

NORTH EAST TOWNSHIP WATER/SEWER AUTHORITY MEETING
January 25, 2016 - Re-Org
7:00 PM

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Dave Montgomery at 7:00 p.m. In attendance were Bill Heald, Julia Gorniak, Tom Lowes, Rick Hall, Teresa Sculley, Attorney Robert Jeffery, Engineer Clay Fails, and Deb Miller.

There were no meetings in the months of October, November, and December 2015.

In attendance from the public were James Laboda, Pandi Betz, and Raymond Wakley.

In the absence of Secretary Bob Brown, Chairman Dave Montgomery turned the floor over to Vice-Chairman Julia Gorniak for nominations of Chairman. Tom Lowes made the nomination to keep all officers the same; however, Dave Montgomery stated that Secretary Bob Brown is not well. Therefore, not sure he can carry out the duties. Tom Lowes changed the motion to keep the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Treasurer the same. Teresa Sculley made the second. All in favor, motion passed. Officers are Dave Montgomery, Chairman, Julia Gorniak, Vice Chairman, and Gordon Post, Treasurer. The question was asked if Deb Miller could serve as Secretary. Attorney Jeffery stated that he would have to check the by-laws.

The motion to table the nomination of Secretary was made by Rick Hall with the second from Julia Gorniak. All in favor, motion passed. The floor was now turned back to Chairman Montgomery.

Chairman Montgomery opened the floor for public comment of which there were none.

Chairman Montgomery asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the September 28, 2015 meeting. Tom Lowes made the motion to accept the minutes, as presented, with the second from Bill Heald. All in favor, motion passed.

Chairman Montgomery asked if Jim Dunkle had ever hooked up to the pressure sewer line on Freeport Road. The answer to that question was, no. Tom Lowes asked if he would have to contact Hill Engineering to hook up. Engineer Clay Fails stated that if he hooked up, it would have to be inspected.

At this time, Chairman Montgomery asked for a motion to approve bills as presented (see attached). Bill Heald made the motion to approve all bills, with the second from Julia Gorniak. All in favor, motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Jim Laboda inquired about running a road approximately 750' long, from the existing cul-de-sac, in order to build a house on Carey Avenue with possible building lots. He would like to run water and sewer to the proposed house construction. Chairman Montgomery stated that if Mr. Laboda does sub-

divide into building lots, the Township will require him to have a cul-de-sac at the end of the road. Attorney Jeffery also stated that the sub-division map that is filed with the County will have to show the cul-de-sac.

Rick Hall asked if the intended water/sewer lines that he would run would be main lines and not service lines. Mr. Laboda answered, yes. Board member Mr. Hall stated the Mr. Laboda would have to contact an engineer to see if there is enough depth to run the sewer line. Mr. Laboda replied that he would be doing that tomorrow. He then asked if anyone knew the depth of the line. Engineer Clay Fails answered that it is 8 ½' deep at the manhole.

Attorney Jeffery let Mr. Laboda know that the Township regulation states that he would have to build 50' back from the high bank. Mr. Laboda asked if building back 50' he would be able to cantilever a deck 30' over the bank. Rick Hall replied that he believes so, that the 50' is from the main building.

Mr. Laboda asked what size the water and sewer lines that currently run on Carey Avenue. Engineer Fails stated that the sewer line is 8", but is not sure about the water line. That information can be looked up.

Mr. Laboda indicated that he would like the 750' to be a public road. The existing road is currently a private road. The Board informed Mr. Laboda that the Township supervisors will not approve building lots unless the entire road is public. It would be Mr. Laboda's responsibility to do this. Mr. Laboda asked how the existing houses got there. It was explained that they were built years ago before the zoning laws changed.

Rick Hall asked Attorney Jeffery how big the Right of Way on that road is. Attorney Jeffery replied, 50'. If Mr. Laboda puts in a private sewer line, it is his responsibility to maintain it. There would be a \$7,200.00 tap fee to hook into the existing sewer line. All proposed lots are part of the 2012 sewer project; therefore, subject to the Sewer District Charge.

Mr. Laboda asked if he brought the road up to Township specs would the Township reimburse him. The answer was, not likely. Attorney Jeffery stated that if he buys the lot on Carey Avenue he would acquire the Right of Way also.

Mr. Laboda asked if anyone had an idea how much it would cost to install 800' of water/sewer lines. Unfortunately, that question could not be answered. Attorney Jeffery stated that if he did it himself, it would be considerably less than if it were put out to bid.

Mr. Laboda asked what his next step should be. He was told that he should meet with Russ, the zoning administrator, and attend the next zoning meeting. Attorney Jeffery stated that Mr. Laboda would also need storm management plans and the engineer should be able to help him with that.

Mr. Laboda asked what the size of the water line needs to be. He was told that a public line needs to be at least 6", but a service line is different.

Mr. Laboda asked if it would be a conflict of interest to have Engineer Fails as his engineer. Engineer Fails said, yes, it would be. He can't work for him.

Ray Wakley asked the Board if there was a time frame to extend the sewer on West Main Road to service his property. It was talked about seven or eight years ago, but it was abandoned. Chairman Montgomery said that there was no further action after it was talked about. Initially, there was talk about a church being built farther out on West Main Road; however, that never took off.

Mr. Wakley asked what needs to be done to get a plan started. Chairman Montgomery replied that a petition should be started from all that would be affected.

Ray Wakley asked who pays for the sewer. Chairman Montgomery stated that it would be Mr. Wakley's responsibility. Dave explained that it would be cheaper if it was a private project. Engineer Fails added that it would save on prevailing wages. Materials, though, would cost the same.

Mr. Wakley wanted to know how far the sewer goes right now. Currently it stops in the valley at the printer office.

Teresa Sculley suggested going on Pennvest's website to see if they are offering any grants. Chairman Montgomery informed Mr. Wakley that it is need based. The Township didn't get any grant money because Pennvest said the Township population had too much money.

Ray Wakley asked how people get service if the sewer runs on the north side of the road. Engineer Fails explained that a push would be done under the road to service them.

Mr. Wakley then asked what percentage of people is needed to do the project. Chairman Montgomery replied that it's always nice to have 100%. Dave also added that anyone within 150' of the sewer line would have to hook up. Also, if the sewer line were extended, it would have to run to the end of his property line.

Attorney Jeffery asked if people were having septic issues or is there plans for future development. Mr. Wakley stated that he is not aware of anyone having any problems; he just thought that it would bring value to his property.

OTHER:

Attorney Jeffery updated the Board on the people who have not complied with connecting to the sewer line. The Township filed citations and the judge has ruled in favor of the Township. One resident cannot connect until June. Another stated that he would cut the front of his house off so that he would be farther back than the required 150'. One resident is believed to be filing an appeal to his ruling.

Attorney Jeffery stated that there are also some properties in foreclosure. Once they are sold the Township recoups their money at that time. Also, the new owners hook to the sewer at time of sale.

Engineer Fails reported that a resident at 5038 S. Washington Street is interested in hooking to the public sewer. Chairman Montgomery asked if it can be gravity fed. Engineer Fails stated that if it is first floor only, there shouldn't be an issue.

The Board is in favor of the sewer connection as long as plans are approved by the Township.

With all business addressed, a motion to adjourn was made by Tom Lowes with a second from Teresa Sculley. Meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.