

**PENN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY**  
**PERRY COUNTY**  
102 Municipal Building Road  
Duncannon, PA 17020

April 5, 2017

The Penn Township Municipal Authority (Authority) met on Wednesday, April 5, 2017 in the Penn Township Municipal Building. Chairman Henry Holman, III, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. He led the group in the recitation of the *Pledge of Allegiance* and a moment of silence. He announced that the meeting was being recorded to aid in preparation of the minutes.

Authority members present:

Henry Holman, III, Chairman  
Jim Kocher, Vice-Chairman  
Elmer Knaub, Secretary  
CeCe Novinger, Asst. Secretary/Treasurer  
Russell Wertz

Professional staff present:

Dennis J. Shatto, Solicitor  
Randy Bailey, P.E., WM. F. Hill, Engineer

Authority staff present:

Susan Long, Treasurer, Recording Secretary  
Lew Massie, Facility Operation And Maintenance, Inc. (FOAM)

Visitors present:

Brad DiPaolo  
David Naples  
Ron Scott  
Sheila Scott  
Joe Phillipone, Perry County Beer

**Annual Insurance Review**

The annual insurance review was held at 6:45 p.m., immediately prior to this meeting. B. J. Giangulio of H. A. Thompson reviewed the Authority's property schedules. There were no additions or deletions to the Authority's major assets. Mr. Giangulio noted that a Cyber Notifications package has been added to the Authority's coverage, in the event that the office computers get hacked

**Minutes**

Upon a Kocher/Knaub motion, the Authority voted to approve the March 1 and March 16, 2017 minutes as presented.

## **Visitors**

Brad DiPaolo, 1459 State Road

Mr. DiPaolo was present to discuss his concern over the letters that were sent to property owners informing them that they will be responsible for maintenance of their grinder pumps after December 31, 2017. He brought along the agreement he signed in 2004 when the sanitary sewer was installed. He noted the wording, "...Authority will purchase, install, and own the sewage facilities, and be perpetually responsible for maintenance and operation thereof..." He stated his understanding that, when the sewer was installed, he would not have to worry about maintaining the grinder pump in the future.

The Solicitor stated his thought that the documents signed by the property owners were primarily an agreement to give the Authority an easement across the property, so that it could maintain the lateral from the sewer main to the grinder pump, and to have access to the wet well and grinder pumps for maintenance.

The Solicitor will research the agreements to see if it specifies what is protected in perpetuity – the easement or the easement and the grinder pump.

Mr. DiPaolo asked if this change meant he could replace a bad grinder pump with any brand of his choosing. He noted that parts for the currently provided E-One pumps are very hard to find. The Engineer explained that there are other E-One dealers than the one the Authority uses, but added that E-One has a tightly controlled company and does not sell its parts on the secondary market. He informed Mr. DiPaolo that there are a few other brands of grinder pumps that will fit into the wet well. However, the buyer must make sure that the pump is designed with the correct "head curve", or future problems will occur.

David Naples, 1316 State Road

Mr. Naples was present to discuss the Authority's delinquency rate, what the Authority was doing about it, and if the Authority could shut off the grinder pump so that the sewer could not be used.

The Solicitor explained that the Authority is not a utility, and unlike PPL, can not just shut off service to its customers. He explained that there are statutes that must be followed by the Authority. While the statutes allows disconnection from a public water supply, they do not specify that public sewer service can be disconnected.

Chairman Holman explained the collection process for delinquent customers that must be followed by statutes. He explained that the biggest problem is when a customer files for bankruptcy and the collection process must be stopped. He noted that the new owner of the property with the biggest delinquencies is making installment payments to bring those accounts current.

