

**PETERS TOWNSHIP
SANITARY AUTHORITY**

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

REGULAR MEETING

SEPTEMBER 13, 2005

ROLL CALL:

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Peters Township Sanitary Authority was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by the Chairman. Board members present were G. Robert Jacobs, Gerald C. Grubesky, John P. Slagle, George A. Khalouf, and Denver E. Yingling. Also present were Terry Soster and Kevin Hoffman, KLH Engineers, Inc.; Fred E. Baxter, Jr., Solicitor; James J. Miskis, Manager; Mark A. Chucuddy, Assistant Manager; Patricia Foote, Financial Controller and Mildred Paff, Admin/Acct Clerk.

REVIEW OF MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

John Slagle moved to approve the Minutes of the August 9, 2005 meeting as corrected. George Khalouf seconded the motion that carried with one abstention.

VISITORS:

1. Walter & Mary Henricks, Christine Wilson, Richard Swett, Michael J. Chokel, and Carol Huebner regarding Hidden Brook Plan

James Miskis, Manager, informed the visitors that the Authority engaged a geotechnical consultant to advise the Authority on how to proceed with the section of sewers identified with deficiencies. The consultant submitted their report to the Authority on August 24th and it was forwarded to the developer on August 26th. There are two problematic manholes that need to be addressed. This morning, September 13th, a response was received from the developer stating that they are proposing to use a grouting alternative.

The Authority previously allowed the developer to proceed with a temporary pumping system, and they started testing the temporary system yesterday. Mr. Hoffman said that as of 5:00 p.m. today, the developer has thoroughly tested one of the two pump stations. There were some problems with the equipment that will be resolved tomorrow. The Authority anticipates that early next week, the permits for the homes upstream of the temporary pumping system, should be released. Mr. Miskis said the process of reviewing the developer's proposed work plans to put in the grout foundation for the manholes will take several days. Therefore, the Authority will not be approving the work plan until some time next week and the developer is expected to start late next week putting in the grout foundation for the manholes. Mr. Miskis said the primary focus is on two manholes because of settlement concerns and a segment of line that was laid too flat that must be excavated and re-laid for the proper slope.

Mr. Miskis said that there is a limit of 30 homes to be connected into this temporary pumping system and presently there is probably an interest for about 15 to 18 permits. Some of the visitors were concerned about whom would they call if, in the middle of the night, problems arose with the temporary pumping? They were informed that the temporary pumping is the responsibility of the developer, McHolme Developers. Mr. Miskis said there is a lead pump and a backup pump that comes on automatically in the event the lead pump does not come on when the level comes up.

Ms. Huebner said she understands that the home connections must be inspected by the Authority after they are installed and questioned how long that will take as that has to be done before an Occupancy Permit will be issued. Mr. Miskis explained the connecting sewer from the public sewer to the home has to be installed yet and there is a time element involved that could be several days but will depend on the builder, Heartland Homes and how many contractors and plumbers are available to make that installation. Mr. Miskis said that the Authority makes three inspections per connection and has available personnel to do four or five inspections a day. Mr. Hendricks asked who does the inspection for the Occupancy Permit and Mr. Miskis explained that the Occupancy Permit is issued by the Township after a final inspection.

The visitors departed at 7:45 p.m.

Mr. Grubesky questioned the length of the sewer line that requires a slope change. Mr. Hoffman said approximately 220 feet and they will have to lower the invert of the 25 foot deep manhole. Mr. Hoffman estimates that if the contractor who installed the manhole originally could probably make the repair in a week.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Fred Baxter, Solicitor, previously forwarded his written opinion on the reimbursement of the collection component of the tap permit and he agrees how it is being handled by management.

Mr. Baxter reported that a conditional agreement was arrived at for the purchase of the Bertini property to pay \$190,000.00 for the property and allow Mr. Bertini to live there for one year without rent but he pays other associated costs such as the utilities, insurance, and taxes. Approval from the Board is required to proceed with the purchase.

John Slagle moved to approve the purchase of the Bertini property at \$190,000.00. Denver Yingling seconded the motion that carried without a dissenting vote.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Copy on file

KLH has prepared the final Requisition in the amount of \$47,241.91 to PennVest for the Ivy Lane Project. Denver Yingling moved to authorize the proper officials to endorse the final requisition to PennVest for the Ivy Lane Project. The motion was seconded by John Slagle and carried without a dissenting vote.

The contractor, Robinson Pipe, has completed the Stonehenge Area Rehabilitation projects. George Khalouf moved to approve Change Order No. 2 deleting the performance test and adjusting contract amounts to actual quantities, payments of \$37,581.45 on Contract 2004-01 and \$29,800.00 on Contract 2004-02 to Robinson Pipe Company. Gerald Grubesky seconded the motion that carried without a dissenting vote.

Construction is progressing well on the Crossgates Sewer Project, therefore, KLH recommends approval of the contractor's first application for payment. Denver Yingling moved to authorize Payment Requisition No. 1 to Edward T. Sitarik Contracting in the amount of \$47,876.08. The motion was seconded by George Khalouf and carried without a dissenting vote.

Bids were opened on September 13, 2005 for the Vactor Receiving Station. Three bids were received and the apparent low bidder was Mann Construction in the amount of \$58,975.00. Denver Yingling moved to accept the low bid of Mann Construction in the amount of \$58,975.000. George Khalouf seconded the motion that carried without a dissenting vote.

