

Pocono Township Board of Commissioners
Work Session Minutes

DATE: August 22, 2018
TIME: 6:00 pm
PLACE: Township Building
PRESIDING COMMISSIONER: Jerry Lastowski
ROLL CALL:
Harold Werkheiser - Absent
Richard Wielebinski – Present
Robert DeYoung – Absent
Jerrod Belvin – Present

Also, present Leo DeVito, Township Solicitor, Jon Tressler – Township Engineer, B&J; Mike Gable-engineer, B&J; Patrick Briegel – Pocono Township Sewer Consultant; Donna Asure – Township Manager; Township Supervisors from Tobyhanna Township as well as Tobyhanna Township Manager and Assistant Manager, Township Engineer and Solicitor; David Horton and John Prevoznik of BCRA.

The work session was called to order at 6:08pm by President Lastowski with the Pledge of Allegiance.

There was no public comment.

The work session started off with a discussion of Tobyhanna's growth and the need for additional sewer and water capacity. The agreements were reviewed and discussed to clarify that as long as Pocono works within the two (2) million gallons per day already allotted to them they should be able to consider the request by Tobyhanna to provide additional sewer capacity.

The following topics were then discussed –

- Whether or not Pocono had additional capacity, over and above the MOU agreed upon amount of 440,000 gallons per day
- Have the Pocono sewer consultant and engineer taken into account the next phase of the sewer system and any outstanding projects that will need sewer in determining extra capacity
- The current service area needs of Tobyhanna

BCRA brought to the attention of all that water needs may be an issue with the economic development proposed by Tobyhanna. The expansion will require a will serve letter by BCRA to Tobyhanna and BCRA is not certain that it has the capacity to provide for the needs.

BCRA explained their current financing of a loan to take the capacity from 1.4 to 2.0 million gallons per day but they believed that the additional capacity is to provide water to already existing commitments.

BCRA discussed the following concerns –

- The pressure in the current line is to great to continue that way
- The water system is currently running at 1.3 mg/d at peak times and the capacity is only 1.4 mg/d
-

Pocono Township Board of Commissioners
Work Session Minutes

- They must create redundancy in the system within the next 5 to 15 years which will be an additional \$10 - \$15 million dollars.

Those present then discussed how the issue of water and sewer needs are solved. It was thought that a meeting with DEP to explain the regionalization of working with Tobyhanna, Pocono and BCRA and the needs of the area should be arranged. Tobyhanna will contact DEP to ascertain their interest in having a meeting with all involved.

The current overages of Kalahari were discussed and the options to possibly correct such as pre-treatment and/or equalization tanks.

The discussion of the rerate of the BCRA plant than occurred. There was discussion about a paper rerate, which is currently off the table, and a full rerate with the need and guarantee of a capital investment to accomplish.

Tobyhanna and BCRA representatives left the work session at 7:04pm with Tobyhanna to report back on a meeting with DEP. The Pocono Board took a short break.

The work session reconvened at 7:10pm.

Boucher & James and Patrick Briegel reported on the I&I concerns of BCRA. Pocono consultants believe that the I&I issue coming from the Pocono System is not as large a number as once believed and the new SCADA system is assisting in documenting those calculations.

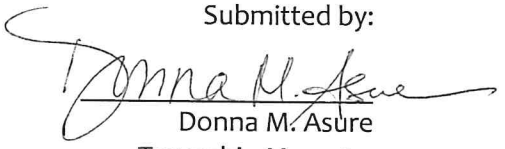
Equalization, pre-treatment, jockey pumps at Pump Station #5 were all discussed as to the needs and the possible benefits.

The Board discussed the pros and cons of expanding the system into the "Phase II" area, the need of opening the Act 537 Plan, the forming of an authority to run the sewer system in Pocono and the amount of extra capacity they would feel comfortable offering to Tobyhanna Township at this time.

There was no public comment.

The work session adjourned at 8:10pm.

Submitted by:


Donna M. Asure
Township Manager