

READINGTON-LEBANON SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

July 26, 2023

OPENING: Mr. Burton, Vice-Chairman opened this regular meeting and announced that the Sunshine laws have been satisfied for the convening of this meeting.

PRESENT: Messrs. Burton, Cichone, Villa, Heller, Mueller members, Mrs. Plesnarski, Administrator. Dr. Schaible did not attend.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of June 28, 2023 as written, was carried with roll call of ayes all, nays none.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES: Mrs. Plesnarski noted that the annual LookFirst Total Care Agreement for \$5343.49 included remote and on-site computer and network support as required by current NJUJIF cyber security. Motion to approve the invoices for the month of July in the amount of \$ **110,617.17** and authorization for the administrator to transfer this amount into the Operating Checking account on August 1, 2023 and (1) invoice totaling \$ **23,253.00** to be paid from the General Fund on August 1, 2023 was made by Mr. Cichone seconded by Mr. Heller and carried with a roll call of ayes all, nays none.

APPROVAL OF BUDGET STATEMENT: Motion to acknowledge the review and approve the July Budget Statement without any exceptions noted as written was made by Mr. Heller seconded by Mr. Mueller and carried with a roll call of ayes all, nays none.

NEW BUSINESS: *1st and 2nd Quarter 2023 I&I Reports* - Mr. Ponte, Authority engineer reviewed the definitions of Inflow versus Infiltration and the responsible parties for various sections of the sewer system for the benefit of new board members. Both the township and borough reported suspected inflow and infiltration and have planned corrective actions. Lebanon Borough has purchased manhole inserts, cleared easements, planned minor

manhole repair and continues to monitor flow. Readington Township will begin smoke testing, has Tved the lines around Lake Cushetunk, will view stream crossing and other high flow areas. RLSA will schedule a TV inspection of interceptors through a shared service agreement with Plainfield Regional SA. Concerns of flood water entering the LBPS were unfounded. The wet well did not take in any extra flood water and the flow chart shows a temporary 2-hour spike during the storm peak. This type of peak can only be attributed to inflow from the borough.

Feasibility Study Report for Plant Upgrade – Mr. Ponte reviewed his progress on the Feasibility Study. He has distributed the request for proposals and advised on the selection of site survey services. He has recommended additional influent and effluent sampling to select the appropriate process to remove ammonia and phosphorous. He has developed design criteria to evaluate the process. He has reviewed the pilot studies RLSA has performed for the removal of phosphorus. Mrs. Plesnarski noted that prior to the design phase RLSA needs to define the future needs of Readington and Lebanon. The current capacity limit is 1.2mgd. Mrs. Plesnarski noted that projections she has received from the township and borough engineers will put RLSA over the current limit. She feels it's prudent to design the plant for future needs. As capacity increases, limits will drop requiring additional treatment. Mr. Burton noted that he only has one project in the books. Mr. Heller does not believe that Readington Township will go over their allocated capacity in the next (10) years. To handle peak flows during rain events, a second oxidation ditch can hold an additional .8mgd. Mr. Ponte noted that the influent pump station would need an additional pump to accommodate the flow during peak events. Mr. Heller noted that the township's primary concern is to reduce the I&I. Mr. Mueller noted that additional metering will pinpoint the areas of I&I.

NJUAJIF 2024 Cyber Security Compliance – Mrs. Plesnarski informed the board that the former insurer has declined to offer a 2024 policy. The new insurer has additional assessments for a zero deductible. LookFirst has been apprised of the additional assessments and will be working on adding a password manager and developing penetration testing. The cost for implementing the additional assessments will be \$1600.00.

NJDEP Meeting – Mr. Heller informed the board that he, Mrs. Plesnarski, Mr. Cosgrove, Ms. Masinda, and Ms. Rosenwinkel of NJDEP had a meeting on Monday, July 24, 2023. He introduced Ms. Susan Masinda as the watchdog for Readington Township. Phosphorous limits are firm, and enforceable, but ortho phosphate action levels are not subject to enforcement. Mrs. Plesnarski noted that hopefully ortho phosphate will be moved to .36 not .18 in the best-case scenario. Ms. Masinda stated that the capacity allocation projections were not accurate for Readington Township. She has been advised by Mr. Marzuk a NJDEP technical permit writer and Readington resident that RLSA should not do anything with removal of ortho phosphate as it is not enforceable at this time. The current permit has a 3.2 total phosphorous limit and .18 ortho phosphate level. She noted that Rockaway Creek is impaired for phosphorus, but the creek runs through farmlands and golf courses. She mentioned that it was unfair for the 1000 Readington users of RLSA to pay for creek improvement that is affected by other pollutant contributors. NJDEP has suggested another meeting to be held on Monday, August 14, 2023 to further discuss this issue.

OLD BUSINESS: *Oxidation Ditch Rotor* – Mrs. Plesnarski informed the board that the rotor shaft has been picked up but not yet returned.

UV Modules – Mrs. Plesnarski noted that Fisher Electrical and Glasco are trying to coordinate when they can both be on site for the installation of the modules.

ADJOURNMENT: As there was no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned by motion made by Mr. Heller seconded by Mr. Mueller and carried with a roll call of ayes all, nays none.

Respectfully submitted:

Jonathan Heller
Secretary/Treasurer

Virginia Weierich
Recording Secretary