

JOHNSTOWN REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
SPECIAL MEETING
Friday, March 22, 2024

The Johnstown Redevelopment Authority met in a stated session for the general transaction of business. Mark Pasquerilla, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Chairman Pasquerilla offered the invocation.

The following members of the Authority were present for roll call:

Mr. Haselrig, Ms. Huchel (Via Telephone), Mr. Pasquerilla (3).
Absent: Ms. Rae, Mr. Truscillo (2).

William Barbin, Esquire, Solicitor; Melissa Komar, Executive Director; Cheryl Labosky, Finance Director; Michael Grandinetti, Maintenance and Operations Manager; and John DeBartola were also present.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John DeBartola requested an explanation the grant application to the Growing Greener Program for \$300,000, Agenda Item D; the grant application to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for \$200,000, Agenda Item C; and the lease agreement with Johnstown Wire Technologies, Inc, Agenda Item A.

Melissa Komar, Executive Director, explained all three of the grants are waterways and planning grants, not for construction. The lease agreement with Liberty Wire pertains to the pipelines building on Iron Street. A proposal from Danchanko, Inc, was also submitted for the building. JRA is working with Danchanko, Inc. for another location within the city.

RESOLUTIONS AND MOTIONS

A. A RESOLUTION OF THE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN AUTHORIZING A LEASE AGREEMENT WITH JOHNSTOWN WIRE TECHNOLOGIES, INC., t/d/b/a LIBERTY WIRE JOHNSTOWN FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 116 IRON STREET, JOHNSTOWN, PA.

Mr. Haselrig made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Ms. Huchel, and passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Mr. Pasquerilla, Ms. Huchel, Mr. Haselrig (3).
Nays: None (0).

B. A RESOLUTION OF THE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN AUTHORIZING A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE WATERSHED RESOURCE AND PROTECTION PROGRAM OF THE PENNSYLVANIA DCED IN THE AMOUNT OF \$300,000.00.

Mr. Haselrig made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Ms. Huchel, and passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Mr. Pasquerilla, Ms. Huchel, Mr. Haselrig (3).
Nays: None (0).

C. A RESOLUTION OF THE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN AUTHORIZING A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE COMMUNITY CONSERVATION AND RECREATION PROGRAM OF THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$200,000.00

Ms. Huchel made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Mr. Haselrig, and passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Mr. Pasquerilla, Ms. Huchel, Mr. Haselrig (3).
Nays: None (0).

D. A RESOLUTION OF THE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF JOHNSTOWN AUTHORIZING A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE GROWING GREENER PROGRAM OF THE PENNSYLVANIA DEP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$300,000.00.

Mr. Haselrig made a motion to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Ms. Huchel, and passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Mr. Pasquerilla, Ms. Huchel, Mr. Haselrig (3).
Nays: None (0).

TABLED MATTERS

None.

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/DISCUSSION ITEMS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA)

John DeBartola read from a document concerning the non-inspection of the Authority's interceptor lines and siphons in JRS's system in decades. He noted the engineer outlined a \$40 million project to improve the treatment plant, but with the increase costs to construction, the project cost would be higher.

Mr. DeBartola commented, "That JRA JRS has no interest in pursuing municipal consolidation of the regional sewer system." He has requested a five-year capital improvement budget from JRA JRS. The municipalities that convey sewage to Dornick Point have spent hundreds of millions of dollars to reach compliance with their individual consent orders and continue to spend money and resource to lower flows.

He expressed his concern that the potential for unplanned for costs that the JRA JRS has upcoming would negatively impact the ratepayers and ultimately affect the revenue of the Great Johnstown Water Authority. He submitted an email from Mr. Kerr of JRS as a result of a Right to Know request.

Mr. DeBartola questioned, "Why has it not been told to the public? Why haven't you maintained your system? Why haven't you done all this work?"

Mr. Barbin stated the email portrays one person's point of view.

Chairman Pasquerilla stated significant progress has been made since the email. He noted the report of Joel Valentine, Wessell & Company, at the Authority's last meeting, also noting the implementation of the SCADA system. Mr. Pasquerilla stated, "There was a lot of misinformation in that letter."

Mr. Pasquerilla explained the difference in the roles of Mr. Kerr as a manager and Mrs. Komar as a citizen owner within Johnstown, PA.

Mrs. Komar explained, upon receipt of the email, JRA's accountant, engineer, and ONM manager were requested to respond line item by line item. Mr. DeBartola may Right to Know request the response.

Chairman Pasquerilla commented that "a world class operator" was retained for Dornick Point. There are no plans to sell Dornick Point.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Haselrig made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr.

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Pasquerilla, and passed by the following vote:

Yeas: Mr. Pasquerilla, Ms. Huchel, Mr. Haselrig (3).

Nays: None (0).

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:11 p.m.



TRANSCRIBED BY:
SARGENT'S COURT REPORTING
SERVICE, INC.



BRUCE HASELRIG,
SECRETARY