

**PETERS TOWNSHIP
SANITARY AUTHORITY**

3244 WASHINGTON ROAD
McMURRAY, PA 15317-3153
PHONE: 724-941-6709
FAX: 724-941-2283
Web Site: ptsaonline.org



James J. Miskis, Manager
Mark A. Chucuddy, Asst. Manager
Mildred Paff, Office Manaer

REGULAR MEETING

APRIL 26, 2005

ROLL CALL:

The regular meeting of the Peters Township Sanitary Authority was called to order by the Chairman at 7:03 p.m. Board members present were G. Robert Jacobs, John P. Slagle, Gerald C. Grubesky, Denver E. Yingling, and George A. Khalouf. Also present were Terry Soster and Kevin Hoffman, KLH Engineers, Inc.; Fred E. Baxter, Jr., Solicitor; James J. Miskis, Manager, and Mildred Paff, Admin/Acct. Clerk.

VISITORS:

1. Property owners seeking sewer service at Hays Road and East McMurray Road

Attending the meeting were Lisa Adams and (her father) Joseph Bevec, 953 E. McMurray Road and Ernest and Patty Lengyel, 945 E. McMurray Road.

Mr. Miskis, Manager, said the property owners are here this evening as they were at the April 12th meeting to try to get some type of arrangement to address two malfunctioning septic systems out of three systems for 3 homes located off Hays Road and E. McMurray Road. Mr. Miskis met with the Lengyels to explain the available alternatives and, as requested by the Lengyel's, Mr. Miskis spoke on their behalf this evening. The Lengyels have indicated to Mr. Miskis that they are willing to grant the necessary right of way through their back yard in order to extend the sanitary sewer to serve their property and three properties upstream from them but request, from the Board, a few considerations in that regard. The cost of the combined public sewer extension, the tapping fee, and installation of the building sewer will be a financial hardship estimated to be approximately \$10,000. The Lengyels are requesting that the project be scheduled so that connection could be postponed until October 1, 2005. This will give them time to save up money to do their share of the work. The only source of financial assistance would be from the Washington County Redevelopment Authority and funds would not be available until August if their application was approved. This postponement would put the actual sewer construction in late August or early September. The Lengyels have decided not to install the sewer at the extra depth required to serve a future lot, therefore, it would be a relatively shallow sewer extension. The Lengyels propose to use their contractor to install the sewer one-half the way across their property. The remaining distance of the sewer would be installed by the upstream owners' contractor. The Lengyels would participate in one-fourth of the engineering costs as there are four property owners involved in the project. They also request that the upstream property owners be required to post reasonable financial security with the Authority for the purpose of restoration of the area disturbed by them, which is a normal requirement of the Authority for projects of this nature. They request that they have input into the sewer alignment before it is finalized. If the Board members agree with the Lengyels' request, they will sign the right of way agreement as soon as the design is finalized and the paper work is prepared.

Mr. Miskis explained that the Authority would have to deviate somewhat from its standard procedure for developer construction agreements such as the requirement of the posting of a 110% security. A Memo of Understanding is more appropriate in this instance rather than the formal Developer's Construction Agreement.

Lisa Adams said she is in the process of selling her house and questioned how much longer will it be before they know the route of the sewer and the cost? Mr. Miskis said the engineers are doing a preliminary review and Mr. Hoffman said that the surveyors could be scheduled out next week and design time would be relatively minimal. Mrs. Lisa Adams said they will be moving May 20th and questioned if it would be possible to know the amount of money she will need for the project. Mr. Miskis explained that she will have to get the cost from the contractor. Mr. Soster said the preliminary design could be done within two weeks and then it will be reviewed with the property owners for any reasonable required changes. When the design is finalized, the property owners can get estimates from the contractors.

Mr. Miskis recommended that Authority personnel do the required inspection of the sewer extension which would save the property owners the expense of an engineering inspector. The Board concurred.

The rights of ways will be prepared after the survey is completed. Mrs. Lisa Adams said she will sign the right of way before she moves.

The property owners granted permission for the engineers to do the survey work as quickly as possible. The visitors departed at 7:25 p.m.

Property owners regarding the Crossgates Trunk Sewer Relocation Project did not attend this meeting.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Copy on file

Mr. Soster reported on the status of the Crossgates Trunk Sewer Relocation Project. The Board members were copied on a letter, with drawing attached, dated April 22, 2005 from Mr. Soster, KLH Engineers to Brian and Diane Ritter, 117 Scarborough Lane. The Ritters have been informed that the existing sewers in the back of their property needs replaced due to multiple defects and that their retaining wall encroaches on the existing right of way. The homes in this area are very close to the existing sewer, basically within 20 feet of the foundations of the homes and there is the potential for damage to homes, if sewer repairs were conducted in the present right of way.

