

The regular meeting of the Upper Pottsgrove Township Sewer & Water Committee meeting was held on Tuesday, March 5, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. Committee members in attendance were Chairman John Bealer, Dave Crock and Don Read. Also present was Township Engineer Christopher Pelka and Township Manager Michelle Reddick.

PUBLIC COMMENT – There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Motion by D. Crock, second by D Read and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of January 3, 2019 as presented.

ENGINEER'S REPORT – C. Pelka presented the engineer's report.

Flow Reports – Limit is 608,600 gallons per day. January flow was 436,869.

Poplar Meter – Pottstown Borough Authority sent memo acknowledging downstream sag, but dismissing it as the cause for irregular readings at the meter. PBA believes significant I/I is the cause. Annual meter calibration scheduled for mid-April; will attempt to verify readings with a second meter. Also, recommend lateral televising and sump pump inquiry.

Sprogel's Run (Mingey/Keystone development) – All sanitary items completed. Phase 2 to begin soon.

DVDC Development (old Crossroads) – Only televising needed.

Regal Oaks II – Need sewer easements and property disturbance permission for Gilbertsville Road portion. The PennDOT highway occupancy permit has been received.

MH Repairs – Mr. Rehab provided same quote as first time – \$400/hour (min 4 hours). Only 2 MHs currently identified with problems. Smoke testing performed in Regal Oaks, but did not indicate any problems due to frozen ground. Need to redo in summer (low groundwater condition).

84 Maple Leaf – Video of main indicates inflow and infiltration from lateral. No cleanout is visible/evident, so location of water source not determined. If water source is within 10 foot of curb, it is Township's responsibility, otherwise it is property owner's responsibility.

709 Evans Road – Connection via grinder pump to be installed soon.

1676 Gilbertsville Road – Connection via grinder pump to be installed soon.

1560 Gilbertsville Road – 2 Connections via gravity requested.

Douglass Township Capacity Request – PBA indicates that capacity is available at the WWTP for Douglass INDEPENDENT of UPT's current allocation of 776,000 gallons per day [derived from UPT's Connection Management Plan (August 2008)]. Would require new pipe to Evans Road PS, Evans Road pumps upgrade, flow metering, agreements, etc.

REGAL OAKS PHASE IIA SEWER PROJECT - J. Bealer asked the C. Pelka if Gilbertsville Road would be included in Phase IIA. C. Pelka said that that is the intent.

There will be 10 foot permanent easements needed at 2093, 2101, 2115 and 2131 Gilbertsville Road so that in the future, the Township would have available to access to the sewer line if necessary. No permanent structure is permitted within the easement. There will also be a 20 foot temporary easement needed for these properties during construction, and everything would be restored to original condition.

David Weand, 2093 Gilbertsville Road, just replaced is driveway and asked if it would have to be cut. C. Pelka affirmed that it would. Joyce Weand expressed her extreme concern. She is not against the sewer but would have liked more notice.

Ashley Moyer, 179 Rose Valley Road, will be applying for a loan. The process takes 60 days so she needs time to get approval.

Phylicia Hudok, 2071 Gilbertsville Road, asked when the 60-day notice will go out.

Christopher Birch, 173 Rose Valley Road, asked the timeframe to complete the project. C Pelka estimated the timeframe to be two to three months.

Robert Miller, 2115 Gilbertsville Road, is anxious for the project and two neighbors directly beside him are also anxious.

NEW BUSINESS

REVIEW REQUEST FORM DOUGLASS TOWNSHIP FOR SEWER CAPACITY – Matt Peleschak of Systems Design Engineering, Inc. (SDEI), the Douglass Township Engineer, is in the process of completing an Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan for the Township. As part of this plan, they are evaluating alternatives for providing public sewage facilities in a portion of the township that is experiencing a high rate of on-lot septic system failures. One of the alternatives would be to construct a sewage collection system that would connect to Upper Pottsgrove Township’s system just off Farmington Avenue, and ultimately be conveyed and treated at the Pottstown Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Explanation of Exhibit

- **Englesville Hill Road Area (35 properties):** A gravity sewage collection system would be constructed that would convey sewage generated by these homes to the Berks-Montgomery Municipal Authority’s Swamp Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- **Remaining Sewered Area (179 properties):** A gravity sewage collection system would be constructed to in a majority of the remaining area and convey sewage to a pump station on Winding Road. This pump station would then convey sewage to a gravity sewer just off Farmington Avenue, which would be connected to the Upper Pottsgrove Township collection system.

This alternative will generate 71,600 GPD of sewage to Upper Pottsgrove Township.

They have talked with both Chris Pelka and Tom Weld, Pottstown’s engineer, concerning this alternative. Based on these conversations, Pottstown would potentially be willing to sell 100,000 GPD of capacity to Upper Pottsgrove Township, which could then be sold by Upper Pottsgrove Township to Douglass

Township through an inter-municipal agreement. Since Douglass Township's system would not directly connect to Pottstown's system, they would prefer to sell the capacity to Upper Pottsgrove Township rather than directly to Douglass Township. This 100,000 gallons per day would be above Upper Pottsgrove Township's allocated capacity of 776,400 GPD (of which Upper Pottsgrove Township has purchased 602,600 GPD). In no way would this purchase reduce the Township's current allocation.

At this time, they would be interested in knowing if Upper Pottsgrove Township would consider this alternative as a viable alternative and work with Douglass Township, Berks County, to secure and sell 100,000 GPD of capacity in the Pottstown WWTP. The 100,000 GPD would cover Douglass Township's current needs and any future needs associated with growth in the proposed sewer area.

Benefits and Liabilities of Plan

- Pineford Road Pump Station may need upgrades.
- D. Read said that we already have I/I issues downstream and asked how that would affect our system. C. Pelka said that it should not cause any issues.
- If they exceed their flows, it would be covered under the inter-municipal agreement.
- Matt of SDEI advised they are researching different alternatives which include a low pressure system with grinders or a gravity line.
- D. Read advised the Pottstown Borough Authority does have capacity to sell to Upper Pottsgrove Township that we can re-sell to Douglass Township.

Motion by D. Read, second by D. Crock and unanimously carried to recommend the Board of Commissioners move forward with investigating the possibility of allowing Douglass Township to purchase sewer capacity and identify any liabilities that might be associated with the project.

OLD BUSINESS

REGAL OAKS PHASE IIA SEWER PROJECT – Several residents raised questions concerning connection of their respective properties to public sanitary sewer:

- a. Asking for waiver of \$50.00 application fee and also waiver of \$79.00 inspection fee. Sewer Committee will communicate this request to Board of Commissioners for decision.
- b. Request for documentation from Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection requiring connection of properties in Regal Oaks.
- c. Asking Upper Pottsgrove Township to investigate possible grant funding or financial help to property owners to offset connection fees to connection to public sewer service.
- d. Questioning the possibility of receiving public water service to Regal Oaks Development.

Chairman Bealer stated the township would investigate their requests. The township may be able to email information to them as it becomes available.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ashley Moyer, 179 Rose Valley Road, asked how the quarterly sewer fees were calculated.

Connor Read, 610 Mock Road, presented the Committee with information on his Aerial Drone Photography services.

BOARD COMMENTS – None to note.

ADJOURNMENT – The Committee adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m. by unanimous consent of those present.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Bealer, Chairman, Sewer & Water Committee