

NORTH EAST TOWNSHIP WATER/SEWER AUTHORITY MEETING

November 30, 2020

7:00 p.m.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Gordy Post at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Bill Heald, Teresa Sculley, Fredrick Shunk, Guy Steg, Jim Konzel, Attorney Robert Jeffery, Engineer Jeff Kordes, and Deb Miller. Rick Hall was unable to attend.

There was no one in attendance from the public.

At this time, Chairman Post asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the October 26, 2020, meeting. Guy Steg made the motion to approve the minutes, as presented, with the second from Jim Konzel. All in favor, motion passed.

Chairman Post now asked for a motion to approve bills. Bill Heald made the motion to approve all bills, with the second from Teresa Sculley. All in favor, motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

James Mazza approached Supervisor Fredrick Shunk and asked for an estimate to extend the water line from Chase Road to East Lake Road so that he may connect 11787 East Lake Road to public water. Board member Fredrick Shunk presented this to the rest of the Board and stated that it will be either a 6" or 8" line. The line will run from its existing point on Chase Road to the intersection of Chase and East Lake Road where a hydrant and stub will be placed. He also wants to make sure that is okay to stop at the corner of that intersection and to draft a Developer's Agreement. The Board was okay with stopping at the intersection. Bill Heald made a motion to draft a Developer's Agreement with the second from Teresa Sculley. All in favor, motion passed.

The 2021 water/sewer rates are up for review. Chairman Post asked what North East Borough's intentions are. At this time, they are expecting no increase for water and an 8% increase for sewer. In 2020 the Township had no increase for water rates and 4% on sewer rates for lower end users. In addition, the block rate schedule was done away with resulting in a higher sewer rate increase for large users. With no water rate increase in 2020, the water fund is currently maintaining.

Teresa Sculley made a motion to recommend to the Supervisors a 5% increase on water rates and 8% increase, or match the Borough's increase, on sewer rates. The second was made by Bill Heald. All in favor, motion passed.

The Miller East Lake water line is complete, and the Millers have tapped in. As built were presented, and during construction it was necessary to go around an existing gas well onto Mrs.



Miller's property. Mrs. Miller stated that if it became necessary to do so, she would grant a Right of Way to the Township for the installation of the water line on her property.

A motion was made by Jim Konzel to have Attorney Robert Jeffery draft the Right of Way, with the second from Guy Steg. All in favor, motion passed.

OTHER:

North East Township is in receipt of a report, submitted by Environmental Remediation & Recovery, Inc., of evaluation of 11520 Scotland Ave. regarding Ms. Osborn's alleged claim that the installation of the sewer line has caused increased bluff recession from excessive water drainage.

Engineer Jeff Kordes stated that the lift station to the west of the Osborn's property is the low point. The path of least resistance will go to the pump station. Recession to bluffs happen naturally, that's what they do.

Chairman Post asked what type of fill was used on the sewer line installation. Engineer Kordes replied that there is bedding stone to support the pipe, back fill of 6" – 1' of porous stone. Select fill is used for sewer installation in the road. Jeff also stated that he does not have insight into the design of the sewer line as he was not employed with the firm at the time.

Chairman Post asked about the statement made by Richard Stetson that a drainage line was cut and not repaired. Fredrick Shunk replied that he can't speak to that.

Chairman Post asked if there was a solution. Attorney Jeffery stated that this has been turned over to the Township's Insurance Company. Attorney Jeffery also received a phone call from Ms. Osborn's attorney asking if there is anything the Township can do. Attorney Jeffery replied that the Township always tries to help alleviate when they can.

Board member Jim Konzel added that there are a lot of factors that go into this. One being that lake levels are unusually high.

At this time, no action will be taken on the part of North East Township. Engineer Jeff Kordes will look into it further.

With all business addressed, Chairman Gordy Post adjourned the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

Next tentative meeting will be January 25, 2021.

Submitted by  
Deborah Miller