

## MEETING MINUTES – February 17, 2010

WEST EARL SEWER AUTHORITY

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The regular monthly meeting of the West Earl Sewer Authority was held in room 102 at the West Earl Township Municipal Building, 157 West Metzler Road, Brownstown, Pennsylvania on Wednesday, February 17, 2010. Chairman Dale Wissler called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

**Authority members present:** Dale Wissler, Jim Houser, Rick Weik, Mike Reed, Dave Noyes. Also present: Yves Pollart and Manyi Yeung, Rettew; Patrick Barrett, Township Manager, Teresa Beaver, Recording Secretary.

### 1. MINUTES

The ***motion*** by Jim Houser, seconded by Mike Reed was approved unanimously to accept the minutes of the January 13, 2010 Joint Meeting of the West Earl Sewer Authority and the West Earl Township Board of Supervisors as presented. The ***motion*** by Jim Houser, seconded by Rick Weik was approved unanimously to accept the minutes of the January 13, 2010 regular meeting of the West Earl Sewer Authority as presented.

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT/GUESTS

On behalf of Richard Hurst, Joyce Gerhart, from RGS asked the Authority to consider reducing the amount that Mr. Hurst is required to pay for capacity reservation for his proposed ***Rose Hill Road Development project***. Ms. Gerhart mentioned that Mr. Hurst donated the land for the Oregon Pike sewage pumping station and because the pumping station is a benefit to the Authority, he requests consideration of a reduced fee. Member Mike Reed pointed out that the Oregon Pike pumping station would also benefit Mr. Hurst's proposed development. Chairman Dale Wissler expressed concern for setting a precedent regarding the reduction of established capacity reservation fees.

Ms. Gerhart stated that it could be a year or more to complete the planning for the proposed development. By consensus, the Authority agreed to hold the fee at \$240 per EDU per year for the proposed Rose Hill Road Development and not offer any discount or adjustment to this developer.

Mohan Singel, owner of 326 South State Street presented a letter to the Authority requesting that the authority increase the allotted 30 feet of pipe to 180 feet in his case because he will be connecting 6 EDU's to the Talmage sewer line extension. The authority explained that the 30 feet of pipe that the Authority is allowing is per property, not per EDU, and additional funds have not been budgeted for properties with multiple EDU's.

### 3. ENGINEER'S REPORT

#### ***See attachments***

***Lancaster General Hospital*** - because of the potential odor problem associated with the long sewer line proposed to serve the hospital facility, the engineer requested direction from the Authority to discuss further options with the hospital's engineer regarding the forcemain discharge location. Rettew will suggest tying in directly to the treatment plant rather than the collection system in Brownstown where the area is more populated. The Authority authorized the engineer to discuss this option with the hospital's engineer.

#### ***DS Waters***

#### ***Darl Yoder***

#### ***Brownstown Commons***

***Talmage Extension Project*** – Bulldog Construction requested an extension of time for the date of substantial completion to April 23, 2010. Rettew reviewed the request and recommended that the extension be granted. The ***motion*** by Jim Houser, seconded by Rick Weik was approved unanimously to grant the extension to Bulldog Construction.

The engineer asked the Authority to consider reducing the amount of time Rettew's representative is on the job site at Talmage. Jim Houser, Dale Wissler and Yves Pollart all agreed that Rettew should be present for all testing, but has no problem with Rettew spending less time at the project site until testing begins.

Millway Acres Commercial

Rose Hill Road Development

Chapter 94 Report

WWTP Re-rate – DEP has granted the re-rate of the plant to 545,000 gpd and is also recommending that the authority submit an NPDES permit renewal application so that the correct amount shows on all the paperwork. Rettew's cost to prepare the permit will be about \$5,000; the permit application fee is \$500. These items will be budgeted for the upcoming fiscal year.

4. **MANAGER'S REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE**

The manager informed the Authority that Butch Keppley needs to be replaced as a Sewer Authority authorized signer at the Ephrata National Bank and replaced by the current secretary/treasurer, Rick Weik. The motion by Mike Reed, seconded by Dave Noyes was approved unanimously to replace Butch Keppley with Rick Weik as an authorized signer at the Ephrata National Bank.

Mr. Barrett reported that the 2010 bond closed today. A representative of the Ephrata National Bank met with Mr. Barrett and explained how the funds are invested and how the bank manages the Authority's money. The bank will open an Improvement Redemption Fund account for funds that are not used for bond payments and monthly expenses. Money from this fund can be used for capital improvements.

