

**UPPER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP  
SEWER & WATER COMMITTEE MEETING  
MAY 24, 2010**

Committee Members in attendance were Chairman John Bealer, Edward O'Brien, Michael Henzes and David Crock. Jeffrey Nason was absent. Also in attendance were Charles Garner, Township Solicitor, Chris Hannum, LTL Engineer, and Jack Layne, Township Manager.

**I. Call to Order**

Chairman Bealer called the meeting to order at 5:00 P.M.

**II. Approval of Minutes [March 24, 2010]**

Mr. O'Brien moved that the March 24, 2010 meeting minutes be approved as submitted. Mr. Henzes seconded this motion. The motion was approved.

**III. Engineer's Report**

**A.** Mr. Hannum requested input on the Flow Reports that were provided to the Committee for their review. Mr. O'Brien stated that the March 2010 Flow Report showed the flow total increased by nearly 7 million gallons from March 25th to March 26<sup>th</sup> even though the rainfall total was virtually zero. He stated that there was simply no rational justification for an increase of this magnitude without there being a significant rainfall. Mr. Garner stated that he had shared this same concern with the Borough Authority officials. It was noted that part of the problem could stem from the I&I problems identified in Lower Pottsgrove. Mr. O'Brien expressed concern with Upper Pottsgrove Township having to pay for the high flow rates shown by these reports. Chairman Bealer stated that the Township does pay for a portion of the Authority's capital improvements.

**IV Old Business**

**A. Status of PENNVEST Program**

- 1. Regal Oaks Pump Station Project**
- 2. Farmington Avenue West Project**
- 3. H2O Program**

**1. Regal Oaks Pump Station Project:**

Mr. Layne stated that the project should be completed in the time frame specified. He stated that MetEd had tested the electrical hookup for the new pump station last week and that very soon the new pump station would be tested. Mr. Crock inquired as to what was the highest flow in Regal Oaks. Mr. Hannum stated that the highest flow was 108,000 gpd and was the maximum flow to-date. He added that as a result of the new sewer pipe being installed in this area that the I&I should be reduced which should also reduce the sewer flow. It was noted that the grinder pumps located at Regal Oaks would be moved to the Evans Road pumping

location. Mr. Hannum stated that the Township is within the budgeted amounts established for both the Regal Oaks and Farmington Avenue West projects.

**2. Farmington Avenue West Project:**

Mr. Hannum stated that the Farmington Avenue West project was moving forward within budget and per the stated completion schedule.

**B. Proposed New Sewer Ordinance**

Mr. Garner and Mr. Hannum stated that there were no updates for this endeavor.

**C. Discussion regarding the Sewer Module Application for Commerce Corner**

No update was provided regarding this project.

**D. 537 Plan Response from PADEP**

No update was provided.

**E. Comments**

Mr. O'Brien suggested that the Township contract with people when sewer connections are mandated but not being paid for voluntarily as opposed to liening their property for funds not provided, which he added would save dollars.

**V. New Business**

**A. Requests for assistance**

Mr. Layne stated that Elaine Brodi had requested that the Township change her sewer usage costs so that they would be measured by a meter as opposed to a fixed quarterly fee. It was noted that this request could be granted but it might increase Ms. Brodi's costs due to the large volume of water used by her Laundromat.

Mr. Layne stated that he had received a letter from Jackie Hamlin requesting that the Township not hook-up their home to public sewer due to their severe economic problems. After an extensive discussion regarding this matter, there was a consensus that despite the economic problems described by Ms. Hamlin that it would not be proper or fair to allow them not to hook-up while their neighbors are being mandated to do so. It was requested that Mr. Layne contact community services agencies to attempt to locate assistance for Ms. Hamlin.

**B.** Mr. Hannum stated that all 75 homes in Regal Oaks presently having public sewer had been inspected by the Township to determine if they were improperly utilizing a sump pump. He added that only one sump pump was located.

**C.** Mr. HENZES commented on the damage caused to his home appliances by the Hard-water provided by Superior. He stated that he had to replace a water heater that was only five years old. The Committee requested that Mr. Layne contact Superior regarding this matter and that Superior begin providing the Township with a monthly report regarding the quality of the water that they provide to their customers.

D. Mr. O'Brien commended the Township Public Works Department staff for attending a recent seminar on I&I.

**IV. Public Comment**

There were no public comments.

**IX. Adjournment**

Chairman Bealer moved that the meeting be adjourned at 5:58 P.M. Mr. Crock seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Jack Layne, Township Manager

**The next Sewer & Water Committee meeting is scheduled for 5:00 P.M.  
Monday, July 26, 2010**