Mr. Naples also questioned if there were other companies that were E-One dealers. The Engineer stated that Site Specific was one that he was familiar with. He added that Keen makes a grinder pump that appears to be compatible with the E-One wet well

Ron Scott

Mr. Scott was present with his ex-wife to discuss her property at 1428 State Road. He first noted that there has been an issue with a sinkhole under his sewer lines and that he had the Authority's Field Representative, Jody Hoffman of IJ Technicals, check it out in August 2016. There was no indication of line leakage causing the problem. He then discussed a current problem where water is coming up out of a cap every time water is discharged into the sewer line. He stated that he snaked the whole line and could find no blockage. He feels that the Authority has a problem. IJ Technicals replaced the grinder pump in February 2017 but the problem was not corrected. He stated that his wife can not live in the property when liquid is being discharged onto the ground. Mr. DiPaolo stated that he had connected that property to the sewer. After listening to Mr. Scott's description of the problem, he and Chairman Holman both agreed that the problem was in the line between the grinder pump and the house. That

section of line is the property owner's responsibility. A heated discussion ensued, with Mr. Scott insisting that the problem was not in that line, and Chairman Holman and Mr. DiPaolo trying to explain that there had to be a blockage in that line. Mr. Scott left after saying that he is going to dig up the line, and if the Authority is wrong, he is going to come to the next meeting and charge it for his labor.

#### Joe Phillipone, Perry County Beer

Mr. Phillipone reported that he has run into a major problem before he can connect his property to the sanitary sewer. While he owns the building on Main Street, Norfolk Southern owns the land. He now has a lease problem with Norfolk Southern and has been unable to make contact with Norfolk Southern's representative. He asked for additional time before he connects, stating that he does not want to incur that charge if he cannot resolve the lease issue.

Chairman Holman asked Mr. Phillipone to continue working on the connection plan and his method for abandoning the septic tank for submittal to the Authority's Engineer, Randy Bailey. That way, when the lease issue is settled, the project can move forward.

Randy told Mr. Phillipone that the plans need to follow the Authority's requirements so that every connector is following the same standards. Mr. Phillipone will have his engineer forward the sketch plan to Randy. It was the consensus that the Authority will wait for the lease issue to be settled before Mr. Phillipone needs to connect.

#### **Engineer Report**

See written report dated April 5, 2017.

#### Sunshine Hill Water System

Engineer Randy Bailey reminded the members of the meeting scheduled for Monday, April 10<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss water and sewer services with the developers of the planned housing development, Stone Mill Estates.

#### Mike Ward (MW2, Inc.) Sewer Connection Project

MW2 has paid for 10 EDUs, but according to monitoring statistics from August 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>, has been discharging an average of 24 EDUs. His highest daily discharge was on March 22<sup>nd</sup> and was equivalent to 77.7 EDUs. This was shortly after a major snowfall and resultant melting.

The Solicitor had contacted Mr. Ward about the Authority's desire to install a water meter to monitor his water usage. However, Chairman Holman now questioned whether it was worth the expense of purchasing and installing a water meter when it is evident that MW2's discharge is significantly above the EDUs purchased.

Since MW2's discharge into the sewer system appears to be related to the weather, the Authority has felt for a long time that there is a significant inflow and infiltration (I&I) problem. The Solicitor is going to research how the Authority can force the owner to install new collection lines to prevent ground water from entering the current lines.

#### **Operator Report**

See the written report dated April 5, 2017.

Lew Massie of FOAM briefly reviewed the report. He noted that all facilities performed satisfactorily during March and were operated within the PA DEP permit limits. He then reviewed maintenance and corrective repairs that were performed in March. These can be found in the written report. Most of the problems were with debris clogging the pumps at the Cove and Kinkora wastewater treatment plants.

Mr. Massie continues to recommend that the Authority purchase a telemetry alarm notification system and automated effluent and influent samplers for the Cove plant.

### **Field Representative Report**

Chairman Holman reported that the new pumps installed in the pump station near Tubby's come with a notification system on a free one-year basis. The system will notify the Operator whenever it detects a pump malfunction.

### **Master Meter Report**

The master flow meter report was included in the Correspondence Folder for the members' review.

### **Penn Township Supervisor (PTS) Report**

There was no report.

### **Solicitor Report**

#### **Delinquent Accounts**

The Solicitor reviewed the list of accounts delinquent as of March 31, 2017. He noted that two accounts will be listed on the April Sheriff's Sale docket. Water delinquencies total \$21,387.69. Sewer delinquencies total \$85,377.30. These amounts do not reflect payments on the Trailer Park delinquency that were made before the meeting. The Authority will continue to follow its procedure for filings with the District Judge and the Perry County Prothonotary.