5. **SLUDGE HAULING**

Kline's submitted a proposal for sludge hauling for \$.075 per gallon, matching the proposal from Red Rose Sanitation Solutions, Inc., and included a \$1,000 credit off the cost of wet well cleaning in 2010. The motion by Jim Houser, seconded by Rick Weik was approved unanimously to accept Kline's proposal for sludge hauling for 2010. A copy of the signed proposal will be sent to Kevin Long at Kline's.

6. **BILLS**

The motion by Dale Wissler, seconded by Jim Houser was approved unanimously to pay total monthly construction expenses of \$570,942.52.

The motion by Jim Houser, seconded by Mike Reed was approved unanimously to pay total monthly operating expenses of \$31,495.98.

7. **PAYMENT REQUISITIONS**

The motion by Rick Weik, seconded by Mike Reed was approved unanimously to authorize payment requisition No. 84 for \$570,942.52 for construction expenses.

The motion by Dale Wissler, seconded by Rick Weik was approved unanimously to authorize payment requisition No. 96 for \$31,495.98 to pay operating expenses.

The Authority and engineer signed the documents.

8. **OTHER BUSINESS**

Jim Houser has been approached by several residents in Talmage who inquired about purchasing *additional warranty coverage* beyond the 1 year warranty that is standard for grinder pumps. Myers quoted Jim a price for all the grinder pumps for an additional 3 years for \$11,446, and for 5 years for a cost of \$26,708. Myers will not

provide additional warranty to individual homeowners because the Sewer Authority bought all the pumps. Because the additional amount was not included in the budget, the Authority decided not to purchase extra warranty coverage.

To date, there have been four occasions when residents' *septic tanks/cesspools needed to be pumped out* so Bulldog Construction could continue construction for the Talmage Sewer Extension project. In one instance, a side of the cesspool caved in while putting in the sewer main. Since the tanks were either full or in disrepair, the Authority agreed that the homeowner should pay for these maintenance costs of their on-lot system. The invoices for pumping out these tanks will be sent to the homeowner for payment.

Because of the number of additional low-pressure connections in Talmage to the West Earl Sewer System, the public works director and treatment plant operator have discussed changing the *Grinder Pump Rental Policy*. Currently, the authority has pumps to rent in case a plumber determines that a new pump is needed for a property. The lessee is required to pay a \$500 deposit, plus a rental charge of \$10 per day. Once the homeowners' pump is replaced, the Authority's pump needs to be returned. The public works director and plant operator would like to amend the policy so that there will not be two service calls for a homeowner to have a new pump installed. The Grinder pump policy is contained in Appendix C of the Authority's Rules and Regulations. The Authority members will review the policy before the next meeting and discuss options and suggestions at the March 10 meeting.

The *motion* by Mike Reed, seconded by Jim Houser was approved unanimously to file nine *civil complaints* against homeowners who have unpaid sewer balances in excess of 120 days.

## 9. **ADJOURNMENT**

The *motion* by Jim Houser, seconded by Mike Reed was approved unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 P.M.

# **WEST EARL SEWER AUTHORITY**

## **Engineer's Report**

**February 10, 2010**

1. LGH: Need direction from Authority regarding forcemain discharge location.
2. DS Waters: no change
3. Darl Yoder: No update.
4. Brownstown Commons Lot No. 2: No Change.
5. Talmage:
  - A. Forcemains, including cleanouts and terminal manholes, have been installed for the following streets as of 2/5/10
    - a. State Street south of the river
    - b. Marlou Avenue
    - c. Elizabeth Avenue
    - d. Stoltzfus Avenue
    - e. Evergreen Lane
    - f. The private drive behind Hursh Paints
    - g. The plant driveway and into the influent pump station wet well
    - h. 2,300 feet of Locust Street
  - B. 79 grinder stations, including pumps, electrical conduit and control panels have been installed
  - C. Application and Certificate for Payment was received and approved in an amount of \$545,113.25.
  - D. Change Order NO.1 has been submitted by the contractor in an amount of \$2,932.50 which covers the supply of the flexible connection for 85 units. This was approved at the January meeting.
6. Cloverbrook Lot 1 to Lot 4: No change.
7. Millway Acres Commercial Tract: No change.
8. Rose Hill Road Subdivision: RETTEW met with RGS regarding the Oregon Pike and Rose Hill Road subdivision on February 4, 2010. RGS expressed that the subdivision will probably not be built before the proposed Oregon Pike sewer system; however they felt that we could work collectively on the Component 3M and they would provide us the required information. It is our understanding that they will attend the Authority meeting.
9. Oregon Pike Developments: have initiated some preliminary work on the Component 3M.
10. Brownstown WWTP Rerate:
  - a. Shop drawing review has been completed.
11. Eagleview Phase II: No change