

**Pocono Township Board of Commissioners
Sewer Committee Meeting Minutes
August 2, 2021**

The Sewer Committee meeting of the Pocono Township Commissioners was held on Monday, August 2, 2021 via remote teleconference and was opened by President Rich Wielebinski at 6:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Jerrod Belvin, present; Ellen Gnandt, absent; 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 J. Belvin, to approve the minutes of the July 6, 2021 sewer committee meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Sewer Resolution Update – Township engineer is working to ensure there are no conflicts between the Township’s SALDO and the proposed Resolution draft.

NEW BUSINESS

FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS: None

APPEALS: None

REPORTS

SEWER CONSULTANT

- Pump Station 5 jockey pump project – A preconstruction meeting was held with ten contractor representatives in attendance as part of the continued bid process.
- Deferred Properties and properties with no lateral – Bid advertising will commence on August 12, after a slight delay from adding four additional properties into the bid package. Further discussion was held regarding providing a 45-day timeline rather than 60 days for receiving bids.
- Delinquent accounts update – Discussion regarding establishing a dollar threshold for assessing liens on delinquencies. J. Belvin asked for additional information on what fees are charged for late payments. P. Briegel will investigate appropriate penalty provisions.

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by K. Meeker, to impose a three-month or \$500 minimum threshold for assessing liens on delinquent accounts. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Discussion regarding expansion of sewer service area – The Township has applicants interested in connecting to the sewer within the proposed expansion areas. The Township cannot make any promises to developers guaranteeing connection to the Township’s system prior to final Act 537 approval, but Township will do everything possible to get the Act 537 approval. J. Tresslar will provide a schedule and milestones for the Act 537 expansion.

COMMISSIONERS: No reports

ADMINISTRATION: No report

SEWER ENGINEER

- Update - Sanofi Sanitary Sewer Easement
 - Aaron Sisler, engineer with Borton-Lawson, provided an update regarding the Sanofi easement related to the turn lane Sanofi installed off Route 611. Continued back and forth with PennDOT over the years to develop the ROW. A portion of existing easement will remain and a portion will be extinguished for PennDOT. PennDOT needed a portion of Sanofi’s easement to install a mast arm at the intersection.

TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR:

- Discussion regarding amendment to the Intermunicipal Sewage Collection & Disposal Services Agreement. Tobyhanna’s solicitor provided feedback on the draft and Ralph Gundrum of Kalahari provided a redlined version which is being reviewed by M. Gable and P. Briegel. Agreement will need to include the construction cost for the EQ tank.
- Discussion regarding Tobyhanna Equalization (EQ) Tank – Discussed the construction schedule at the last meeting and the delays encountered. The Township did receive the 90% completion design, as verified by M. Gable. The Township can now evaluate the design and begin assigning cost estimates. Kalahari flows have resumed, which reinforces the need for equalization. Further discussion regarding the revised construction schedule. The Township would like the EQ tank in service by July of 2022.

P. Briegel stated that Kalahari should have the cost estimate, schedule and completed agreement by the next meeting so the BOC can ensure progress continues. R. Wielebinski asked that R. Gundrum help expedite things on Kalahari’s end. J. Lastowski asked at what point in time is the Township’s system compromised if the EQ tank is not completed. P. Briegel stated at the current time and flows, the Township is not compromised; however, with the flows from the employee housing, things could escalate. R. Gundrum stated he recognizes that the timeline has not moved much recently, but he feels that Kalahari is on the fastest timeline possible. Also clarified that the EDUs for employee housing project comprise about 10% of the resort usage and the cycle of flows from the housing will not peak at the same time as Kalahari’s resort.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Matt Gunther, Borton-Lawson – Stated they are looking forward to working with P. Briegel and the Township to work on getting the Kalahari project completed in a timely manner.

Ralph Gundrum, Kalahari Legal Counsel – Expressed thanks to the Township for working with Kalahari.

ADJOURNMENT

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Belvin, to adjourn the meeting at 6:36 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.