Mr. Soster said the recommended approach is to abandon the sewer and the existing right of way and construct a new sewer across a small stream that exists on their property. The Authority has offered to fill the abandoned sewer line to maintain stability of the abandoned line where it is in the vicinity of a retaining wall that encroaches on the sewer right of way.

KLH has investigated three points of access for this project and it has been determined that the most feasible access is through the Ritter property. The Ritters are concerned about mature trees being removed that will be replaced with smaller trees and the loss of privacy after the trees are removed.

The repair is complicated because the Ritters' retaining wall is encroaching on the right of way. Because of the encroachment and for other reasons, the Authority has elected to relocate the sanitary sewer to a new location across the small stream located in the back of their residence.

The Authority considered use of ductile iron pipe (DIP) to minimize construction access concerns and suggested such to Mrs. Ritter but it may become prohibitive because of expenses.

Mr. Jacobs said this is a project the Authority intended to undertake last year but postponed. Mr. Miskis said due to the condition of the pipe, the sewer must be replaced this year and the Authority should proceed to relocate the entire existing line now.

Mr. Khalouf suggested that a meeting be set up with the owners of the properties involved in this replacement project. The Board members concurred with the suggestion and management was instructed to contact the Township to see if Council Chambers would be available for a public meeting. Mr. Miskis pointed out that Mr. Hoyt said a meeting could be held at his home but the Board agreed that the meeting should be at Council Chambers.

Mr. Yingling questioned that if the use of ductile iron pipe may alleviate some property owner opposition what is the difference in cost from PVC? Mr. Soster said that he recollects that on one project the ductile iron pipe was 40% higher than PVC. Mr. Miskis reminded the Board members that early in the project the preliminary proposal was to do the whole project in ductile iron pipe because the access was so difficult. If it was a practical consideration then, it should remain a practical consideration now because of the right of way and access issues being experienced.

Fred Baxter, Solicitor, cautioned that the Authority require an unconditional right of way from the property owners. He feels that restoration may be an issue with the property owners when the project is completed. He also does not think the Authority should require less of a right of way than the 40 feet construction right of way.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1. Acceptance of Marricco Plan No. 2 Sewer Extension subject to right of way verification

Mr. Yingling moved to accept the Marricco Plan No. 2 (1 EDU) sewer installation for use subject to right of way verification. Mr. Khalouf seconded the motion that carried without a dissenting vote.

2. Alternatives for sewer camera replacement

Mr. Miskis informed the Board members that our sewer inspection camera is malfunctioning again and we have returned it to the manufacturer. The necessary replacement parts are no longer available. The camera was purchased May, 1997 at a cost in excess of \$20,000 and included 600 feet of cable, the CPU unit (control unit), etc. The existing camera has a fixed lens meaning it does not have the ability to pan and tilt to view up the wye connection. We could purchase a pan and tilt camera retrofitted to the CPU unit we have but the price would be approximately \$20,000 and we would be using the old CPU unit which is in relatively good condition. Upon investigation, it was determined that we could get an upgraded, fixed lense camera to fit the CPU at a cost of \$3,700. Management recommends using the camera and accessories we presently have for several more years.

Mr. Jacobs questioned the advantage of having the pan and tilt camera and Mr. Miskis explained that at the time the camera was purchased eight years ago, his recommendation was that the pan and tilt had limited value and was one more thing to go wrong with the camera and would require more service. Although, today if a completely new camera outfit were purchased, it would be a pan and tilt unit. John Slagle questioned when the Authority will start televising laterals? Mr. Miskis said we should start planning for that task immediately due to the labor contract ending soon and other factors.

Mr. Grubesky questioned if the camera work is something we can contract out. Mr. Miskis said that we contracted out televising when our camera was out for repairs at a cost of \$1.00/foot plus labor. Considering we target 24,000 feet per year, contracting out would mean \$24,000 additional annual expense.

Mr. Khalouf moved to purchase the replacement camera at a cost of \$3,700. Mr. Grubesky seconded the motion that carried without a dissenting vote.

The Board went into Executive Session at 9:00 p.m. to obtain a report from Mr. Miskis on the performance of the new General Maintenance employee as the 120 day probationary period is near the end. The Executive Session adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

The regular meeting of the Peters Township Sanitary Authority adjourned at 9:35 p.m. by a motion made by Mr. Khalouf, seconded by Mr. Yingling, and carried without a dissenting vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Mildred Paff, Admin/Acct. Clerk