

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP, DELAWARE COUNTY SEWER AUTHORITY
HELD ON FEBRUARY 22, 2022

The regular monthly meeting of the Middletown Township Sewer Authority was held on Monday, February 22, 2022, at 7:00pm at the Township Administration Building located at 27 N. Pennell Road.

Present were Authority Members: Roland Bailey, John Hanna, Edward Klodarska, and Robert Scholz.

Authority Advisors James Flandreau, Esquire, Solicitor, Walter Fazler, Engineer, John Ibach, Manager, were also present.

- **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

Chairman Scholz called the meeting of the Sewer Authority to order at 7:00pm and led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 17, 2022**

Mr. Klodarska made a motion to approve the January 17, 2022, minutes including Mr. Sullivan's minor changes submitted to Mr. Ibach. Mr. Bailey seconded the motion. The motion was carried with a vote of 4-0.

Mr. Scholz announced that there was an executive session prior to the start of the Board meeting to discuss legal matters.

A. Manager's Report

1. CCI Easement Closeouts

Mr. Ibach stated he is continuing work with Mr. Fazler and Mr. Flandreau to finalize documentation. He will update the Board at next month's meeting.

2. UPTSA Sanitary Sewer Invoicing

Mr. Ibach has contacted Mr. Matson, UPTSA'S Manager, twice requesting a copy of a sewer service area map depicting the flows which discharge into the Bortondale pump station. If he does not receive it by February 25th, he will submit a right-to-know request to UPTSA.

3. Chapter 94 Report

Mr. Ibach is reviewing the draft copy of MTSA Chapter 94 report and should have his review completed by tomorrow, February 22nd. He will email a copy to Mr. Scholz for his review. Once review is complete, Mr. Fazler will send it to DELCORA no later than Friday February 25th.

4. 50 Vineyard Lane

Mr. Ibach stated that Mrs. Patricia Rice, owner of 50 Vineyard Lane, contacted him recently about an ongoing plumbing issue that has required numerous cleanings over the past several years. Mrs. Rice's lateral consistently requires a plumber to clear out obstructions. Mr. & Mrs. Rice were present during the presentation and informed the Board last October, she had her plumber televise the lateral. The video indicated there are two significant sags in two different segments of the lateral (one on the homeowners' portion and the second on the section that is the responsibility of the Authority.). The video also showed the lateral was installed with very minimal fall from the house to the Authority's manhole with no room to elevate the pipe in the basement. Mr. Ibach explained that since there is minimal flow and fall in the lateral, there is not sufficient velocity to move the solids through the lateral. This condition is causing solids to settle in these sags and cause obstructions. Mrs. Rice stressed the condition has become a financial burden and is seeking guidance from the Authority. Mr. Fazler projected a map (on TV) showing the location of the home's lateral in relation to an existing low-pressure sewer system. Three options were discussed with Mr. & Mrs. Rice. The first was for the Authority to repair its portion of the sagging lateral in the public right-of-way (\$6,500.00 estimate to repair). This option would not prevent blockages in the pipe due to the sag remaining in the homeowner's section. Option #2 would entail the homeowner also repairing their portion of the lateral, but due to the minimal fall of the pipe, this would not totally resolve the issue at hand. In Mr. Fazler's opinion, the third option #3 is the most feasible. This option requires the homeowner to get advice from her plumber on the best and most economical way to install a grinder pump that will, tap directly into the low-pressure sewer system or into the Authorities manhole and then abandon the existing lateral. If the third option is chosen by the Rices, no repairs will be necessary on the Authority owned section of the existing lateral. Therefore, the Authority is willing to contribute \$6,500.00 towards the installation of the grinder pump. Mr. Ibach will reach out to the homeowner's plumber to start the grinder pump option. Mr. Flandreau stated that he would also like to draft a legal document releasing the Authority of any responsibility once the repair is made.

5. Paul Lane Pump Station

On Friday February 18th, Mr. Ibach was contacted by Mr. Iacobucci, owner of 47 Paul Lane, regarding sewage overflowing from the cleanout. This property is located at the lowest point of Paul Lane and is directly across from the Paul Lane pump station. Mr. Ibach immediately met with KBX at the pump station to assess the situation. It was determined that the previous day's storm had knocked out the high leg of the three-phase electric power. The pumps were only operating on the low leg which was not sufficient electricity to fully operate the station. In addition, Mr. Ibach emphasized that KBX never received a high sewage level alarm to notify them of the issue. KBX is looking into it and when Mr. Ibach receives the information, he will inform the Board. Some sewage did discharge into a small stream and Mr. Ibach notified DEP. The SSO was rectified quickly and the Authority was cleared by DEP. The pump station was on generator power until the high leg was repaired around 10pm that evening.. Mr. Fazler recommended testing the Authority's dialers to ensure they are operating as designed.

6. PLGIT

Mr. Ibach included an informational sheet showing PLGIT's current investment rates.

