

**Pocono Township Board of Commissioners
Sewer Committee Meeting Minutes
September 5, 2023**

The Sewer Committee meeting of the Pocono Township Commissioners was held on Tuesday, September 5, 2023 and was opened by Chairman Richard Wielebinski at 6:38 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Jerrod Belvin, present; Ellen Gnandt, present via Zoom; Gerald J. Lastowski, present; Keith Meeker, present; Rich Wielebinski, present.

IN ATTENDANCE: Leo DeVito, Twp. Solicitor; Jon Tresslar, Twp. Engineer; Patrick Briegel, Public Works Director; Taylor Munoz, Township Manager; and Jennifer Gambino, Administrative Assistant.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

HEARINGS – None

PRESENTATIONS – None

OLD BUSINESS

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Belvin, to approve the minutes of the August 7, 2023 sewer committee meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Sewer Resolution Update – No update.

NEW BUSINESS

FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS – None

APPEALS – None

REPORTS

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR

- General update was given regarding the status of current projects.

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to award a bid for the 2023 Sanitary Sewer Manhole Rehabilitation Project in the amount of \$36,795.00 to PIM Corporation. Discussion to confirm the lowest bid was vetted appropriately. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Discussion regarding pilot program for hydrogen sulfide (H₂S) control as alternative to use of Bioxide. Stated the Township believes this alternative is more cost-effective than Bioxide and would like to explore pilot. Cost is approximately \$8,500 for a two-week trial. This is to address degradation in the sewer lines. J. Belvin asked how much oxygen would be stored, as it may require the Township to report to the County.

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Lastowski, to approve a pilot program in the amount of \$8,500 to mitigate H₂S in the Township sewer lines. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Discussion and possible action regarding request of TL Realty for rescinding of accrued user fees on 122 Barton Circle, due to the property being uninhabitable since December of 2016. Property

in question was uninhabitable since 2016 due to a fire. TL Realty recently purchased this property at tax sale and was unaware of the lien charges. P. Briegel made a recommendation to rescind the portion of balance beginning when the property was uninhabitable, with the property owner remaining responsible for the period of time prior to the fire. Discussion regarding the rescinding of fees.

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Belvin, to rescind the user fee balance for the portion of fees incurred since the fire, to include attorney fees/costs, and prepare a resolution for passage. E. Grandt asked for clarification. All in favor. Motion carried.

COMMISSIONERS – None

ADMINISTRATION – None

SEWER ENGINEER

- Sanofi Sanitary Sewer Easement – No update.

TOWNSHIP SOLICITOR

- General Legal Update.

Working on response to a request for summary judgment for the Kalahari litigation and has placed a call to Tobyhanna Township's special counsel. Requested an executive session prior to the next meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

ADJOURNMENT

R. Wielebinski made a motion, seconded by J. Belvin, to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 p.m. All in favor. Motion carried.