

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP, DELAWARE COUNTY SEWER AUTHORITY
HELD ON MARCH 15, 2021

The regular monthly meeting of the Middletown Township Sewer Authority was held virtually via Zoom, on March 15, 2021, at 7:00pm.

Present were Authority Members: John Hanna, Edward Klodarska, Robert Scholz, and Timothy Sullivan

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

- **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG**

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

Instructions for the public to attend the Board meeting were advertised and no public requests were received by the Sewer Authority.

- **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 16, 2021**

Mr. Scholz made a motion to approve the February 16, 2021 minutes. Mr. Klodarska seconded the motion. The motion was carried with a vote of 4-0.

A. Manager's Report

1. North Branch Chrome Run Additional Repairs

Mr. Ibach informed the group the repair of the Chrome Run Interceptor located behind 306 Mystic Lane was underway and should be complete within the next few days. The second repair located several hundred feet upstream should be complete within the next few weeks.

2. 2020 Chapter 94 Report

Mr. Ibach informed the Board a copy of the 2020 Chapter 94 Report was completed by Bradford Engineers and submitted to DELCORA. DELCORA will be submitting the Report to PADEP as part of their Chapter 94 Report.

3. 2021 Budget (Draft)

Mr. Ibach presented the draft copy of the 2021-2022 Budget. The budget will be voted on at the April Board Meeting.

4. 2020 Audit Proposal

Mr. Ibach informed the Board he was in receipt of a proposal from Justin Nepo to complete the 2020-2021 Annual Audit. Mr. Ibach further stated a copy of the proposal was included in the Boards' packets. Mr. Scholz made a motion to approve the 2020-2021 Audit proposal. Mr. Klodarska seconded the motion. The motion was carried with a vote of 4-0.

5. N. Heilbron Gravity and Force Main Exposure

Mr. Ibach informed the Board while conducting a routine inspection of the N. Heilbron gravity and force main, KBX discovered an exposed section of pipe. The exposed pipe was in the

easement behind 676 N. Heilbron Drive. The exposed pipe appears to have been caused by excessive stream erosion in the vicinity of the sewer main. Mr. Ibach will be contacting the owner of 676 N. Heilbron to discuss accessing the repair through his property. Mr. Ibach will be working with Mr. Flandreau in the preparation of a Memo of Understanding to access the repair. Mr. Fazler will be applying to PADEP for an emergency repair. Once the permit is issued, KBX will be conducting the necessary repairs to the sewer mains.

6. Bioxide Service Proposal

Evoqua, MTSA's Bioxide supplier, calibrates MTSA's systems yearly to ensure that Bioxide is being applied at an acceptable rate. This year's proposal is higher than prior years because MTSA has added the Halcyon Bioxide system to its list. Mr. Hanna motioned to approve this service proposal in the amount of \$5,640. Mr. Klodarska seconded the motion. The motion was approved with a vote of 4-0.

7. SSO MacIntosh Inn

Mr. Ibach received an email from Mr. Patel, the Motel owner, informing him that he selected a contractor to televise the entire lateral either at the end of this week or early next week. Mr. Ibach will be persistent with Mr. Patel to make sure the televising and necessary repairs are done in a timely and efficient manner by a Township approved contractor. If Mr. Patel does not fully cooperate, MTSA will initiate all enforcement measures at its disposal until the repair is done.

8. Miscellaneous

Mr. Hanna inquired about the cost of the anticipated 7 Septa ISAs. Mr. Ibach did not have the exact amount but gave an estimation of about \$6,000 for all 7 ISAs.

Mr. Hanna also inquired about PACT's payment status. Mr. Ibach stated that he is still holding the final payment because he is waiting for PACT to remove the dirt mound from Mr. Lai's property.

Mr. Klodarska inquired about the right-to-know requests. Mr. Ibach responded that this RTKR was a new one and he had received three more earlier in the day. Mr. Flandreau commended Mr. Ibach on his diligence and expertise with processing these right-to-know requests.

Mr. Scholz stated that he and Mr. Ibach attended the Township Council meeting on February 22nd virtually for the adoption of MTSA's 537 Plan for McCall Heights. Mr. Kirchgasser, Chairman, thanked the MTSA Board for being so genuinely interested in the issues facing the Authority regarding the Chrome Run Interceptor and participating in an exploratory walk in that area. Mr. Sullivan, in turn, thanked Mr. Scholz and Mr. Ibach for attending the Council meeting.

Mr. Scholz asked Mr. Fazler about the progress on the new capital budget. Mr. Fazler stated that he just received it from Mr. Ibach and will have it done by April's Board meeting. He will share it with Mr. Scholz and Mr. Sullivan prior to April's Agenda meeting.

Mr. Sullivan posed a question about the PA1 Call received by MTSA regarding the citation from the PUC. Mr. Fazler explained when Alan Myers was conducting sewer work on the Franklin Mint property, they nicked a PECO gas main because PECO's markings were off significantly (close to 10ft). Myers sued PECO who did not respond and reported it to the PUC who is now investigating all utility markings on this job ticket. The PUC is questioning why MTSA had cleared the area. Mr. Fazler explained the reason it was cleared was because the closest sewer facility is located on Pennell Road about 1,000 ft away. He informed the Board that he already responded to PUC regarding this citation, but the PUC is still pursuing a hearing on March 16th. Mr. Fazler and Mr. Ibach will be attending via Zoom.