He stated that the Authority is currently earning 0.07% from CDs with PLGIT. PLGIT has another investment option called PLGIT Term. The investment duration is for a minimum of 60 days and up to 365 days earning up to 1%. Unfortunately, the invested amount will not be liquid during the duration of the term. Mr. Hanna suggested to take out \$500,000 from the PLGIT CD account and place it into the PLGIT Term for 10 months at the rate of 1.0%. Mr. Ibach will get the process started with the transfer.

B. Treasurer's Report

1. Payment of Operating Expenses

Mr. Hanna presented a list of paid invoices for the period of January 18, 2022, through February 18, 2022, totaling \$783,245.45. The largest invoice is to DELCORA for 1st quarter estimated sewage processing charges (\$651,935.75). Mr. Hanna made a motion to approve these paid invoices. Mr. Klodarska seconded the motion. The Board approved with a vote of 4 - 0 with one abstention by Mr. Hanna solely for payment of the KBX/WRE invoice (\$56,921.22).

2. Payment of Capital Expenses – Bond Redemption and Improvement Fund

Mr. Hanna reported Capital Expenses totaling \$40,087.63 for February 22, 2022. The largest invoice is to Bradford Engineering (\$40,087.63). Mr. Hanna motioned to approve these expenses. Mr. Klodarska seconded the motion. The Board approved with a vote of 4-0.

C. Solicitor's Report

1. DELCORA/AQUA Acquisition

No change since last month.

2. Bortondale Road Pump Station

Mr. Flandreau has no update. He will be contacting UPTSA's new solicitor to see if the process can be expedited.

3. LPSS Extension for Convery/Easements

Mr. Flandreau stated that the executed easement documents for 41 N. Middletown Road have been received. He is anticipating the receipt of the executed documents for 47 N. Middletown Road by Friday, February 25th before the start of construction which is scheduled to begin on Monday February 28th.

Misc. – Regarding Mr. Ibach's report on "CCI Easement Closeouts", Mr. Flandreau added that there is a substantial amount of work, and he does not anticipate everything will be finalized by next month's Board meeting.

D. Engineer's Report

1. DELCORA I & I Program

Mr. Fazler stated that he is waiting to meet with DELCORA's engineers to plan out the remainder of the work.

2. Overview of Planning for Dutton Mill Interceptor (DMI)

Mr. Fazler is waiting to see what transpires with the development near Christian Academy before deciding on options for the repair of the section of the Interceptor located under the landfill.

3. Chrome Run Interceptor Relocation/Replacement

Mr. Fazler stated that great progress has been made regarding the obtention of easements but additional ones may be needed as the project progresses. The scope of work will entail cutting down trees in addition to hiring an environmental consultant to assess wetlands and determine if bog turtle habitat being present. Environmental clearances will also be required due to the presence of wetlands. He added that the Interceptor will have to be televised since it has never been done since its installation in 1968. The televising will assess the condition of the pipe assist in deciding the course of action.

4. Baltimore Pike Collector Connections

Mr. Fazler and Mr. Ibach will be meeting with Granite Farms Estates and their engineers on February 22nd. Mr. Fazler and Mr. Ibach will then follow up with Wawa's engineer(s) to get an update on the upgrade of their pump station. He re-stated that Granite Farms Estates and Wawa sanitary flows need to be diverted from the Chrome Run Interceptor to the Glen riddle Interceptor for BET to continue working on their second apartment building located at the Granite Run Promenade. Mr. Fazler is also continuing to evaluate Fair Acres' flows to decide on the best method of diverting them from the Chrome Run Interceptor and into the Baltimore Pike Collector.

5. Pump Station Confined Space Entry Abandonment

Mr. Fazler reported meeting with KBX at each of the four pump stations (Blackhorse Lane, Country Village Way, Fair Acres, and Parkmount) to discuss the work necessary prior to abandoning the confined space areas. Once this work is complete, the pump stations' abandonment project will be put out to public bid.

6. Sleighton Will Serve Letter

Mr. Fazler is currently assessing the feasibility of how this project can be sewered. He will be completing preliminary engineering work and submitting it to Mr. Flandreau. He hopes to have a preliminary plan for April's Board meeting. Mr. Flandreau added that both Middletown and Edgmont townships will be involved and will have to be on the same page for the required zoning changes to move forward with this project.

QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Mrs. Patricia Rice of 50 Vineyard Lane was in attendance to discuss an issue she is having with her existing gravity sewer lateral. Please refer to point (4) under the Manager's report for details.

ADJOURNMENT


Upon motion by Mr. Hanna and seconded by Mr. Bailey, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm with a vote of 4-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Ibach, Manager

Cc: Authority Board and Advisors
Township Manager
S.W.D.C.M.A.
DELCORA

The minutes were recorded by Mr. Ibach and transcribed by Ms. Tierney.

Approved:  Date: 3-21-22