

NORTH EAST TOWNSHIP WATER/SEWER AUTHORITY MEETING

June 29, 2021

9:00 A.M.

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Gordy Post at 9:12 a.m. In attendance were Bill Heald, Guy Steg, Jim Konzel, Rick Hall, Fredrick Shunk, Teresa Sculley, Attorney Robert Jeffery, Engineer Jeff Kordes, and Deb Miller.

There was no meeting in the month of May, 2021 and no one in attendance from the public.

At this time, Chairman Post asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 26, 2021, 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 Rick Hall. All in favor, motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

There is a 4" pressure sewer line along Route 20 that heads out to McDonalds. The Township is getting more requests to hook into this line. Two other businesses have already hooked into the line, and each time engineering had to be done to design the hook-up. Fredrick Shunk is asking if the Township can do a one-time engineering design so that additional hook-ups don't have to have it engineered each time. The cost of the one-time engineering can then be put into the cost of a hook-up. Attorney Jeffery stated there is no issue in doing this.

Jim Konzel commented that he thought it was mandatory to hook into the sewer. Fredrick Shunk stated that it is not mandatory on a pressure line. A question was raised as to whether or not the pump station would need to be made bigger. The reply was that the pump station is big enough to handle additional hook-ups.

Engineer Jeff Kordes stated that as the pressure line continues, at some point it becomes a little bit of gravity. He added that when tie ins to the line occur, an E1 pump should be used.

Bill Heald made the motion for the Township to pay for the engineering design, with the second from Teresa Sculley. All in favor, motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Fredrick Shunk has met with John Chivers about installing an inspection port to address the claim that the 2012 sewer project caused significant erosion to the Osborn's property on Scotland Avenue. Mr. Chivers contacted Don Dolph, and Mr. Dolph is working on picking up where Dave Chivers left off. He will report back to Fredrick Shunk.

There still has been no further communication from the Osborns and the property is up for sale.

Attorney Jeffery reported on Railroad Management's request to pay the balance of the invoices for years 2018, 2019, and 2020. Board member Guy Steg reached out to the company he previously worked, and they continue to pay the original fee.

Attorney Jeffery stated that there have been municipalities that have settled by paying a lump sum. If litigation occurs, costs for counsel will probably far outweigh a lump sum payment. Attorney Jeffery suggested reaching out to them. Bill Heald made the motion for Attorney Jeffery to move forward, with the second from Guy Steg. All in favor, motion carried.

Other

Barnhart Trucking has asked for a quote to extend public water to their business on West Main Road. Engineer Kordes will work on the size of pipe that will be needed.

Pennvest has money available for smaller projects with a maximum loan of \$500,000.00. It was discussed as a possibility to apply, and use that money to extend the sewer south on Route 89 by the thruway. PennDOT will be resurfacing the road; therefore, it might be a good opportunity to look into this. It is supposed to be a two-week turnaround time on application decisions and a shorter closing time. Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. stated that they will front the money for the permitting.

Board member Shunk spoke about a commercial solar program that is available. Electric generated from the solar array can be used to eliminate electric usage costs for township water facilities within a two-mile radius. That could potentially eliminate the electric bills for the Route 89 pump station which run approximately \$500/month.

Merle Swift has a five-lot subdivision at the corner of Grist Mill Drive and North Mill Street. Fredrick Shunk asked if the Township can dictate to them that there can only be one connection into the main sewer line instead of open cutting the road five times. Attorney Jeffery replied that that is permissible.

Fredrick Shunk made the motion to draft a Developer's Agreement with the stipulation that North East Township design the project and all costs associated with the extension are the developer's responsibility. Bill Heald made the second. All in favor, motion passed.

With all business addressed, Chairman Post adjourned the meeting at 10:20 a.m.

Submitted by
Deborah Miller