

NORTH EAST TOWNSHIP WATER/SEWER AUTHORITY MEETING  
August 26, 2019  
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, Guy Steg, Jim Konzel, Rick Hall, Tom Lowes, Attorney Robert Jeffery, Engineer Jeff Kordes, and Deb Miller.

See sign in sheet for public in attendance.

At this time, Chairman Gordy Post asked if there were any public comments.

Residents from Ackerman Lane were in attendance to ask the Board to get water. Avery Schau, of 10761 Ackerman Lane, stated that his well went bad and the quality of water on Ackerman Lane is bad, too. His home is approximately 5/10 mile from the hydrant on Ackerman Lane.

Rick Mong, who owns 10734 Ackerman Lane, stated that everyone is on board for water.

Chairman Post replied that ultimately, it would be nice to get them water; however, explained that it would be their project and they would assume the costs. Ackerman Lane is stubbed on both ends; therefore, continuing the water line is definitely feasible. It was also noted that connection to municipal water is not mandatory. The cost of the project will be divided by the number of residents who sign up. For example, if the project is \$100,000.00 and there are ten residences, the cost per household would be \$10,000.00. Ken Spaeder who owns 10711 Ackerman Lane asked if future hook ups get to hook up for free and why isn't it a cost per footage. Chairman Post explained that cost is not based on footage, because there are farmers who own a lot of land that they may never do anything with. Chairman Post also stated that if anyone else hooks up, the original residents will get a credit. Attorney Jeffery stated that there is a five-year period for which they will be reimbursed.

Rick Mong stated that his property is zoned commercial and asked if that would have any impact on getting water. The answer was, "no."

Attorney Jeffery wanted to know if they would have to go under a creek. The answer was "yes."

The question of time frame came up. It will take approximately one month to get estimates and would probably not go in the ground this year. More than likely, early spring of 2020.

Supervisor Shunk will work on getting estimates, and this can be further discussed at the next meeting.

At this time, Chairman Post asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the May 20, 2019, meeting. Teresa Sculley made the motion to approve the minutes, as presented, with the second from Bill Heald. 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 Guy Steg. All in favor, motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ruth Martin had a Pump Station Agreement dated October, 2011, that inadvertently never got signed by the Board. It is a standard agreement for property owners who had a pump station placed on their property to be granted one (1) sewer hook-up charge at no cost. A motion for Chairman Post to sign the agreement was made by Bill Heald, with the second from Rick Hall. All in favor, motion passed.

Ruth Martin also had a Right of Way Agreement that was signed by Chairman Post and filed at the court house.

NEW BUSINESS:

Larry Muscarella, of 677 Dill Park Road, presented the Board with his intentions of running sewer to his property for potential future development. He would like to coordinate this when Richard Stetson digs for his sewer line extension. He will need to bore under Route 5; therefore, a Highway Occupancy Permit will need to be obtained. Mr. Muscarella wants to make sure that the existing pump station is big enough to accommodate this. Attorney Jeffery asked how many connections will there be. Mr. Muscarella stated that he has about 2.7 acres to build on. Possibly duplexes with 3-6 connections. Engineer Jeff Kordes will look into the pump station specs.

Chuck Ollinger, President of Lakeview Development, Jerry Cass, and Ed Szewczyk want to open the discussion for future development of their 200 acres of property on Station Road. Mr. Ollinger stated that there is a window of opportunity to run sewer up Station Road to Smith Road in 2022. PA Dot will be resurfacing the road which will allow open cutting the road to run sewer lines; which will save thousands of dollars versus boring.

Mr. Ollinger stated that the community has nowhere to expand except south of I90 and feels that this is a great opportunity. Unfortunately, Lakeview Development can't do this on their own. Preliminary estimates are \$450,000.00. Lakeview Development would like to ask North East Township for assistance in making this a reality. He added that they have a development plan from 2005 and believes that people will build. They also acquired property after the plans were drafted in 2005 on which they could build condos right away.

Chairman Post shared his concerns that every sewer project in the past has been paid for by the residents. Sewer isn't extended on a maybe there will be development theory. He added that it is the Board's responsibility to take care of the needs that occur now and not what could be. He wants to be reasonably certain that if assistance is given, that there isn't going to be a dry pipe for the next 20 years. He isn't against expansion, just would like some reassurance that development will occur. Chairman Post added that at the last meeting, there wasn't enough information or collateral to support a yes answer.

Fredrick "Fritzer" Shunk, speaking in the capacity of a resident, feels that maybe it's time to stop looking at old mentality and think about the future. He feels that the \$450,000 estimate is high and would be closer to \$250,000.00.

Attorney Jeffery asked if there is any money available. Mr. Ollinger believes that there are grants available and possible gaming revenue.

Board member Teresa Sculley asked them what they specifically need. Mr. Ollinger replied that from Smith Road, there is approximately 2000 feet to the top of their property that they would like to develop. They can't absorb that cost on their own. They do have some funds that they can throw towards the project but can't fund it in its entirety.

Board member Rick Hall asked why they think this development will work and Harbor Ridge didn't. Mr. Ollinger replied that this project would be done right, it wouldn't be underfunded, and there would be a master developer.

After discussion, it was agreed to form a committee to explore this further. Chairman Post appointed Teresa Sculley, Guy Steg, and Jim Konzel to this committee. It will be Mr. Ollinger's responsibility to touch base with the committee and schedule meetings.

Richard and Linda Stetson have entered into a Right of Way Agreement for the construction of a sewer line. A motion was made by Jim Konzel to accept and have Chairman Post sign the agreement. Bill Heald made the second. All in favor, motion passed.

Next meeting is scheduled for September 25, 2019 @ 9:00 a.m.

With all business addressed, Chairman Gordy Post asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Rick Hall made the motion with the second from Guy Steg. Meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Submitted by  
Deborah Miller