

NORTH EAST TOWNSHIP WATER/SEWER AUTHORITY MEETING
March 23, 2015 – 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, Bob Brown, Gordy Post, Teresa Sculley, Attorney Robert Jeffery, Engineer Clay Fails, and Deb Miller.

There were no meetings in the months of November 2014, December 2014, January 2015, or February 2015.

In attendance were Supervisor Fredrick (Fritzer) Shunk and First National Bank representative, Jen Rodenbaugh.

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 October 27, 2014 meeting noting that the second paragraph on page 2 should read *customer who purchased a house... .. about 50 years ago* instead of 15. Julia Gorniak made the motion to accept the minutes, as corrected, with the second from Bill Heald. All in favor, motion passed.

Chairman Dave Montgomery turned the floor over to Secretary Bob Brown for nominations of Officers for the Water/Sewer Authority Board. Secretary Bob Brown asked for nominations for Chairman. Julia Gorniak nominated Dave Montgomery with the second from Gordy Post. All in favor, motion passed. The floor was turned back over to Chairman Montgomery for nominations of Vice-Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer. Bob Brown made the motion to keep the officers the same with a second from Bill Heald. All in favor, motion passed. Officers are, Julia Gorniak, Vice Chairman, Gordon Post, Treasurer, and Robert Brown, Secretary.

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:

Engineer Clay Fails reported on the construction of the Route 5 water line. Mortimer Construction has installed most of the main line pipe. The 20 Mile Creek crossing has not been done yet. The creek crossing will be done by directional drill; which will be sub-contracted out by Mortimer.

The entire pipe is expected to be in the ground by the deadline of April 3, 2015. Mortimer will return for restoration.

Although this project has been thought about for several years, it has never come to light. With PA Dot resurfacing Route 5, the extension was taken underway rather quickly. The resurfacing of Route 5 allowed the Township to open cut the road instead of boring under it which saved a substantial amount of money.

Supervisor Shunk explained to the Board that the Township would like to finish the project by completing the loop from where the Route 5 extension is ending at Gay Road and continue on Gay Road down Lola Lane a distance of 5,260 feet. This project will be funded through reserve funds and financing.

Hydrant flushing results in almost a negative pressure on this line. Finishing the loop would resolve that issue.

Fritzer stated that the cost of ductile iron pipe is going up \$5/ft. effective April 1, 2015. This increase would add an additional \$25,000 to the cost of the project.

Chairman Montgomery asked what the cost of the materials would be. Fritzer replied approximately \$184,000 excluding the pressure regulator. Julia Gorniak asked how much the pressure regulator would be. Fritzer stated that with the pressure regulator, \$200,000 would be a close estimate.

Julia Gorniak asked how many houses along Gay Road are there. Fritzer replied about 9-13; however, installation of the water line along Route 5 allows for extended services to many more houses.

Teresa Sculley asked how much it would cost to hook into water. Gordy Post explained that while water is not mandatory to hook into, generally speaking if the residents of a sub-division want water they will pay for the whole project. Every project has different costs; therefore, there is no set fee.

Gordy asked First National Bank representative, Jen Rodenbaugh, how much this will cost. Jen replied that she doesn't have the current rate and that Anita Kuchcinski would be handling the account. Jen did inform the Board that the Township can use a CD as collateral to keep the rate low.

Use of Township employees to install the Gay Road water line is planned along with hiring out of an excavator. Materials will be purchased through Co-Stars; therefore, no bids are needed. Fritzer estimates that the project will cost \$400,000.00.

Engineer Clay Fails and Supervisor Fredrick Shunk previously met with National Fuel to discuss the relocation of National Fuel's gas line on Gay Road. It is in the way of the project design, and National Fuel has agreed to move approximately 600-800' of gas line at no cost to the Township.

Attorney Jeffery explained that there are some additional expenses associated with borrowing the money along with getting DCED's (Department of Community and Economic Development) approval. Advertising costs could run approximately \$1,000.00 and DCED has a 60 day processing period. He also stated that if borrowing under \$125,000.00 it qualifies as Small Borrowing; which is not as time consuming. The \$125,000.00 is the maximum that could be borrowed and any monies already borrowed must be factored into the equation.

Gordy Post made the motion to approve the project and obtain necessary financing with a second from Bill Heald. All in favor, motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Gordy Post asked how many sewer customers have not hooked in yet. To date, there are 6 who have not responded to their *Notice of Violations* for which Attorney Jeffery stated that the Township will be filing citations. There are also 2 residents that have asked for assistance in hooking up their sewer. Gordy asked if the Township will be doing the work. Attorney Jeffery explained that the Township will be covering the costs and a lien will be placed on the property for those costs. The resident picks the contractor that they wish to do the work.

OTHER:

Chairman Montgomery updated the Board about Pennvest's new amortization schedule for the construction loan. Effective April 1, 2015 monthly payments are \$22,767.27. In 2019 the payment will change to \$28,630.75 per month.

Engineer Fails and Supervisor Shunk met with Craig Palmer of Erie Water Works Authority regarding a possible interconnection with North East Township. This interconnection would be utilized more so for emergency purposes. It may possibly service some customers on Route 5 near the Harborcreek line. Engineer Fails stated that the Township would have to check to see if there are any constraints with the Borough.

With all business addressed, a motion to adjourn was made by Gordy Post with a second from Bob Brown. Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.