

**Pocono Township Board of Commissioners
Sewer Committee Meeting Minutes
June 7, 2021**

The Sewer Committee meeting of the Pocono Township Commissioners was held on Monday, June 7, 2021 via remote teleconference and was opened by President Rich Wielebinski at 6:02 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.; Taylor Munoz, Township Manager; and Krisann MacDougall, Administrative Assistant.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

HEARINGS: None

PRESENTATIONS: None

OLD BUSINESS

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by K. Meeker, to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2021 sewer committee meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS: None

APPEALS: None

REPORTS

SEWER CONSULTANT

- Pump Station 5 jockey pump project – Received completed plans from Township engineer. Plan to put out for public bid within the next month to see what bid numbers are received.
- Deferred Properties and properties with no lateral – Received final plans for the Pippolo connection to the recently acquired DCNR line. Contacted five different contractors for estimates and two contractors have replied and expect to get proposals. Contacted property owner for a second time to inform him that he will ultimately be required to connect once the lateral is provided. Continuing work on overall plan to extend laterals to existing service area. Will need an easement from property owner and working on negotiating with landowner. Once easement issue is resolved, the Township will put the whole package out for bid.
- Delinquent accounts update – Progress continues with additional individuals connecting to the system. Located a program between PHFA, PennVEST and DEP that offers special low-interest loan assistance for those looking to connect to the Township sewer. Will have information posted online under homeowner resources.
- Discussion regarding expansion of sewer service area – Meeting scheduled for Thursday, 6/10 with Michele Bisbing of the Pocono Mountains Economic Development Corporation to discuss grant funds

available to assist with planning, engineering and installation associated with the sewer area expansion.

COMMISSIONERS

- E. Gnandt asked for update regarding the Township's collection of delinquent sewer fees and clarification regarding the DCNR lateral extension and the broader lateral installation project.

ADMINISTRATION: No update

SEWER ENGINEER

- Update - Sanofi Sanitary Sewer Easement – JT – Sanofi is being held up by PennDOT approval of their HOP.
- Update - Act 537 – Working through onsite sewer specifications/requirements.

TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR:

- Discussion regarding Tobyhanna Equalization (EQ) Tank – Tobyhanna Township has changed solicitors. L. DeVito has a call into the new solicitor to discuss the EQ Tank. Substantial plans have been submitted and M. Gable issued a nine-page comment letter. Will need a cost estimate on the plans to complete the letter of credit revision. A new revised timeline was submitted by Kalahari with bidding and proposed completion of work complete by August of 2022. P. Briegel indicated the lead engineer has taken leave from the project and he and M. Gable had a productive meeting with two other project engineers. J. Lastowski asked about whether the timelines proposed are reasonable. J. Tresslar indicated they were disappointed by the 90% completion submission, which is why there was a nine-page review letter. The follow-up letter was productive, and they are focused on getting this project back on schedule. L. DeVito indicated a significant amendment is required to the agreement indicating the switch from a pretreatment facility to an EQ tank.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Attorney Ralph Gundrum, Kalahari legal counsel, indicated he understands that the plans submitted were not truly 90% plans. He stated that Kalahari is disappointed the timeline was not met. With respect to the project schedule, he has standing orders to tell Kalahari's engineers when they are falling behind. Emphasized that the Township should not to hesitate to reach out directly between meetings if needed.

ADJOURNMENT

R, Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Belvin, to adjourn the meeting at 6:41 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.