

**Pocono Township Board of Commissioners
Sewer Committee Meeting Minutes
October 4, 2021**

The Sewer Committee meeting of the Pocono Township Commissioners was held on Monday, October 4, 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 Gndt, present; Gerald J. Lastowski, present; Keith Meeker, present; Rich Wielebinski, present.

IN ATTENDANCE: Leo DeVito, Twp. Solicitor, Broughal & Devito; Mike Gable, Twp. Engineer, Boucher & James, Inc.; Patrick Briegel, Sewer Consultant; 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 September 7, 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 – Bids received for the Board’s consideration.
- Deferred Properties and properties with no lateral – Bids were received for the Board’s consideration.
- Delinquent accounts update – 16 accounts were forwarded to the solicitor’s office and liens will be filed on those properties. Names and identifying information were provided to the Commissioners. Further discussion regarding responses to the lien notifications.
- BCRA letter regarding I&I issues from storm events – Response received from Dave Horton of the Brodhead Creek Regional Authority. A letter will be provided outlining I&I issues following the recent hurricanes that will be sent out after the next BCRA board meeting.

E. Gndt asked whether the Pump Station 5 project is an emergency project or whether it could be done later. P. Briegel stated it is not an emergency, but there are benefits to doing the project sooner – including the Township will realize reduced energy costs for operating smaller pumps and more longevity with the accompanying valves. E. Gndt stated concerns over the cost and potential for grant funds. R. Wielebinski stated he feels Township should move forward, as funds have been expended and resources spent to get the project completed. J. Lastowski stated the sewer fund is

stable to move forward with the project and project will further enhance the safety of the line. P. Briegel described Pocono's proactive measures to maintain integrity of the sewer system. Discussion regarding volatility of material costs and contractor availability.

COMMISSIONERS: No reports

ADMINISTRATION

- R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Belvin, to approve a Reservation of Sewer Capacity Application for Great Wolf Lodge in the amount of \$3,453.02 per month for the expansion of the hotel and waterpark, subject to the receipt of payment in the amount \$3,453.02. E. Gndt asked about whether a land development plan has been approved for the project. P. Briegel explained that the developer needs to have a will-serve letter to prove sewer capacity availability as part of their agency approval process. Further discussion regarding will-serve letters. All in favor. Motion carried.
- R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by K. Meeker, to award the mechanical/plumbing contract in the amount of \$182,750.00 to Blue World Construction for the Pump Station 5 improvement project. J. Belvin, yes; E. Gndt, no; J. Lastowski, yes; K. Meeker, yes; R. Wielebinski, yes. Motion carried.
- R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by K. Meeker, to award the general/building contract in the amount of \$150,000.00 to Blue World Construction for the Pump Station 5 improvement project. J. Belvin, yes; E. Gndt, no; J. Lastowski, yes; K. Meeker, yes; R. Wielebinski, yes. Motion carried.
- R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by K. Meeker, to award the electrical/controls contract in the amount of \$261,000.00 to George J. Hayden, Inc. DBA Hayden Power Group for the Pump Station 5 improvement project. J. Belvin, yes; E. Gndt, no; J. Lastowski, yes; K. Meeker, yes; R. Wielebinski, yes. Motion carried.
- R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Belvin, to award the Deferred Lateral Connections project in the amount of \$245,905.00 to Kobalt Construction. R. Wielebinski asked question regarding timing of project. All in favor. Motion carried.

SEWER ENGINEER

- Act 537 Plan update – Finalizing document and accompanying exhibits for submission to the PA DEP.

TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR

- Discussion regarding Tobyhanna Equalization (EQ) Tank – Documents received from Kalahari last week. Township had hoped to receive the package with enough time to review for action at this sewer committee meeting. Township engineer completing further review. E. Gndt asked when the letter of credit will expire. Cost of the project came in higher than expected, but came in above the amount reflected in the existing letter of credit.
- Amendment to Intermunicipal Sewage Collection & Disposal Services Agreement – Placeholder until the EQ Tank agreement is in place.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kalahari engineering representative stated they are looking forward to moving the EQ Tank process in a positive direction.

ADJOURNMENT

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by E. Gndt, to adjourn the meeting at 6:29 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.