

NORTH EAST TOWNSHIP WATER/SEWER AUTHORITY MEETING

April 26, 2021

7:00 P.M.

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

There were no meetings in the months of February or March, 2021.

Jim Welka was at the meeting to represent the Dohler property (cottages). He was appointed by the bankruptcy judge, and his job is to produce income for the Dohler's. Initially, the idea was to put each cottage on its own parcel and sell them. However, the cottages were deemed not worth saving due to failing septic and considerable water damage. The existing cottages will be abandoned, and the plan is to build a sub-division (Edgewater on the Lake) under the planned community act.

There are a total of 20 (twenty) lots, and these lots will sit further back from the lake than the existing cottages. Sewage disposal will be provided. Bob Rathman was on site and dug 100 holes to test for soil suitability. Erie County Department of Health, Meadville DEP, and Meadville DEP's consultant soil scientist were also there. It was determined that the soil depth and quality are sufficient to support 20 (twenty), four (4) bedroom homes. Each home will have its own septic system. In the future, if public sewer is run, they will be required to hook up and pay. A provision, to that affect, will be stipulated in the Developer's Agreement. Public water will be run to the subdivision and costs will be calculated to install such service.

This subdivision will have a private road with a public right of way and a Homeowner's Association to maintain road, etc. The plans account for a 30' public right of way, 15' on each side for both water and sewer easements.

Jim Konzel, asked about flood concerns. Mr. Welka stated that he has studied FEMA and the 100-year flood history. The homes will be far enough back.

Rick Hall asked if these will be pre-made or custom homes and will there be one developer. Mr. Welka responded that they will be custom homes with their choice of builder.

Attorney Jeffery asked Mr. Welka if he had a general idea of where the water line might come in to the subdivision. Mr. Welka said he can get that information in a couple weeks. The plan is to loop the line. Engineer Kordes will work on getting the required size of water line to install.

Rick Hall made the motion to have Attorney Robert Jeffery draft a Developer's Agreement to permit the development of 20 (twenty) lots. Teresa Sculley made the second. All in favor, motion passed.

Correspondence

Felix & Gloekler, P.C. remitted their standard audit "Letter of Understanding" for signature. Rick Hall made the motion to have Chairman Gordy Post sign the letter, with the second from Jim Konzel. All in favor, motion passed.

At this time, Chairman Post asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 25, 2021, meeting. Fredrick Shunk made the motion to approve the minutes, as presented, with the second from Teresa Sculley. All in favor, motion passed.

Chairman Post now asked for a motion to approve bills. Rick Hall made the motion to approve all bills, with the second from Jim Konzel. All in favor, motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Railroad Management Company (a collection agency for Norfolk and Western) is inquiring about three invoices from 2018, 2019, and 2020, with what they believe to have balances owing. North East Township Water/Sewer Authority entered into an agreement in 1991 with Norfolk and Western Railway Company to pay \$154.00/yr. license fees for a 15" sewer pipeline under the railway.

Since Norfolk and Western contracted with Railroad Management Company to collect the license fees, they have increased each of the years 2018, 2019, and 2020, - \$499.55, \$514.54, and \$529.98 respectively. Payment, in the amount of \$154.00, has been remitted with each invoice; however, Railroad Management is requesting the balance.

Attorney Jeffery believes that a cost-of-living increase may seem appropriate. Board member Guy Steg will look into it as the company he previously worked for faced a similar situation.

The Osborn's claim that the 2012 sewer project has caused significant erosion on their property was briefed upon. Fredrick Shunk had a meeting with David Chivers, and a plan was in place to install an inspection port. Unfortunately, Mr. Chivers passed away before any work was done. Mr. Shunk will reach out to the Chiver's Company and see if the plans can still be carried out. To date, there has been no further communication from the Osborns.

The pipe for the Ackerman Lane project is out back and the Township has received some, but not all, monies from the residents.

Other

Fredrick Shunk informed the board that the Township is experiencing several water breaks in the Orchard Beach Park area, and they are occurring close to the creeks. The lines are blowing apart. He would like to replace lines with HDPE pipe and have a back feed to Freeport. This back feed will help during hydrant flushing so there is no lost pressure.

Having meetings in the morning was brought up for discussion. It was the general consensus that morning meetings are preferable. Unless there key issues that need addressed, meetings will be held at 9:00 a.m. on the fourth Monday of the month, as needed.

With all business addressed, Chairman Gordy Post adjourned the meeting at 7:50 p.m. Next meeting is scheduled for June 28th at 9:00 a.m.

Submitted by
Deborah Miller