

**SUMMIT TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY  
MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING  
NOVEMBER 29, 2018**

The regular monthly business meeting of the Summit Township Sewer Authority was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 9:10 a.m. at the Sewer Authority Building, 8890 Old French Road, Erie, Pennsylvania. CALL TO ORDER

Present: Chris Fette, Chairman; Michael Rose, Vice Chairman; Laban Marsh, Secretary; Cloyd J. Rose, Ass't Secretary; William C. Steff, P.E., Manager; George Joseph, The Quinn Law Firm; Chad Yurismic, P.E., Greenman-Pedersen; Caitlyn Haener-Schwab, Administrative Supervisor. Absent: Mark Welka, Treasurer; Visitors: Operations Technician Chris Hodge, Resident Denise Kochanczyk, and Resident Mike Glover. ROLL CALL

Motion by Mr. C. Rose, seconded by Mr. Marsh, to approve the minutes of the October 25, 2018 Regular Business Meeting. Vote 4/0 10/25/18 REGULAR MINUTES

Motion by Mr. M. Rose, seconded by Mr. Marsh, to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted to and reviewed by all Board members. Vote 4/0 TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion by Mr. M. Rose, seconded by Mr. Marsh, to approve the Expenditure Report as submitted to and reviewed by all Board members. Vote 4/0 EXPENDITURES

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Solicitor Joseph reports that he continues to work to vacate the paper streets in the Harold Road area. Solicitor Joseph has been in contact with Attorney Joe Sinnott, representing Penelec; Penelec has not yet completed their review. Solicitor Joseph will continue to work to keep the project moving forward. HAROLD ROAD PAPER STREET VACATION

Solicitor Joseph reports that he has received notice that a liened property (8681 Oliver Road) will be up for Sherriff's Sale in January. The Authority can expect to collect the balance of \$1,735.26 due on the delinquent account once the sale is complete. LIEN (8681 OLIVER)

Solicitor Joseph reports that the bid thresholds set by the Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Association are going up in 2019. The threshold for purchases and contracts requiring quotes will increase from \$10,900 to \$11,100. The threshold for purchases and contracts requiring formal bids will increase from \$20,100 to \$20,600. BIDDING THRESHOLDS INCREASE

Solicitor Joseph reports that the Zoning Hearing Board held a meeting on October 30, 2018 to consider the Authority's application for a special exemption regarding the proposed Route 97 Retention Project. The Zoning Hearing Board denied the Authority's application. Solicitor Joseph reports that the Authority received the decision in writing on November 20, 2018, establishing a 30 deadline to appeal. Manager Steff expressed disappointment that the Zoning Hearing Board discounted the needs of the many for the few residents opposed; without retention, there may be restrictions on development. Manager Steff recommends that the Board authorize Solicitor Joseph to appeal. Discussion ensued. RT 97 RETENTION ZONING HEARING BOARD DECISION

**RESIDENTS TO BE HEARD**

Denise Kochanczyk (7181 Old Perry Highway) asked if the Authority has inquired about purchasing additional capacity from Millcreek and Erie. Engineer Yurisc described letters sent to various officials in Millcreek and Erie (as reported in detail in the minutes of the October 25, 2018 Regular Business Meeting). Engineer Yurisc reports that he has not yet received any formal responses, however informal conversations with Millcreek engineers indicate that it is unlikely that Millcreek will have any available capacity. Mrs. Kochanczyk suggested that the Authority should wait to receive a formal response from Millcreek and Erie prior to further pursuit of the retention project. Engineer Yurisc responded that a formal response will take time; the engineers need to assemble flow data and run models to determine if there is any available capacity. Solicitor Joseph reiterated that the Authority only has 30 days to appeal the Zoning Hearing Board decision, or it becomes final. Engineer Yurisc advised that the Authority is not likely to receive formal responses from Erie and Millcreek prior to the 30-day appeal deadline.

KOCHANCZYK  
(7181 OLD PERRY  
HIGHWAY)

Mrs. Kochanczyk stated that she accepts that the Harold Road location is the best location for the retention tank, however she suggested that the Authority should compromise with the residents opposed to the location by choosing the second best location for retention. Manager Steff responded that the Authority studied other locations that were available prior to the 2010 purchase of the Harold Road property; the other properties may not even be available now. Engineer Yurisc added that the Harold Road property offers the most cost effective system; gravity in / gravity out flow is the best design regarding the project costs and long term maintenance costs.

Mrs. Kochanczyk stated that the Authority is not providing a satisfactory response to her concerns about odor. Mrs. Kochanczyk reports that there is already an odor issue with the manholes in her area; she is concerned the retention tank is going to make the odors worse. Chairman Fette responded that it would be irresponsible for the Authority to offer a 100% guarantee that there will be no odor at the retention site, but the research done by the professional staff indicates that odor should not be a problem. Mr. C. Rose added that Millcreek has two non-covered retention tanks by the Millcreek Mall and the local residents have not complained about odor from the tanks. Chairman Fette continued that the tank will only be used intermittently, during heavy rain events. Engineer Yurisc reiterated that the tank would only be used to temporarily store sewage diluted with storm water, and the tank would drain quickly after storm events. Operation Technician Hodge reported that if the tank was already installed, the Authority would have used it once in November 2017 and would not have had an occasion to use it at all so far in 2018.