B. Treasurer's Report

1. Payment of Operating Expenses

Mr. Hanna presented a list of paid invoices for the period of February 16, 2021 through March 12, 2021, for a total of \$99,313.76. The largest invoice is to KBX (\$37,509.72). Mr. Hanna made a motion to approve these paid invoices. Mr. Bailey seconded the motion. The Board approved with a vote of 4 - 0 with one abstention by Mr. Hanna solely for the payment of the KBX invoice (\$37,509.72).

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

Mr. Hanna reported Capital Expenses totaling \$22,076.47 for March 15, 2021. The largest expense is to Cedar Electric (\$15,907.50) in payment of the Darlington Valley pump station Construction. Mr. Hanna motioned to approve these expenses. Mr. Scholz seconded the motion. The Board approved with a vote of 4-0.

3. Miscellaneous

Mr. Hanna reminded the board there are two CDs maturing in March and commended Mr. Ibach for his hard work with LPL to get MTSA the best interest rate possible.

C. Solicitor's Report

1. DELCORA/Del. Co. Lawsuit

The Board went into executive session to discuss this topic.

2. Chrome Run Easements

Mr. Flandreau reported that the easements (306 Mystic Lane and 176 Glen Riddle Road) have been executed. Mr. Fazler is currently working on the 166 Glen Riddle Road easement. Mr. Flandreau stated this easement should be resolved by the next Board meeting.

D. Engineer's Report

1. CCIP3 Construction and Storm Damage

As was discussed by Mr. Ibach in his report earlier, Mr. Fazler agreed that MTSA is to release payment once PACT removes the dirt pile. Mr. Ibach added that he noticed wear and tear on the access ramp from the Cross parking lot to the Interceptor and would like to repave it if the Board approves. He already has spoken to the township engineer and manager and will reach out to the Crosses to get their approval. He is awaiting bids from two different paving contractors.

2. Darlington Valley Pump Station (DVPS)

Mr. Fazler stated this project is moving very slowly. Electrical components availability is limited due to the pandemic. MTSA is in receipt of the pump and VFD's so far. Mr. Fazler is hopeful the electrical construction will begin at end of March.

3. DELCORA I & I Program

Mr. Fazler stated the televising resumed during the week of March 8th. It had slowed down due to snowy conditions. Once this is complete and the laterals are all inspected, he will be able to better update the Board with a list of I&I deficiencies and repair costs.

4. Overview Planning for Dutton Mill Interceptor

Mr. Fazler stated that he submitted the approved Act 537 Plan to DEP today (March 15th). He will be analyzing alternate access routes to this pump station to avoid crossing a major water line and 4 petroleum lines. Mr. Ibach added that he received a phone call from the Township (via a resident) regarding the Concept School and whether MTSA was conducting soil percolation tests on the school's property. Mr. Ibach responded in the negative but will investigate.

5. Baltimore Pike Collector

Mr. Fazler is awaiting more information regarding the sink hole (reported during February's Board meeting) at the State Police Barracks to share with the Board.

6. Chrome Run Interceptor Relocation/Replacement

Mr. Fazler is continuing to work on the survey of the entire Chrome Run Interceptor which will also reveal access points to the Interceptor for televising purposes.

7. Ponds Edge Pump & Haul

Mr. Fazler stated this project is progressing nicely. Home construction in this development will begin soon and sewage will flow to the pump station. He explained that the pump station is designed to work when a minimum of 10 homes are connected and sending flows. In the interim, a pump and haul arrangement is put into place. This involves taking the actual pump station off-line, installing temporary pumps in the wet well to pump flows into a holding tank which will regularly be hauled away by a truck to the wastewater treatment plant. This is standard procedure on most new sewage pump stations. The Board went into executive session to discuss further options.

8. Pump Station Abandonment

Mr. Fazler, Mr. Ibach and KBX representatives visited the Parkmount pump station which has not been in operation since the completion of CCI phase III. They also visited the abandoned Black Horse pump station site. This is comprised of the newer PS built 20+ years ago and the original Blackhorse station that was constructed in 1968. The original pump station was kept in place to serve as back up in case issues arose with the newer station. Mr. Fazler reported the backup Blackhorse PS has never been used, is unsafe, and should also be abandoned. Additionally, Mr. Fazler stated there are two other pump stations, Fair Acres and Country Village Way, that have areas of confined space that could be abandoned in place. The confined space areas are old wet well/dry well configurations separated by a concrete wall. The old pumps for these stations are in a dry well and are not serving any purpose. If these pumps are ever to be accessed, the technician would have to climb down 20 feet tethered. These pump stations have been reconfigured to have Smith & Lovelace wet well/dry well pump stations which sit above the abandoned wet wells (20+ years). In Mr. Fazler's opinion, these two stations present a confined space entry hazard due to their unsafe accessibility issue. It is Mr. Fazler's recommendation to abandon the confined space area of the stations. He suggested to form a small committee led by Mr. Klodarska to verify the dangers of these pump stations and report back to the Board no later than May's Board meeting. Once a decision is made to safely abandon the confined space areas of these 4 pump stations, Mr. Fazler will contact an environmental consultant to ensure there are no environmental impacts associated with abandoning the areas and will prepare a cost estimate to present to the Board.

QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion by Mr. Sullivan and seconded by Mr. Hanna, the meeting was adjourned at 8:37 pm.

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. Fazler and transcribed by Ms. Tierney

Approved: _____



Date: _____

