

Stewartstown Borough Sewer & Water Authority Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 19th, 2026

Members present: Lisa Mohan, Nathan Cook, Kevin Brunicke, Linda Miller, Joyce Ryer, Jack Cunning

Others present: Engineer Jason Lytle, Solicitor John Baranski, Sewer & Water Supervisor Ira Walker, Jr.,
Recording Secretary Stacy Myers

Visitors: Brian Preski, President, National Water Specialties Company

1. The meeting was called to order @ 6:30pm.
2. **General Business**
 - **Approval of Meeting Minutes**—Mrs. Ryer made a motion to approve the July 15th, 2026 Meeting Minutes. Mrs. Miller seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.
 - **Consent Agenda**—It was the consensus of the Board to approve the following expenses:
 - **Water Fund**—Water bills & payroll (\$34,220.70) dated July 9th thru August 17th, 2026 totaling \$206,875.82
 - **Sewer Fund**—Sewer bills & payroll (\$26,120.83) dated July 9th thru August 17th, 2026 totaling \$125,481.47

3. **Public Comment/Visitors**—Brian Preski was present to discuss the Cross-Connection Control & Backflow Prevention Program that National Water Specialties Company (NAWSC) has to offer. They conduct this program in 11 other states and currently in Pennsylvania, they work with 120 other municipalities/authorities. Brian reported that Pennsylvania law states no customer may introduce a contaminant into the public water supply through a service connection. In 1995, PA introduced a law stating the customer either has to 1) eliminate the service connection or cross-connection or, 2) install a backflow valve. It's the job of municipalities and/or authorities to ensure that the customer is in compliance.

A cross-connection is any point in the water supply system where non-potable (or non-drinkable) water may be introduced to potable/clean sources. All service lines connected to public water systems are potential cross-connections.

Brian distributed material on the NAWSC's program which is free to the authority and free to the customer. Because of instances like Flint, Michigan (legionella in the water tower at a local hospital that back flowed into the public water supply, resulting in 16 people getting ill & 1 elderly man's death), Federal & State regulations on public water supplies come into play quickly. In addition, during COVID, public water supplies were in "low flow, no-flow" conditions. In all pipe, certain bacteria lays at the bottom, but as chlorinated water flows over it, it keeps the bacteria in check. But during low flow/no-flow conditions, that doesn't happen, so during testing (after COVID) some of that bacteria was present. Federal agencies started to require states (including PA) to enforce backflow requirements (among other requirements) in order to get any funding to run programs through the State.

NAWSC generates its revenue from the tester when they upload their test results into the secure NAWSC system.

If Stewartstown decides to join this program, NAWSC would take our customer list & "scrub it" through the USPS meter index which clears the list of anyone who has passed away, moved away, etc.

For starters, they would mainly direct attention to commercial or industrial properties within the Stewartstown system (businesses, churches, schools, etc.) A letter would be sent to those properties/owners requesting they have their backflow valve inspected/tested, or one installed.

Follow-up letters are sent if that is not done. Again, no fee is charged to the customer or to the Authority.

When the tester enters results into the system, the tester pays \$17 to NAWSC, who would give us a database of all backflow valves in our system (by make, model & serial number).

Commercial properties are required to be inspected annually. If needed, a backflow valve is approx. \$200.

At some point, Stewartstown would create a policy to include residential properties. They are required to be inspected within a "reasonable amount of time" (approx. every 5 years). Brian stated property owners

are often able to get a reduction in their property insurance because of having a backflow valve installed. In some systems, the inspections are done at the time new water meters are installed, but being that Stewartstown just recently replaced all of their meters, Brian said they could take the meter install dates & go out 5 years to get an “inspection date”.

NAWSC works with PA DEP (Department of Environmental Protection) all of the time. DEP’s position is that, once an authority signs with NAWSC, they have a fully compliant program & are just working towards better compliance numbers (those homes/businesses participating in the program).

Mrs. Mohan & the Board thanked Brian for all of the information & his presentation. They will discuss the program over the next couple of months, as Brian stated, if Stewartstown signs on for the program, the first compliance date wouldn’t be until January 1st, 2027.

4. **Solicitor’s Report**—Atty. Baranski reported:

- **USALCO**—The settlement check for \$19,659 has been cashed and the settlement agreement has been signed. This matter is considered closed.
- **Cadden (17855 Barrens Rd. North)**—A lien has been filed in the amount of \$11,279.82 for the outstanding amount of the water & sewer tapping fee repayment agreement. This ensures the Authority will be paid at the time of the property settlement.
- **Crislip (19045 Barrens Rd. South) and Engel (4614 Bridgeview Rd)** have both received letters resulting from the property owners refusal to connect to public water. The letters follow Section 1602 (Injunctive Relief) of the Authority’s Rules & Regulations that allow the Authority “*to petition the court for injunctive relief to restrain or compel the activities on the part of the user*”. The Authority could also collect all fees incurred by this petition, including payment of costs & legal fees. The property owners must respond to the letters by August 30th, 2026 and if they do not, the Authority can pursue litigation.

