

Notes from Public Water and Sewer Advisory Board
March 17, 2016 @ 5:00PM

Present: Gary Munkelt; Joe Delikat; Joe Krumenacker; Wally Patterson; Joe Van Houten; Sean Sablosky, EAC Representative; Rick Colello, Board of Supervisors Liaison and Stephanie Mason; Township Manager.

Absent: John Canterbury and Jim Dowling

Prior to reorganization Mr. Colello indicated that he was pleased with the robust discussion at the last meeting and that at the Board of Supervisor meeting on March 15, 2016 the Board adopted a new resolution reconstituting the Public Water & Sewer Advisory Board with seven members with staggered terms. He has provided a list of those members.

Mr. Colello thought it would be a good idea to continue to move on the Mission Statement, keeping it simple, perhaps about two paragraphs. He provided information from the Township Website on groups, committees and their mission statements and outlines of what they do.

He would like that the Board to meet monthly, possibly adjusting the time due to DTMA meetings running a little longer and whether there is a quorum or not the group should still meet.

At that point there was discussion regarding selection of a Chairman. Mr. Delikat recommended Mr. Van Houten as Chairman; motion was seconded by Mr. Krumenacker. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Van Houten suggested that since there are a couple of members not here tonight that may be interested in serving as Vice Chairman, he recommends that the matter be tabled until the next meeting.

Mr. Van Houten wanted to finalize a few things. He needed to know regarding the Pierce presentation at the last meeting whether or not we needed to do anything regarding that.

Ms. Mason indicated that no, that their attorney would be in touch with the Township Attorney. That was how it was left and if they do not hook up prior to the project then they will be part of the project. They will not be able to get out of the project.

Drip Irrigation Systems as an Alternate to Public Sewer – Information was provided previously.

Mr. Van Houten indicated that he has done some research on this and doesn't believe that it is the type of system that necessarily works in all areas. You still have to build a sand mound, perhaps not as deep as a traditional one but it does have to be 102' away from a well, this could be difficult in most neighborhoods.

The grade of the property for drainage purposes and storm water is important; the cost is \$15,000 to \$30,000.

He thinks that alternatives should be taken seriously and vetted to see if any are appropriate but in this case he does not see this as an appropriate one for most neighborhoods, perhaps larger individual lots.

Township 537 Plan – There was discussion about revisiting the Township 537 Plan and perhaps having DEP come to a meeting.

Ms. Mason indicated that in a recent review by DEP on the Chestnut Valley Drive property that is connecting to public sewer on Shady Retreat. The Township will need to conduct a 3M in the future.

It was suggested that inviting DEP to a future meeting may be appropriate – touching base with them.

Phases II & III – Data has been gathered but not recently. There was discussion about having a questionnaire prepared which would need to be reviewed by the Board of Supervisors before it was sent out.

Bucks County Health Department Information – Has been gathered although it has been at least six months or so without updated information. It is all in an excel spreadsheet. The documentation was pulled for all permit repairs done, but it was over a 10 year period, it showed to be in the low teens for those that repaired 11% - 13%, about 50 out of 500 or 65 out of 520.

All the failures have been repaired or replaced there are no holding tanks. There was discussion on whether we focus on major repairs v. minor repairs.

Mr. Delikat indicated that all the information is in his data base. Sam Bryant pulled information together previously and made maps, it may be a good idea to pull those out again and review them. See if we can provide updated information as well.

Mr. Sablosky indicated that if the major repairs have been made then it is as if they have a new system – they should not be penalized in our evaluations of the area.

It was suggested that perhaps we take out the basic maintenance and develop a map showing were major maintenance v. minor maintenance was done with permitting.

Next Meeting - Mr. Van Houten would like the group to pull the data and the maps for Phase II, looking at major repairs done. Mr. Delikat said that it could be done and he would send a list to Mr. Van Houten.

Pebble Ridge Area – Mr. Van Houten indicated that in the Pebble Ridge Area we looked malfunctions and the entire systems but a small area it is important that the underlying soils were very bad.

Mr. Munkelt indicated that he has tried to meet with Delaware Valley University; Larry Hepner, Soil Specialist but has not yet been able to

There was discussion about the reports from Conestoga Rovers which Mr. Sablosky said were a little complex but were worthwhile to look at the fecal coliform, especially knowing that DNA testing is possible and lends credibility to the information.

Discussion on current water problems in Warrington and whether the Board should expand its testing into volatile organics was discussed. Mr. Van Houten indicated that the ordinance relies strictly on fecal coliform readings.

Mr. Sablosky indicated how expensive it is to have volatile organics tested; it could run upwards of \$2,500 if the full gammit was run.

Mr. Van Houten indicated that is too much to put on a homeowner.

After further discussion it was agree that the group would meet monthly at 5:30pm.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:24pm. The next meeting will be held Thursday, April 21, 2016 at 5:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by:

Stephanie J. Mason
Township Manager