#### **4 Hill Top Road**

The Solicitor reported that the owner of 4 Hill Top Road was sent a Notice to Connect by the PTS. The property had been granted a waiver of connection in 2006 because it was not inhabited, and it was disconnected from the in-ground septic system. There have been several changes of ownership since then that the Authority was not aware of. However, it has now been made aware that the property is occupied and the septic system has been re-connected. The Solicitor will research the date of occupation, so that the owner can be back-charged for the sewer usage.

#### **1109 State Road**

The Solicitor reported that PNC bank sent proof that the septic system at 1109 State Road has been properly abandoned.

### **Treasurer Report**

#### **Invoices and Expenditures**

After review, there was a Kocher/Novinger motion to approve payment of the March 31, 2017 invoices totaling \$95,810.27. Motion passed unanimously.

#### **Financial Report**

After review, there was a Novinger/Knaub motion to approve the Financial Report for March 31, 2017, subject to audit. Motion passed by unanimous vote of the Authority. The March 31<sup>st</sup> balance of all accounts was \$176006.96. Of this, \$73,136.06 is earmarked for escrows and future projects, leaving an available balance of \$102,870.90

### **Executive Secretary Report**

There was no report

### **JOAC Meeting**

The JOAC meeting will be held Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 p.m., in the Duncannon Borough Office at 428 High Street.

### **Incoming/Outgoing Correspondence**

The Correspondence folder was reviewed individually during the meeting. Members are to let the office know if they want a copy of any item of correspondence.

### **Periodicals**

The newest periodicals are put on the table for the members to take. Leftover periodicals are discarded after the meeting.

### **Old Business**

Old business was discussed earlier in the meeting:

### **New Business**

#### **Abatement of 1003 State Road**

A letter was received from Innovative Property Solutions asking for a sewer abatement for the property at 1003 State Road. The property is uninhabited. The owner will pay the disconnection fees. Upon a Kocher/Knaub motion, the Authority voted unanimously to grant an abatement of sewer charges until the property is inhabited, and with the stipulation that the owner understands that a new tapping fee will have to be paid when the property is re-connected.

#### **Abatement of 1305 State Road**

A letter was received from Michael Chappuis, stating that his tenants have moved and he is going to be fixing the house up for real estate sale. He added that he hopes to have the house on the market by the end of April and that he turned off the electricity at the main breaker. He asked that the sewer charge be abated until the property is sold.

It was the consensus to deny the request. It was questioned how he could renovate the house without electricity. It was also noted that water might be used to wash hands or flush the toilet during the remodeling or sale process. He will be sent a letter informing him that the charge could be abated if he pays the disconnection fees and, when the house is sold, pays for a new tapping fee.

#### **Refund of Tapping Fee for 5-B St. Johns Road**

The Authority received a letter from the owner of Creekside Construction. Creekside had purchased tapping fees for two lots on St. Johns Road, 4-B and 5-B. The Township has denied a building permit for 5-B St. Johns Road because of a zoning ordinance regarding building on sloped areas. Creekside is requesting a refund of the tapping fee for 5-B St. Johns Road.

The request was granted by consensus of the Authority.

#### **1032 State Road**

There is currently a wet well on this property, but the dwelling has been demolished. Robert Roush paid \$3,700.00 for a grinder pump. IJ Technical has suggested that Mr. Roush receive a new grinder pump, rather than a rebuilt one, to which the Authority agreed.

#### **23 Petersburg Lane**

The property owner called and reported that the cap to the water valve is loose. IJ Tech found out that the riser pipe is broken and needs to be repaired for the cap to fit securely. It was noted that any repairs to the water/sewer caps are the responsibility of the Homeowner's Association (HA). The owner of 23 Petersburg Lane will be told to contact the HA. Any future calls of his type will be referred to the HA as well.

28 Eisenhower Boulevard

Susan reported that the water meter at 28 Eisenhower Boulevard had had two consecutive readings of 40,000+ gallons of usage. A new meter was installed prior to the first excessive reading. Chairman Holman questioned if the new meter was a 100-gallon or a 1,000-gallon rollover. The Authority typically uses 1,000- gallon rollover meters. If it was a 100-gallon rollover meter, the reading could be interpreted as 40,000 gallons instead of 4,000. IJ Technical will be asked to check the meter.

**Adjournment**

With all business completed, a Kocher/Wertz motion for adjournment was made at 9:44 p.m. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Susan E. Long

Corresponding Secretary