

**UPPER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP
SEWER & WATER COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 22, 2010**

Committee Members in attendance were Chairman John Bealer, Edward O'Brien, Michael Henzes and Jeffrey Nason and David Crock. Also in attendance were Russell Noll, Commissioner, 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 [January 25, 2010]

Mr. O'Brien moved that the January 25, 2010 meeting minutes be approved as submitted. Mr. Henzes seconded this motion. The motion was approved.

III. New Business

A. Request from 1153 Farmington Avenue

Richard Stewart submitted a request for the Township to remove his \$200.00 quarterly sewer charge due to the demolition of a prior structure and the present construction of a new home on this property. Mr. Hannum noted that his research indicated that the prior structure was demolished in October 2009. Mr. Hannum recommended that Mr. Stewart provide payment for the debt portion of the sewer bill, which is 60%, and that he be provided a 40% refund on his sewer charges once he has connected the new home to sewer. This equates to quarterly debt sewer charges of \$120.00 and the 40% refund being \$80.00. Mr. O'Brien inquired as to whether there were records showing how the plumbing was disconnected at the time of the demolition of the prior structure. Mr. Hannum stated that the new hook-up would have to be tested prior to usage. Chairman Bealer stated that it would be important that Mr. Stewart be informed that the Township would not be charging him for a tap-in and reconnection fee for the new home, which would cost significantly more than the \$200.00 quarterly sewer fee. Mr. O'Brien then moved that the Committee approve Mr. Hannum's recommendation to request that Mr. Stewart pay 60% of the quarterly sewer debt and that the remaining 40% of the quarterly sewer bill be refunded to him once he has connected his new home to sewer. Mr. Crock seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

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. Hannum reported that due to the present weather conditions that construction had come to a standstill. He added that the land was saturated and that the construction crew was only

completing 30 feet of construction per day as opposed to hundreds of feet in dry weather conditions. He expressed optimism that the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) would grant an extension of the projected work schedule. He stated that PADEP had recently provided documents to the Township extending the permit to September 10, 2010, which should be ample time to allow for the completion of the project.

2. Farmington Avenue West Project: Mr. Hannum stated that the Farmington Avenue West project was ahead of schedule at the present time and is projected to be completed by June 12, 2010. He noted that MGK was working on the new pump station.

B. Proposed New Sewer Ordinance

Mr. Hannum noted that the technical specifications for the proposed new sewer ordinance were in the process of being revised. And, Mr. Hannum stated that efforts to complete this process would be conveyed to the Committee at upcoming meetings.

C. Discussion regarding the Sewer Module Application for Commerce Corner

It was noted that LTL had provided a review of the drawings submitted for the Commerce Corner project and that their comments had not been addressed as of yet. It was further noted that there was sufficient sewer capacity for this project.

D. 537 Plan Response from PADEP

Mr. Hannum stated that he had some administrative concerns with PADEP with respect to the 537 Plan. He noted that the Township could purchase additional sewer capacity from the Borough.

E. Comments

Mr. O'Brien noted that the Chapter 94 Report showed that the Regal Oaks Wastewater Treatment Plant was overloaded and needed to be replaced.

Mr. O'Brien stated that the Pottstown Plant flows were incredible in that they showed some spikes with hardly any rain. He added that the meters needed to be improved.

IV. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

IX. Adjournment

Mr. O'Brien moved that the meeting be adjourned at 6:00 P.M. Mr. Nason 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, May 24, 2010**