

**Pocono Township Board of Commissioners  
Sewer Committee Meeting Minutes  
September 8, 2020**

The Sewer Committee meeting of the Pocono Township Commissioners was held on Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at the Pocono Township Municipal Building (112 Township Drive, Tannersville, PA) and was opened by President Rich Wielebinski at 6:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** Jerrod Belvin, present; Ellen Gndt, present; Gerald J. Lastowski, present; Keith Meeker, present; Rich Wielebinski, present.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Leo DeVito, Twp. Solicitor, Broughal & Devito; Jon Tresslar, Twp. Engineer, Boucher & James, Inc.; Patrick Briegel, Sewer Consultant; and Taylor Munoz, Township Manager were present.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** None

**OLD BUSINESS**

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Belvin, to approve the minutes of the August 3, 2020 sewer committee meeting. Roll call vote: Jerrod Belvin, yes; Ellen Gndt, yes; Gerald J. Lastowski, yes; Keith Meeker, yes; Rich Wielebinski, yes. Motion carried.

- Sewer Resolution Update. P. Briegel stated there is no update at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

**FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS:** None

**APPEALS:** None

**REPORTS**

**COMMISSIONERS:**

- E. Gndt asked how Township is doing with delinquent collections. P. Briegel had discussion with BCRA on some proposed policies and will review with the manager before presenting to the Commissioners.

**SEWER CONSULTANT:**

- Valve Station 2 Sleeve Inspection and/or Replacement. Will be opening pinch valves to do regular maintenance and open pinch valve assembly for examination. We will be prepared to replace the sleeves at that time if necessary and if Onyx recommends their replacement.
- The Pump Station 5 jockey pump project continues to experience delays due to DEP permitting. Moving forward with the permitting process.
- Deferred Properties List. Some additional properties have hooked into the sewer. There are a few remaining properties within the service area that can connect but will now be billed for not connecting within the required deadline.

- Deferred properties with no lateral. Would like to present as part of the budget discussion for 2021. Some of these connections need a lateral, lateral manholes or a piece of main. They are in the service area, but installation opportunities are not immediately accessible at the property line. Some of the connections may cost more than what the Township would receive back in EDU fees. The Board of Commissioners will need to decide what to do as part of the budget process.
- Discussion was held regarding a few residents who do not have the financial means to connect to the sewer. Discussion regarding the possibility of a lien on these properties to keep individuals in their homes until a new owner takes over, at which point the Township would be made whole. J. Lastowski mentioned there were federal funds available at one time to assist low-income residents with hook-in costs. E. Gnantt also discussed the de minimis program that once existed for the system. P. Briegel will follow-up regarding whether federal programs still exist to provide hook-in assistance.

**ADMINISTRATION:** None

**SEWER ENGINEER:** No update

**TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR:**

J. Belvin made a motion, seconded by R. Wielebinski, to approve the DCNR Assignment of Sewer Line Agreement, transferring ownership of a portion of sewer line between DCNR's Swiftwater property and PennDOT's Right-of-Way to the Township and authorizing the President to execute the agreement on behalf of the Township. All in favor. Motion carried.

- The Township received recent correspondence from Kalahari and will issue a response after discussion between P. Briegel, L. DeVito and T. Munoz.
- The Township has a municipal lien on KSD Hospitality for approximately \$28,000 and a \$14,000 lien on Gateway Equities. The billings for these properties should be updated and the liens adjusted upwards to reflect the new liability.
- E. Gnantt asked that a copy of the Kalahari correspondence be shared with the Board.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**ADJOURNMENT:**

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by E. Gnantt, to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 p.m. Roll call vote: J. Belvin, yes; E. Gnantt, yes; J. Lastowski, yes; K. Meeker, yes; R. Wielebinski, yes. All in favor. Motion carried.