

PUBLIC WATER AND SEWER ADVISORY BOARD
Meeting Minutes
April 19, 2012

In Attendance: Ed Harvey, Chairman; Committee Members: Wally Pattyson, Joe Krumenacker, Dave Williams, Joe VanHouten, Gary Munkelt and Joe Delikat. Also in attendance: Rick Colello, Board of Supervisors Liaison; Township Staff: Stephanie Mason, Township Manager; Richard John, Director of Operations and Sandra Zadell, Assistant Township Manager; Visitors: Ed Ebenbach and Jackie Hayes

The committee discussed the meeting minutes from March 15, 2012; Mr. Krumenacker suggested that our minutes are too detailed, the committee decided by consensus to ask Mrs. Zadell to make the minutes reflect action taken and summarize discussion. On a motion made by Mr. Delikat, seconded by Mr. Williams the March 15, 2012 minutes were approved.

Mr. Ebenbach spoke to the Public Water and Sewer Advisory Committee about the options that the Telecommunication Advisory Board can work with the Public Water and Sewer Committee on, for putting programing on DTV. He suggested that they can use the channel for educational programing, we can create new programing for the committee of they can look at what the EAC did outside of the committee to fine topics of interest and videos that already exist and get the rights to air those.

The committee discussed several ideas on educational pieces that we could produce. One idea was to create a dynamic video using the Conestoga Rovers presentation and to also create a power point with a voice over regarding how residents can locate their septic systems, etc.

Mrs. Zadell did mention to the committee that there is a lot of programing on the channel already about septic information.

Mr. VanHouten suggested creating a subcommittee on video programming. The subcommittee will consist of Mr. VanHouten, Mr. Williams and Mr. Delikat, they will get together in the next month or so to come up with different ideas for video programming to present at the meeting in May.

The committee then reviewed the draft white paper that Mrs. Zadell prepared. Mr. VanHouten suggested that on the lines that discuss the cost of the sewer system are slightly misleading. Mr. Williams also had sent an email regarding that same topic, they asked Mrs. Zadell to replace the line in the white paper with the line from Mr. Williams email and she will do so.

Mr. Krumenacker asked a question about road restoration, wondering if the cost for road restoration is included in the EDU estimate from Bucks County Water and Sewer Authority.

Mr. John stated that it is not part of the estimate.

The committee discussed the issue of road restoration as part of the sewer installation bill or if it is already included in every residents tax bill part of regular township maintenance.

Mr. John stated that when public utility projects are completed usually part of the cost is on homeowners and part of the cost is on the township. Mr. John also stated that the Pebble Ridge neighborhood needs a lot of the storm water infrastructure repair/maintenance in the next 5 years.

Ms. Mason suggested looking at the study and possibly including a comment in the white paper regarding road restoration costs.

It was decided that Mr. John will get one line of text to Mrs. Zadell regarding a sentence on the cost of road restoration.

The committee discussed the sentence on the white paper in regards to Health & Safety issues for residents of Pebble Ridge; it is a highlighted section of the white paper. The committee suggested that we look at the letter from May 24, 2010 from the Health Department and put in the actual quotes instead of paraphrasing that section. Mrs. Zadell will incorporate that change into the white paper utilizing the quotes and this wording: systems that malfunction are cause for health and safety concerns for the Township and its residents.

Mr. VanHouten suggested that after all the changes are made to the white paper that it be distributed to the group via email.

Mr. Colello brought up a concern that he has regarding the different requirements for connecting once the public sewer system is installed in the Pebble Ridge area. His concern is that as the ordinance currently stands we require residents to connect either if their system is malfunctioning or at the sale of their property. He feels that it may be slightly unfair for residents who may have just installed new sand mound and then sell their house two years later that they would then have to connect to public sewer.

Several members of the committee and staff responded to Mr. Colello stating some reasons why the ordinance stands the way it is now.

One argument was that in the past three sewer installations in the Township we have required residents to connect at the sale of their home. This connection benefits the community at large and protects the health and safety of the residents; it shares the shared responsibility for the connection in the street and prevents any possible pollution from happening by taking care of any connections at the time of selling the home.

It was mentioned that we could require all residents to connect immediately when we put the line in the street, but we are basically in effect giving them a little bit of a delay to

connect by allowing them to wait until either they sell their home or the system is malfunctioning.

The committee adjourned at 5:45pm on motion of Mr. Krumenacker, seconded by Mr. Delikat.

Respectfully Submitted:

Sandra B. Zadell
Assistant Township Manager