

**UPPER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP
SEWER & WATER COMMITTEE MEETING**

January 26, 2015

Committee Members in attendance were Chairman John Bealer, Vice Chairman David Crock, and Don Read. Also in attendance were Township Engineer Christopher Pelka and Manager, Carol R. Lewis.

Chairman Bealer called the meeting to order at 5:01 P.M. He welcomed new member, Don Read to the meeting. He explained that they are not a full-fledged authority but they research and make recommendations to the Board of Commissioners.

Approval of Minutes – Was tabled to the next meeting due to the fact that there was not a quorum of the members present to approve the minutes. C. Lewis encouraged them to recruit another member.

Engineer's Report - C. Pelka presented the Engineer's Report. Even though 2011 is gone as far as records go the flows are still not under the numbers we are supposed to be for the Corrective Action Plan. D. Read inquired why 2011 was such a problem. C. Pelka explained that there were some very significant storms that year as well as heavy snow. Some things have been done to help the I & I such as replacing meters and putting in manhole pans and calibrations. It is possible that one of the storms kicked a meter out of whack and it was not calibrated properly which contributed to the excessive I & I at that time. J. Bealer explained that they have made significant efforts to correct the I & I. C. Pelka advised the Board that recalibration is scheduled for February 10, 2015, and is done once a year.

Corrective Action Plan – Manhole pans will be installed on Poplar and Willow Streets in addition to Farmington and Hanover Streets.

Televising Project – Pipe Data View Services reports and videos are completed. C. Pelka reviewed the results with the Board. He pointed out there are quite a few items where the vertical stack has pulled away from the pipe and in some cases significantly. This is not terribly expensive for property owners to replace; however, there are some where the entire lateral needs to be replaced. D. Crock pointed out that the next step is to send letters stating the problem and giving homeowners a timeframe to correct. C. Pelka pointed out that in the past they have given sixty (60) days but due to the weather he suggested that the Board give them longer. The Board then discussed how to allow for the viewing of the material. A motion by D. Crock, seconded by D. Read and unanimously carried to recommend to the Board of Commissioners that they give homeowners six (6) months to correct the problem and sixty (60) days to respond to the letter. The letter should point out that they a permit and a licensed plumber will be needed to do the work.

Hanover Street Syphon Project – C. Pelka explained that the project was completed with significant overages. There has been some discussion with the Pottsgroves regarding a proposal to recoup the fees. C. Pelka explained that the overage was due to a run under a one hundred year old culvert that was much bigger than anticipated on the plan. He reviewed the agreements with the Board. They discussed amending the tapping fee to allow for reimbursement. A motion by J. Bealer seconded by D. Crock and unanimously carried to recommend to the Board of

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Commissioners that they amend the tapping fee by \$292.98 to allow for reimbursement of the syphon project.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

SUE LEWELLAN, 58 Mapleleaf Lane, explained that she lives in Regal Oaks. She has a problem with her in ground sewer system. There are fifty seven (57) homes with in ground systems in her development. DEP recommended that they be hooked up by 2016. The Board discussed the Act 537 plan with her as well as the timing and the cost to do the project. She explained that she is anxious for the project to go through as she cannot sell her house until she is hooked up to public sewer.

2015 SEWER BUDGET – J. Bealer pointed out that the debt principal is almost half of the budget. He also sits on the Planning Commission and there are many hook ups that would have been committed but the developments fell through. He also explained that they did not get reimbursement for the Act 537 plan and there is no help from DEP to meet standards. C. Lewis also pointed out that the township does not have much control over the bills to the Pottstown Borough Authority. They bill us and we pay. Therefore there is not much in the sewer budget that can be modified.

ADJOURNMENT – A motion by D. Crock, seconded by D. Read and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 5:53 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol R. Lewis, Township Manager

The next Sewer & Water Committee meeting is scheduled for 5:00 p.m. on Monday,
March 23, 2015