In regard to the Valleybrook Interceptor Augmentation, KLH Engineers have submitted a proposal to do a study of upper portion of the Brush Run Watershed in the Bebout Road area. Mr. Miskis explained that we continue to have an intermittent manhole overflow during peak rain events beyond Bebout Road. Part of the problem, beside that portion of the interceptor being undersized, is that when PennDot did the project to relocate the bridge some years ago, our sewer slope was flattened which contributes to the overflow problem. Denver Yingling moved to authorize KLH Engineers, Inc. to proceed with the first phase of design (collecting the data and conceptually recommending alternatives worthy of consideration) of the upper Brush Run Watershed for the lump sum fee of \$18,300.00. The motion was seconded by John Slagle and carried without a dissenting vote.

Mr. Miskis asked the engineers to inform the Board of the response from North Strabane regarding the Donaldsons Crossroads WWTP Expansion Planning and Act 537 Plan. Mr. Soster said he discussed the sewage planning with the manager of North Strabane, Robert Kipp. Mr. Kipp informed Mr. Soster that North Strabane is presently undertaking a project that will essentially serve the entire township by Chartiers Houston Sanitary Authority, therefore North Strabane is not interested in participating in the Peters Township Act 537 Planning study.

Mr. Miskis said North Strabane's lack of participation in the study economically impacts this Authority because regionalization was important to increase our customer base to help support the cost of the plant expansion. North Strabane's response eliminates that possibility, and it is doubtful Cecil Township will participate either. We will have to expand the Donaldson Plant based on our own customers.

MANAGER'S REPORT: Copy on file

In regard to the property along Camp Lane that had a service lateral separated at the stream crossing, Mark Chucuddy said the property owner made a repair to realign the sewer lateral that was separated. A retaining wall over the sewer line appeared to have settled and knocked the pipe down. The property owner braced the wall back up to realign the pipe. He dug out the stream bed behind the pipe so the typical flow of the stream is beneath the pipe. The only time the line will be submerged is when the stream is up. Mr. Chucuddy will talk to the property owner and the Authority may require him to encase the pipe in concrete.

Management is recommending replacing the 1993 GMC flatbed vehicle. Management has investigated piggy-back contracts with the state and local county purchasing cogs. The Westmoreland Cog 2006 contract has not been awarded yet and there are no 2005 vehicle available under the 2005 contract. Based

on the 2006 low bid numbers, Mr. Chucuddy identified the cost for a replacement vehicle to be a 26 per cent reduction versus the MSRP for the particular vehicle. Mr. Miskis does not think the Authority could get a better bid on its own plus the savings of administrative time and the bidding process. As a cost saving, Mr. Miskis recommends waiting until Westmoreland Cog's contract is awarded and then inquire about the purchase. The contract is expected to be awarded soon, at which time we can proceed.

John Slagle moved to accept the Pope Plan of Lots sewer extension for ownership. Denver Yingling seconded the motion that carried without a dissenting vote.

Stewart Contracting is the contractor installing the sewer extension along East McMurray Road from Hays Road for the four property owners requesting sewer service. Each of the property owners has paid their respective amounts in escrow with the Authority. A Memorandum of Understanding has been prepared to simplify the process of the Developer's Agreement and has been signed by all property owners. William McCloskey will serve as the general contractor and the property owners are responsible for the cost of construction and testing. The Authority will pay the contractor upon completion from the escrow. The property owners agree that, in the event unforeseen conditions are encountered that results in increases in the cost, they will pay their proportionate share of that cost. The property owners also agree that the contractor's proposal excludes restoration and building sewer installation which is the responsibility of the individual home owner.

Gerald Grubesky moved to enter into the Memorandum of Understanding with the four property owners along East McMurray Road as recommended by Management subject to getting all the required signatures. Denver Yingling seconded the motion that carried without a dissenting vote.

Mr. Miskis said that Queen of Heaven Cemetery's request for a variance from connection to the public sewer was on the agenda for this meeting, but their attorney has requested they be removed from this meeting's agenda so that they have the opportunity to make some suggestions to the Authority to consider before making final recommendations to the Board.

FINANCIAL CONTROLLER'S REPORT: Copy on file

Patricia Foote, Financial Controller, requested the Board's authorization to open a new PNC Bank account to deposit tap receipts and developers' deposits to avoid checks being mailed to PLGIT. John Slagle resolved to authorize the proper officers, including the manager, to sign the documents to open a new PNC Bank account. The motion was seconded by George Khalouf and carried without a dissenting vote.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT REVIEW: Month ending August 31, 2005

CORRESPONDENCE FOR THE BOARD'S INFORMATION: Copy on file

PAYMENT OF BILLS & REQUISITIONS:

John Slagle moved to approve payment of Operating Fund checks 13139 through 13225 (voiding checks 12731 and 13204) totaling \$132,212.12; Developer Fund expenses of \$11,769.44; and Capital Improvement & Redemption Fund Requisition No. 24-05 listing 12 vendors and totaling \$100,421.26. The motion was seconded by George Khalouf and carried without a dissenting vote.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Miskis said that he will be meeting with Denver Yingling and Mark Chucuddy to start the process of labor negotiations as the union contract expires February 1, 2006.

Mr. Miskis informed the Board that he and Mark Chucuddy will be attending the 7th Annual 3 Rivers Wet Weather Sewer Conference, September 28 and 29, 2005 at Mars, PA. The registration fee is \$60.00 each.

ADJOURNMENT:

George Khalouf moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:06 p.m. The motion was seconded by Gerald Grubesky and carried without a dissenting vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Mildred Paff, Admin/Acct Clerk