

**SUMMIT TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY  
MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING  
DECEMBER 20, 2018**

The regular monthly business meeting of the Summit Township Sewer Authority was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 9:05 a.m. at the Sewer Authority Building, 8890 Old French Road, Erie, Pennsylvania. CALL TO ORDER

Present: Chris Fette, Chairman; Laban Marsh, Secretary; Cloyd J. Rose, Ass't Secretary; Mark Welka, Treasurer; William C. Steff, P.E., Manager; George Joseph, The Quinn Law Firm; Chad Yurisc, P.E., Greenman-Pedersen; Caitlyn Haener-Schwab, Administrative Supervisor. Absent: Michael Rose, Vice Chairman; Visitors: Mike Sanford of Sanford Engineering. ROLL CALL

Motion by Mr. C. Rose, seconded by Mr. Welka, to approve the minutes of the November 29, 2018 Regular Business Meeting. Vote 4/0 11/29/18 REGULAR MINUTES

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

**INTERESTED PARTY TO BE HEARD**

Mike Sanford of Sanford Engineering is working to revive a project originally proposed in 2014, Sleep Inn Hotel (8066 Old Oliver Rd). The Authority and Romesh Dev entered into a standard developer agreement at the December 18, 2014 Regular Business meeting. In 2014, the developer submitted a 7,000GPD plan for a 79 room hotel. The planning exemption was approved. Manager Steff has asked the developer to resubmit plans to make sure that there are not any changes. Mr. Sanford reports that the floor plan for the hotel only has 75 rooms now. Manager Steff reports that the capacity to service the Route 19 corridor is at 86% and other projects are pending. Manager Steff added that the peaking factor in the Route 19 corridor is very similar to the peaking in the Route 97 corridor. Manager Steff briefly reviewed the history of the capacity purchased from Erie/Millcreek and the intent for future retention in both the Route 19 and Route 97 corridors. Manager Steff continued that the Oliver Road Lift Station needs upgrades and the project is still a year away. Manager Steff recommends that the Authority honor the module approval for the Sleep Inn Hotel project, since the project was approved 4 years ago and the module approval process stipulates that the Authority must look 5 years ahead when making determinations; also, peaking is not a factor that the Authority is asked to consider in the module approval process. Manager Steff calculated that there is 170GPM of capacity remaining in the Route 19 corridor, with current customers and approved planning modules for future projects accounted for. Manager Steff requested guidance from the Board regarding future development in light of peaking. Discussion ensued regarding pending projects and remaining capacity. Mr. Welka stated that without peaking, the current capacity is okay. Mr. Marsh stated that the Comprehensive Plan will change the zoning on Route 19 and the depth of the B-1 district will go from 400ft to 800ft. Mr. Marsh wondered if the capacity will be there to support the resulting potential SLEEP INN HOTEL (8066 OLD OLIVER)  
  
ROUTE 19 CAPACITY / PEAKING

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for development. Chairman Fette stated that the Authority should start developing the plan for retention on Route 19 now. Manager Steff recommended that the Authority should require planning modules from now on and the Authority will have to do corrective action plans once the remaining capacity on Route 19 is gone. Engineer Yurisc advised that if there is overflow, the DEP will start rejecting planning modules; Engineer Yurisc further advised that even if retention planning on Route 19 is approved today, it may take 5 years to complete. Manager Steff recommends that the Authority honor the Sleep Inn Hotel planning module and revisit other, older approved modules only after the remaining capacity is gone. Solicitor Joseph advised that no formal action was required to honor a module that has already been approved; action would only be required if the Board decided to the contrary. The Board unanimously agreed with the Manager's recommendation to honor the Sleep Inn Hotel planning module approval and revisit the other approved modules only as needed. Manager Steff will continue to deal with developers on a first come, first serve basis.

SLEEP INN HOTEL  
ROUTE 19  
CAPACITY (Cont.)

