

Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority for Harrisburg

Minutes of the Governing Board

Regular Meeting

November 17, 2021

Temple University Harrisburg, Strawberry Square, Harrisburg PA

hbgica.org

Members in Attendance	Ms. Audry Carter Mr. Douglas Hill Ms. Kathy Speaker MacNett Mr. H. Ralph Vartan	A Quorum Was Recognized
Ex-Officio Members in Attendance	Mr. Dan Connelly City of Harrisburg	
In Attendance	Ms. Anna Marie Sossong Independent Counsel Mr. Jeffrey Stonehill Authority Manager	
Meeting Begins		4:01 p.m.
Report by Audry Carter, Chair	Ms. Carter informed the Board that Ms. Hodge and Mr. Ryan were unable to attend the meeting. Ms. Carter mentioned the results of the November 2021 elections and noted that she has spoken to the Mayor-Elect. Ms. Carter updated the Board that two letters were sent to Mayor Papenfuse: one encouraging urgency in discussions about the priorities for the American Rescue Plan Act money; and, the second sharing the ICA's finding of a variation from the approved Mayor's Five-Year Financial Plan as a result of the failure to implement the new collections process for receivables in the Neighborhood Services Fund.	
Review of City of Harrisburg Information by Dan Connelly	Mr. Connelly reported on a variety of subjects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City is on track to close on the defeasance of the stadium bonds and to settle with Ambac on outstanding debt balance on the upcoming Tuesday; • Mr. Connelly reviewed the amended settlement agreement with Ambac. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He confirmed that the City would make a \$4 million payment to Ambac and would receive a credit for 1/3 more than the payment. • He noted that there would be, in total just under a \$9 million cash outlay and a \$13.1 million reduction in debt, including the interest on the stadium bonds. • City is now in transition for both the administration as well as many other personnel of the City. There has been a significant amount of staff turnover. • City is still in the process of completing the 2020 annual audit. • City will be proposing a placeholder budget for 2022 until the new administration takes over. • He anticipates that the City will adopt the tax ordinance on time as is required. <p>Mr. Vartan asked about the Ambac settlement. Mr. Connelly clarified.</p> <p>Mr. Vartan thanked Mr. Connelly for his hard work solving the City's debt burden issue.</p> <p>Ms. Carter confirmed that there would be an approximate \$19 million balance after all is done and the liability will grow at a reduced 5% for the next three years.</p> <p>Ms. Carter asked about the transition. Mr. Stonehill surmised that it would be unrealistic to expect other financial activities before the end of the year.</p> <p>Ms. Carter thanked Mr. Connelly.</p> <p>Mr. Connelly stated that this was likely his last meeting as member ex-officio to the Board.</p> <p>The Board thanked him for his service and professionalism.</p>	
<p>Discussion on the Mayor's Transition</p>	<p>Ms. Carter asked the members of the Board to talk about the upcoming transition so that the Board can be on the same page.</p>	

	<p>Ms. Carter noted the date (1/3/2022) and process for swearing-in of new officials.</p> <p>Ms. Carter reviewed her conversation with Mayor-Elect Williams.</p> <p>Ms. Carter asked if the upcoming budget was a placeholder budget, missing much of the important decisions that still need to be made for 2022. Mr. Connelly clarified a budget was necessary.</p> <p>Ms. Carter noted that an updated Five-Year Financial Plan was due from the new administration by April 30, 2022.</p> <p>Ms. Carter mentioned that the board will inquire whether the Mayor-Elect is pleased with the approved, but not yet executed, intergovernmental agreement, which is awaiting court approval.</p> <p>Ms. Sossong reviewed some key points of the approved agreement, including that once it is signed, the City will exit Act 47 status.</p> <p>Ms. Carter explained that is why the court action is held up.</p> <p>Ms. Carter mentioned that she and Mr. Vartan met with the two new members of City Council.</p>	
Authority Manager's Report	<p>Mr. Stonehill noted that the Authority Year Three Audit is almost complete.</p> <p>Mr. Stonehill added that there is a required end-of-year Section 209 report for Authority activities.</p> <p>Mr. Stonehill noted there is one more meeting in December before the change of administration. The member ex-officio from the City of Harrisburg is intended to be the Director of Finance.</p>	
Public Comment	<p>Mr. Eric Epstein made a comment and asked several questions.</p> <p>Ms. Carter, Mr. Vartan, and Ms. Sossong responded.</p> <p>Ms. Kim Bracey, from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, noted that the Act 47 Coordinator has submitted to the court the annual update as is required by the Strong Plan.</p>	
Adjourn meeting at 4:38 p.m.	<p>Motion by Mr. Vartan. Second by Ms. MacNett.</p>	Approved 4-0

Respectfully submitted:

Jeffrey Stonehill

Jeffrey M. Stonehill, Authority Manager