Mike Glover (150 Harold Road) stated that he is concerned about his property value and requested that the Authority relocate the planned driveway. Engineer Yurisc reassured Mr. Glover that the tank will not be visible from his home. Mrs. Kochanczyk agreed with Mr. Glover's request to relocate the driveway and further requested that the tank should be relocated more toward Perry Highway on the Harold Road site. Manager Steff responded that the project is currently just below the threshold of storm water management requirements; if additional paving occurs, expensive storm water management requirements will be triggered. Manager Steff continued that starting construction at the far end of the site is not compatible with the ultimate-build-out planned for the future of the site. A detailed technical conversation ensued regarding planned tank depth, Route 97 inflow & infiltration, and the new Route 97 Lift Station.

GLOVER  
(150 HAROLD RD)

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Mrs. Kochanczyk expressed frustration that the Authority will not agree to consider her suggested location and layout changes. Chairman Fette responded that the Authority has been considering and discussing countless options over several years regarding site selection, tank design and various configurations. Manager Steff added that since the Authority acquired the Harold Road property eight years ago, the Authority has invested in engineering to plan and develop the Harold Road property. Manager Steff advised that the Authority should not compromise the plan; the best course of action is to appeal the Zoning Hearing Board decision.

KOCHANCZYK  
(Cont.)

Solicitor Joseph advised that he needs Board authorization to appeal the Zoning Hearing Board decision. Solicitor Joseph explained how the appeals process works. The first appeal will go to the Court of Common Pleas, it may take 4-6 months for a judge to make a decision in the appeal. Solicitor Joseph noted that, unlike the Zoning Hearing, residents will not be automatically notified. Mrs. Kochanczyk and Mr. Glover requested to be notified of the date of the appeal hearing. Chairman Fette responded that the Authority will notify them.

ZONING HEARING  
APPEALS PROCESS

Motion by Mr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. C. Rose, to authorize Solicitor Joseph to appeal the Zoning Hearing Board decision regarding the Application for Special Exemption on Harold Road. Vote 4/0.

AUTHORIZATION  
TO APPEAL ZHB  
DECISION

Mrs. Kochanczyk and Mr. Glover left the meeting at 9:49 a.m.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Engineer Yurisc reports that the Meadows Lift Station Upgrades Project will be ready to advertise for bids in December for a bid opening on January 24, 2019. If a bid is accepted, the notice to proceed could be issued in March for ground breaking in April or May. Engineer Yurisc requested Board authorization to proceed with bid advertising for the Meadows Lift Station Upgrades Project.

MEADOWS LIFT  
STATION  
UPGRADES  
PROJECT

Motion by Mr. M. Rose, seconded by Mr. Marsh, to authorize the bid advertising for the Meadows Lift Station Upgrades Project. Vote 4/0.

ADVERTISING  
FOR BIDS

Engineer Yurisc reports that Oliver Road Lift Station Upgrades Project Sewage Facilities Planning Module is ready for transmittal to the Township in December, with anticipated action in January. Once approved by the Township, the plan will go to the DEP to begin their review process. The project should be ready to bid December 2019 for 2020 construction.

OLIVER ROAD LIFT  
STATION  
UPGRADES  
PROJECT

**MANAGER'S REPORT**

Manager Steff reports that John Laird, of Laird Associates is requesting that the Authority conditionally approve a Right-of-Way agreement regarding the Hawkeye Hotel Project (future Holiday Inn Erie on Downs Drive) with changes recommended by Solicitor Joseph. Manager Steff relayed that Mr. Laird is still working to obtain the required signatures from 10 Goetz family members in order to execute the agreement. Manager Steff recommends that the Board conditionally approve the document, contingent on obtaining all required signatures and an acceptable property exhibit.

HOLIDAY INN ERIE  
DOWNS DRIVE  
RIGHT OF WAY

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Motion by Mr. M. Rose, seconded by Mr. C. Rose, to conditionally approve the Right-of-Way Agreement with the Patricia A Goetz Trust regarding the Holiday Inn Erie on Downs Drive contingent on obtaining all required signatures and an acceptable property exhibit. Vote 4/0.

COND. APPROVE  
HOLIDAY INN ERIE  
DOWNS DRIVE  
RIGHT OF WAY

**ONGOING BUSINESS**

Mr. C. Rose stated that if an Infrastructure Bill is passed, it would be wise for the Authority to have ready-to-go project plans to submit for consideration for funding. Regarding Mr. C. Rose's proposed Alternative Transportation Plan, there are lingering engineering questions that need to be answered in order to keep developing the plan. Mr. C. Rose proposed that the Authority invest in a survey of the Mill Creek Tube and investigate the viability of the Mill Creek Tube.

ALTERNATIVE  
TRANSPORTATION  
PLAN: FUNDING  
OPPORTUNITIES

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. M. Rose motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Marsh. Vote 4/0.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Fette adjourned the meeting at 9:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Caitlyn Haener-Schwab  
Administrative Supervisor