Mr. Sanford left the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Solicitor Joseph reports that he has filed an appeal to the Zoning Hearing Board's denial of the Authority's application for a special exemption regarding the proposed Route 97 Retention Project. Solicitor Joseph explained that the appeal focused on the following four points: the proposed retention facility is an essential service; the application met the zoning requirements for exception; the speculation about potential odors (character of the neighborhood concerns) is not based on evidence and existing odors are irrelevant; finally, Bob Stewart is a member of the Zoning Hearing Board and owns property within 500ft of the project therefore he should have recused himself. As a possible second avenue for appeal, Solicitor Joseph explained that the Zoning Administrator originally determined that the project would require a special exemption as a sewage lagoon however a retention facility is very different from a sewage lagoon and is a permitted use under essential service; the retention facility is intended for intermittent use and will be drained and washed down after use. Solicitor Joseph requested Board authorization to appeal the project's 'sewage lagoon' status. Solicitor Joseph advised that making this separate appeal will not delay the appeal that has already been filed; in fact, it may shorten the process if the Township approves the project as an essential service.

ROUTE 97  
RETENTION  
ZONING HEARING  
APPEAL

Motion by Mr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. C. Rose, to appeal the Zoning Administrators determination that the project is a sewage lagoon, rather than essential service. Vote: 3/0/1-MW abstained

AUTHORIZE  
ZONING  
ADMINISTRATION  
APPEAL

**ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Engineer Yurisc reports that the Meadows Lift Station Upgrades Project advertisement for bids ran this week. Five spec books have been requested to date. A bid opening is scheduled for January 24, 2019; this date will provide enough time for review and approval at the January Regular Business Meeting.

MEADOWS LIFT  
STATION  
UPGRADES  
PROJECT

Engineer Yurisc reports that he has been working to update the Act 57 Schedule of Fees.

ACT 57 UPDATE

**MANAGER’S REPORT**

Manager Steff reports that Vice Chairman Mike Rose’s appointment to the Sewer Authority Board expires on December 31, 2018. Mr. M. Rose has informed the Authority that he is willing to serve another five-year term. Manager Steff has prepared a letter to the Summit Township Supervisors recommending Mr. M. Rose’s reappointment.

Motion by Mr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Welka, to send a letter to the Summit Township Supervisors recommending Mr. M. Rose’s reappointment to the Sewer Authority Board. Vote 4/0.

RECOMMEND  
M. ROSE  
REAPPOINTMENT

**ONGOING BUSINESS**

Mr. C. Rose reiterated his disapproval of the City of Erie’s intent to spend \$5 million to repair the wing walls along Mill Creek where it enters Lake Erie as a part of their Wastewater Treatment Plant Capital Improvement Project; the proposed repairs are a stream maintenance project that should be the responsibility of the Army Corps of Engineers.

CITY OF ERIE:  
REPAIR MILL  
CREEK WING  
WALLS

Regarding Mr. C. Rose’s proposed Alternative Transportation Plan (first presented and discussed in detail at the July 26, 2018 Regular Business Meeting), Mr. C. Rose suggested that the Authority should look into opting into participating with the City of Erie in a project to increase the capacity from Wallace to the large Hammermill access sewer line (1200ft) so the line will be adequate for a direct connection from Summit Township in the future. Mr. C. Rose emphasized that, if federal funding becomes available, it may be possible for Summit Township to divert all of it’s sewage out of the Millcreek and City of Erie sewer systems.

ALTERNATIVE  
TRANSPORTATION  
PLAN

Mr. C. Rose motioned to retain GPI to investigate the elevations in the Millcreek Tube.

Discussion ensued. Mr. C. Rose reiterated that obtaining/confirming the elevations would be the first step to develop the proposed alternative transportation plan to keep on file for pursuing future grants. Mr. Marsh questioned if the Board has the authority to direct GPI to conduct work outside of Summit Township and suggested that the Authority should ask the City of Erie to provide the information instead. Chairman Fette stated that the ultimate plan is for retention and the alternative transportation plan is a distraction from what the Authority has already committed to do. Mr. Welka stated that, although the alternative transportation plan is possible to engineer, the Authority will never be granted the permits that would be required to construct it. Mr. Welka continued that the Authority should focus on retention and I&I reduction at this time.

Due to the lack of a second, no action was taken on the motion.

Manager Steff requested that the Board authorize GPI to develop the preliminary engineering for the future retention site on Route 19.

ROUTE 19  
RETENTION:  
AUTHORIZE  
PRELIMINARY  
ENGINEERING

Motion by Mr. Welka, seconded by Mr. Marsh, to authorize GPI to develop the preliminary engineering for the future retention site on Route 19. Vote 4/0.

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Mr. Welka wished everyone present a Merry Christmas.

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

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Fette adjourned the meeting at 10:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Caitlyn Haener-Schwab  
Administrative Supervisor