

## GREATER POTTSVILLE AREA SEWER AUTHORITY

### SPECIAL MEETING OF OCTOBER 9, 2025

The special meeting of the Greater Pottsville Area Sewer Authority was held on the Third Floor City Hall Sewer Authority Council Chambers on Thursday, October 9, 2025 at 4:00 P.M. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Barry S. Dewitt, II, Chairman with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

#### PRESENT

Dr. Barry S. Dewitt, II	,	Chairman
Charles M. Dries	,	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Chairman
James T. Muldowney	,	2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman
Henry J. Minnig	,	Assistant Treasurer
John G. Botto	,	Secretary
William Deangeles	,	Assistant Secretary
Edward M. Brennan	,	Solicitor
John R. Poff, P.E.	,	Engineer Light-Heigel Associates
William Orlowsky	,	Executive Director
Christina M. Q. Herndon	,	Authority Secretary
Lynn Strausser	,	Pretreatment Coordinator

#### GUESTS

Christine Verdier	,	Senator Argall's Secretary
Andy Wollyung	,	Pottsville City Councilman
Michael Weres	,	Pottsville City Controller
Josh Sophy	,	Coal Region Canary

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Andy Wollyung, Pottsville City Councilman, thanked the Board for having this meeting and he stated he has confidence in this Board and also Bill Orlowsky has done a wonderful job finding a solution for the flooding issue and he agrees this project should be declared an emergency as soon as possible.

Chairman, Dr. Barry Dewitt thanked Councilman Wollyung for his cooperation and the City of Pottsville cooperation and also the City Controller Michael Weres.

Dr. Dewitt asked Mr. Orlowsky to give a brief overview of the project, what it is expected to correct and then we will discuss the bids we received.

William T. Orlowsky, Executive Director stated the brief overview is we reached out to five qualified contractors who can perform the required work. The project area extends from Centre Street to Third Street, in the parking lot of the old Greene Drugs Store and the alley behind the Library. The contractors were asked to provide bids for all work within the State Right-of-Way; all work outside the State Right-of-Way will be performed jointly by the GPASA and City of Pottsville street crews.

Mr. Orlowsky demonstrated on the Division Street Project map the work to be performed by the contractors.

**Bidders for Division Street Project:**

1. PACT TWO, LLC
2. Arthur "Pat" Aungst, Inc.,
3. Miller Brothers
4. Heim Industries
5. AH Moyer

John R. Poff stated Miller Brothers and AH Moyer did not submit a bid because of their schedules, and Heim Industries gave the work to LEW Site Construction.

Mr. Orlowsky explained there are two parts to the bid the first part was to do all the required work underground and the second was to do temporary pavement restoration.

**Bids for Division Street Emergency Project as follows:**

Arthur "Pat" Aungst, Inc.	Base Price \$210,388.00	Permanent Restoration \$97,710.00
PACT TWO, LLC	Base Price \$650,500.00	Permanent Restoration \$159,200.00
LEW Site Construction	Base Price \$929,879.58	Permanent Restoration \$350,038.78

Discussion followed.

Chairman, Dr. Barry Dewitt stated in the opinion of our Engineer and our Executive Director this emergency repair will greatly reduce the flooding impact that some of our downtown properties and businesses have been experiencing.

Solicitor, Edward M. Brennan introduced Christine Verdier of Senator Argall Office.

Solicitor, Edward M. Brennan stated it is his formal opinion that given the circumstances, the detailed research of our Engineer, our Executive Director and the City of Pottsville Street Superintendent it is pretty clear it is a definition of an Emergency under the competitive bidding.

On motion of James T. Muldowney, and seconded by Henry J. Minnig, the Board unanimously approved the bid of Arthur "Pat" Aungst for \$308,098.00.

Discussion followed.

Mr. Poff asked Solicitor, Edward M. Brennan since this project was not publicly bid are we obligated to provide the contractors with the prices.

Mr. Brennan replied it is public record so they are entitled to see the bid.

Mr. Wollyung stated since the press, Coal Region Canary, is here, can Mr. Orlowsky explain how he discovered this solution.

Mr. Orlowsky explained he started at the Historical Society and researched the flooded issues in downtown Pottsville and this problem has been around for over 150 years and color coded the downtown Pottsville Map to understand how the water flowed through downtown.

Discussion followed.

Mr. Orlowsky asked Lynn Strausser to discuss the LSA Grant Application for the Mahantongo Street Project. Ms. Strausser spoke to Karen and Katie from M&L Associates along with Ronald Zimmerman, John R. Poff, and William Orlowsky. Karen and Katie asked if the Authority plans on matching the LSA grant amount?

Discussion followed.

Chairman, Dr. Barry Dewitt stated in order to strengthen the odds of getting the grant the Authority should match the Grant.

Solicitor, Edward M. Brennan, stated if the project is a million dollars some municipalities have given 25% match.

Christine Verdier, Senator Argall's secretary added the grant application also up to a million dollars the awards are not usually a million dollars. Realistically, give what you think the project would cost. The Authority's' commitment to match the grant money at this moment is nearly as valuable as it is after a month or two that the grant is awarded.

Christine Verdier stated it is more likely to ask for half million or under to get a shot at the grant and getting your application in committing to what you have and closer to the award amounts we can discuss the commitment further.

Chairman, Dr. Barry Dewitt stated the Board appreciates the support of Senator Argall and Representative, Tim Twarzick.

Discussion followed.

On motion of Charles M. Dries, and seconded by James T. Muldowney, the Board unanimously tentatively agreed a 25% match for the LSA Grant.

Solicitor, Edward M. Brennan stated he spoke with Mr. Orlowsky about the Mahantongo Street Project is not an emergency and we have time to work on this issue. The City of Pottsville is willing to let us tear down the bathroom because it is built on the Collapsed Arch.

Discussion followed.

Chairman, Dr. Barry Dewitt asked when will we break ground and when will we wrap up for the emergency project?

John R. Poff replied the H.O.P. will be filed electronically tomorrow, early November.

Mr. Orlowsky stated the City will have their Street Crew, the Authority's Street Crew, and Dallago Backhoe will all be working on the Division Street Project.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

NEW BUSINESS

John G. Botto stated he sold six (6) signs for the West End Pump Station with Lynn Strausser help . The cost of the signs totaling \$2,725.00. We brought in \$15,500.00 for the purchase of the signs. The profit right now is \$12,725.00.

Mr. Orlowsky asked the Board if we should have a press release regarding this meeting.

Solicitor, Edward M. Brennan agreed with Mr. Orlowsky.

Lynn Strausser, Pretreatment Coordinator stated she had the press release ready and would the Board like to review the release.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m. on the motion of James T. Muldowney, and seconded by Charles M. Dries.

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JOHN G. BOTTO, SECRETARY