

**POCONO TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**SEWER MEETING MINUTES**

**AUGUST 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 6:00 P.M.**

The sewer meeting of the Pocono Township Commissioners was held on Monday, 08/06/2018 at the Pocono Township Municipal Building, Tannersville, PA, and was opened by President Gerald Lastowski at 6:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** Gerald Lastowski, present; Bob M. DeYoung, absent; Harold Werkheiser, absent; Richard Wielebinski; present; and Jerrod Belvin, present.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Leo DeVito, Twp. Solicitor, Broughal & DeVito; Jon Tresslar, and Michael Gable, Twp. Engineers, Boucher & James, Inc.; Patrick Briegel, Sewer Consultant; Donna Asure, Township Manager; and Pamela Tripus, Township Secretary, were present.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Dean Hartshorn, Twp. resident/public works employee, commented on spraying at Mt. View Park.

Ellen Gndt, Twp. resident, spoke concerning a letter she sent to the Commissioners, the PFM study and why the Township would refinance the note instead of paying down the debt. G. Lastowski noted the Board is looking at all possibilities and PFM will be discussed under presentations.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Sewer Committee meetings will be held the first Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. prior to the regular Board of Commissioners' meeting.

**PRESENTATION:**

Zack Willard, PFM Financial Advisors, LLC, spoke concerning the history of financing of the sewer system and the options for consideration for refinancing the 2014A Note. Z. Willard reviewed the PFM Financial Analysis Report dated 08/06/2018 and explained to pursue a fix rate bond the Township will be required to obtain a credit rating. Discussion followed. Frank Cefali, Twp. Treasurer, spoke in favor of recommendation. Discussion followed on various options, bank loans and rates, and bond rates. Z. Willard requested the Board's authorization to proceed.

PFM - Refinancing of Bonds

R. Wielebinski made a motion, to authorize the Township Manager and Solicitor to work with PFM Financial Advisors, as financial advisor and Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott, LLC, as Bond Counsel in conjunction with the issuance of the General Obligation bonds, Series of 2018 for the purpose of current refunding of all or a portion of the Series A of 2014 Note, with a minimum net set savings to the budget of 2 %. Z. Willard spoke concerning the net saving. Motion seconded by J. Belvin, G. Lastowski opened the presentation to public comment. Ellen Gndt, Twp. resident, asked for the clarification of the savings. Z. Willard explained. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; G. Lastowski, yes; and J. Belvin, yes. Motion carried.

**OLD BUSINESS:**Minutes -

J. Belvin made a motion, seconded by R. Wielebinski, to approve the revised minutes of the 07/02/2018 sewer committee meeting with the change of Tuesday to Monday in the second sentence of the minutes. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; G. Lastowski, yes; and J. Belvin, yes. Motion carried.

EDU Requests-

Vasilios Kotretsos - 312 Learn Road - request for reduction in EDUs. No action taken.

Jimmy Schlier EDU purchase answer. No action taken.

**SEWER COMMITTEE:**

Resolution Update - D. Asure explained the committee is comparing the resolutions and reviewing all the usages in an attempt to make it fair for all users. Michael Gable, Twp. Engineer, explained a red line copy with suggested changes will be presented for the Board's review within two weeks. Discussion followed. G. Lastowski thanked them for their work.

**NEW BUSINESS:**Financial Transactions

J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by R. Wielebinski, to approve payment to Keystone Engineering in the amount of \$1,559.78 for operation issues as recommended by Patrick Briegel and Boucher & James. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; G. Lastowski, yes; and J. Belvin, yes. Motion carried.

DeMinimus Policy

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Belvin, to authorize the Twp. Solicitor to draft a Resolution using PFM's summary of events - Option 3 - with the new sewer rates set at \$88.54 for greater than 124 gallons per day and \$44.27 for less than 124 gallons per day. G. Lastowski opened the motion to Public comment. Ellen Gndt, Twp. resident, requested the PFM data to review. R. Wielebinski suggested Ellen Gndt to submit a RTK request. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; G. Lastowski, yes; and J. Belvin, yes. Motion carried.

Appeals

Gateway equities - 2185 Route 611 - denial of reduction of EDU's. No action taken.

**REPORTS**Solicitor

Fencing at Valve Station #1 - Stroud ZHB - L. DeVito, Twp. Solicitor, explained Stroud Twp. Is still in the process of revising their ordinance.

Administration

Letter to Tobyhanna Township requesting payment for overages since January 2018 in the amount of \$62,389.34- D.ASURE, Twp. Manager noted a letter was sent but a response has not been received.

Township Engineer

Update Status Report on Sewer Redesign - J. Tresslar, Twp. Engineer, noted it is substantially completed.

Update on Route 611 Sewer Line Relocation Work Update - J. Tresslar, Twp. Engineer, noted they have started night work with an expectation of the majority of work occurring in October.

Update on Sanofi Sanitary Sewer Easement - J. Tresslar, Twp. Engineer, explained Sanofi is working with PennDOT.

Update on enclosure for Valve Station #5 - J. Tresslar, Twp. Engineer, noted since the Board rejected the bids. Patrick Briegel, Sewer Consultant, was looking into alternate options.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**ADJOURNMENT:**

J. Lastowski made a motion, seconded by R. Wielebinski, to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 p.m. Roll call vote: R. Wielebinski, yes; G. Lastowski, yes; and J. Belvin, yes. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted  
Pamela Tripus  
Township Secretary