Krajnak. Tommy Vadyak stated that he doesn't believe the entry in the reconciliation book is correct concerning salaries. A vote on the Motion to approve payment of the bills was not unanimous.

Roll call vote on the motion:

Richard Pogwist - Yes
Daniel Weiksner - Yes
George Krajnak - Yes
Mary Ann Flyzik - Yes
Tommy Vadyak – No

The vote being 4 Yes and 1 No, the motion was approved.

The Board heard from Jennifer Staines, 353 West Abbott Street concerning sidewalk restoration at her property. Her sidewalk is fairly new, and the

restoration concrete color does not match the rest of her sidewalk. Additionally, instead of thin relief lines, there are thick, black expansion joints.

A discussion on possible solutions was held, but as far as matching concrete colors, it was agreed that it is very difficult to do because of many factors including suppliers, concrete mix, stone and sand in the mix, etc.

- Keith stated that he would discuss her concerns with the contractor and see if there are any solutions that would be agreeable to her, the Authority, and the contractor.

Correspondence

- A letter was received from the president of Lansford Borough Council concerning the water bill the Borough of Lansford received for the train station due to an internal leak. A discussion was held by the Board concerning potential resolutions. Toby said he would reach out and ask for proposals from Lansford Borough as to requested relief solutions.
 - Tommy Vadyak stated for the record that he felt Barasso did an excellent job on Abbott Street restoration.
 - Toby stated that he felt, going forward, that the Authority have a Memorandum of Understanding or other document outlining party responsibilities prior to project commencement.
 - Also, Keith will reach out to Lansford Borough Engineer to discuss street milling and overlay proposals.
 - A motion was made by Tommy Vadyak to table any decision on resolution of the water bill issue until the May meeting when it is anticipated that the Solicitor will be present. Seconded by George Krajnak. All voted in favor and the motion to table was approved.

Motion to accept the Correspondence was made by Mary Ann Flyzik and seconded by Tommy Vadyak. All voted in favor and the motion was approved.

Chairman's Report

Nothing.

Superintendent's Report

- A few system leaks were identified and repaired.
 - East Abbott Street in Lansford
 - East Walnut Street in Lansford
 - Small leak East Walnut Street in Lansford

Repair of these leaks resulted in a reduction of unmetered water of approximately 100,000 gallons a day.

- Concerning the leak at 246 East Patterson Street, the resident provided Toby with a confirmation from a home utility insurance company that repairs have been approved to be made. A motion to approve a 30 day extension to allow for repairs to be completed was made by Tommy Vadyak and seconded by Mary Ann Flyzik. All voted in favor and the motion was approved.
- There was a fire in Hauto. No issues with water supply were identified.
- Toby stated that fire hydrant/system flushing will begin the week of June 2nd.
- The 8" reducer was rebuilt. Toby stated that the fire system will have to be rechecked, but he felt like this may have rectified the system flow changes in the east end of Lansford.
- Toby stated that Tommy Vadyak had added items to the contractor punch list for the Abbott Street project. Tommy requested that 350 West Abbott Street be added to the list.
 - Mary Ann Flyzik asked how the punch list item resolutions will be tracked/documented. Keith stated they will be in his final project report.
- Toby stated that discussions concerning implementing a Commercial water rate should be held late summer so that if adopted, can be implemented at the beginning of 2026.

Engineer's Report

- Keith stated that the Drought Watch is still in effect. Schuylkill County has downgraded from a Drought Warning to a Drought Watch.
- The Annual Water Report for the DEP was submitted.
- The Annual Water System Audit and Water Loss Report was submitted to the DRBC.
- Keith provided a Draft Consumer Confidence Report for the Board to review. He requested any comments be forwarded to him for consideration. He would like the Board to approve it at the May meeting.
 - Keith noted that there were no violations noted.
- Keith stated that a change order request was received from Barrasso. This was due to the increased amount of restoration materials required due to the wider than expected trenches. The final payment, which includes the change order as well as the holdback, will total approximately \$100,000. He is reviewing the change order request to ensure the charges are in line.
- Keith is still awaiting a response on the Federal grant the Authority applied for in order to complete additional work on Abbott Street. They have requested a letter from the Authority describing how SDE was chosen as Authority Engineers including what other firms were considered.
 - Meeting minutes from 2011 were reviewed and it was determined that SDE, Arro Engineering, Alfred Benesch, and Carbon Engineering were all interviewed for the Authority Engineer position. A letter confirming that will be signed by the Chairman and submitted to the appropriate Federal agency. A motion to authorize the Chairmans approval and submittal was made by Tommy Vadyak and seconded by Dan Weiksner. All voted in favor and the motion was approved.
- A motion to accept the Engineers report was made by Tommy Vadyak and seconded by Dan Weiksner.

Solicitor's Report

- Nothing (Solicitor had an excused absence).

Old Business

- None

New Business

- Discussion on rate adjustments for the second half of 2025 were discussed.
- Dan proposed raising rates by 10%. This would raise the minimum charge from \$90 a quarter for up to 6,000 gallons to \$99 a quarter for up to 6,000 gallons. From 6,001 to 15,000 gallons will cost \$6.60 per 1,000 gallons. Above 15,000 gallons will cost \$6.70 per 1,000 gallons.
 - Tommy Vadyak raised concerns about raising rates without considering reducing spending. He feels the spending reductions should start with reducing Board salaries and pension payments. He stated for the record that he is not accepting a salary, just whatever remuneration the Borough sets.
- Richard asked Tommy Vadyak what compensation he is requesting. Tommy stated he wants whatever he gets from the Borough of Lansford. Richard asked him to put that request in writing.
 - Tommy stated he believes the compensation that the Board members receive is not in compliance with the PA Municipal Authorities Act. Dan Weiksner stated that he would like to discuss this item at the May meeting when the Solicitor is present.
- Dan Weiksner provided the Board with a presentation by the current electric supply company that the Authority uses. Although the contract runs until May, 2026, Dan is starting to look at options to ensure a stable electric rate after the end of the current contract. The Board took no action as this was for information and will be discussed later in the year.
- Richard appointed Mary Ann Flyzik as the Right-to-Know Officer for the Authority.
- The Authority has 2 CDs that are due to mature in May, 2025. Discussion was held concerning options for the funds such as allowing to roll over, cashing them upon maturity and pursuing other CD providers, etc.
 - Tommy Vadyak suggested the Board consider a presentation from PLIGT.
 - A motion to have the Treasurer contact the bank and inform them that the Authority does not want the CDs to rollover was made by Dan Weiksner, seconded by Mary Ann Flyzik. All voted in favor and the motion was approved.

Motion to adjourn.

Motion by Dan Weiksner, seconded by Richard Pogwist. All voted in favor and the motion was approved.

Next meeting is May 28, 2025.



Chairman



Secretary