5. **Engineer’s Report**—Jason Brenneman was not present tonight but had submitted his report which involved informational items only (no action items).

6. **Sewer & Water Supervisor Report**—Ira Walker, Jr. submitted his report & the following expenses for action:

- A new transducer for Sewer #13 was purchased from HNS at a cost of \$1,280.51
- Miscellaneous tools/supplies were purchased from Harbor Freight at a cost of \$182.94
- Dorn Electric completed minor electric work at the WWTP for a cost of \$302
- The annual fee for the leak detection meters was paid to EJ Prescott, cost \$427.73
- We hauled 15 loads (150 tons) of biosolids to the Dehoff Farm at a cost of \$4,050
- Kirchner Mobile Repair replaced a gasket on the rear axle of the dump truck at a cost of \$295.25
- The annual permit fee of \$1,000 was paid to PA DEP
- Control Systems 21 assisted with issues with the UV system at the WWTP at a cost of \$928.83
- A field technician from DeNora assisted with issues with the UV system at a cost of \$3,900
- Marsteller Driveway Services supplied the asphalt at the Scarborough Fare project earlier this year, cost \$1,270.56
- Pipe Data View cleaned out the bioset reactor at the WWTP at a cost of \$1,485
- Witmer Public Safety invoiced us for the yearly service/maintenance plan on the multi-gas meter at a cost of \$716
- We purchased a new pump/motor assembly for Well #5 R2 from Openshaw Plumbing at a cost of \$3,979.45

Mrs. Miller made a motion to approve the above expenses. Mr. Brunicke seconded. All were in favor; motion carried.

7. **GMB Engineering Report**—Jason Lytle reported:

• **Task 009—Operational Support**

- **Quorum**—July Service Report was distributed & looks good. Quorum noted they installed an additional aeration unit as a result from previous testing. If Board wants to continue with the current setup, it will add \$200 each month to the current program. Ira reported he was in the area recently & said the odor is just as bad as it’s ever been. Of course, wind direction &

weather can affect whether or not the odor is strong in that area, but Jason said we may want to have Quorum visit the site before moving forward & paying anything additional. Unfortunately, other options for odor control require more space & the footprint at that Pumpstation isn't very large.

- **Bioset Operation/Service**—New Acid Feeder arrived yesterday, 8/18, so Jason will follow up for an installation date.
- **DEP/Permitting**
 - **Biosolids & Land Application**—DEP issued a draft of revisions to the General Permit in July to include PFAS monitoring, co-digestion streamlining, Phosphorus management & storage updates. Public comment is open on their revisions until 9/2/2026. Jason & Ira will coordinate their comments before submitting them to DEP by that date. This may take the farmer's (and the land application of the sludge) out of play, but it may add costs to the farmer(s) or the Authority. Updates will be shared as known.
 - **Ozone Disinfection Pilot**—Waiting on delivery of equipment for the Pilot Study Plan/UV Disinfection System. Jason will contact them tomorrow to touch base.
- **Task 005—Treatment Improvement Design**—Pending the Ozone Pilot Program, Jason will coordinate with DEP on procurement contract & documents in preparation of a PENNVEST application submittal. Will work on this in coming months.
- **Task 007—PFAS Preliminary Planning & Design**—quarterly testing being performed but all other action is on hold for now.
- **Task 010—Bailey Spring Sewer Pumpstation Upgrades**—Several areas of the upgrade have been completed including the Site layout and the Field stakeout. Other items are in progress such as the Force Main layout, Wet Well concrete rehab and lining and Bypass Pumping. Tentative manufacturing completion date is 11/11/2026.
A field meeting was held on 8/11/26 with the Railroad as revised plans for access agreements & Force Main crossing requirements are in progress.
Next step is to meet with COSTARS contractors.

8. **Treasurer's Report**—Stacy Myers reported 1 new connection was made since last month's meeting in the Mayberry development.
9. **Chairman's Report**—Jason Roberts was not present tonight. Vice Chair Lisa Mohan reported:
 - She, along with sewer & water staff were recently at a hydro-excavator demonstration on E. Pennsylvania Avenue and while there, the trash truck could not access the street/residences because of the construction. The trash truck driver began walking down E. Pennsylvania to bring the trash carts up to the trash truck and sewer & water staff walked down and began to help her bring up the carts. Mrs. Mohan said that's an example of the great staff we currently have & kudos to them for stepping in to help!
 - She also reminded staff of the importance of wearing hearing & eye protection during demonstrations of equipment (such as the hydro-excavator) because it WAS very loud. Also, a reminder that seatbelts need to be worn while in work vehicles.
10. **Executive Session**—At 7:44pm, the Authority recessed to Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue. The Authority reconvened @ 8:05pm. No action was taken in Executive Session.
11. **Adjournment**—With no further business before the Board, Mr. Cook made a motion to adjourn the meeting @ 8:06pm. Mr. Brunicke seconded. Motion carried, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stacy Myers, Recording Secretary