

**LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP AUTHORITY    JUNE 11, 2018**

The Lower Pottsgrove Township Authority held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, June 11, 2018 the meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. The following attended:

James Toth, Chairman	Edward Wagner, Manager
Cody Robbins, Vice Chairman	Stephen Kalis, Solicitor
Mark Loshnowsky, Secretary	Chad Camburn, Engineer
Jim Vlahos, Treasurer	Kathy Kurtas
Sean Pence	Tim Watson, Sewer Operator

Mr. Toth announced that the meeting was being recorded.

**APPROVAL OF AUTHORITY MINUTES:** Mr. Robbins made a motion to approve the March 12, 2018 & April 9, 2018 minutes and Mr. Loshnowsky seconded the motion and all unanimously approved by a 5-0 vote.

**COMMENTS FROM VISITORS:** None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**Update On the Water Quality Permit Extension—**Mr. Wagner gave an update on the Water Quality Permit Extension for Sanatoga Lake Pump Station that was filed on May 21<sup>st</sup> with DEP. The application requested two submersible pumps, piping, wet well and increasing the discharge to 3500 gallons per minute. This will not increase the overall price but it will require a larger impellor. The last permit was at 2800 gallons per minute. DEP did not give us a timeline on approving the application we will have to wait and see.

**Update on the PBA Agreement—**Mr. Wagner said that he attended the April 17, 2018 Pottstown Borough Authority meeting with Mr. Kalis and gave a brief presentation of the PBA Agreement. We did receive a response from the PBA on May 18, 2018 requesting that rather than one individual agreement, have three separate municipality agreements and they also require that Lower Pottsgrove and West Pottsgrove be put back in the township agreement due to their inability to enforce taxing power and mandatory connection ordinances. Mr. Wagner asked Mr. Kalis to take over by explaining his review of the PBA letter to the Authority members. He went on saying that as long as there is uniformity with all the agreements and that all the municipalities involved are working together collectively he feels that we will still achieve our goals.

Mr. Kalis said they he would like to yes to those two caveats that were requested by the Borough which will then allow them to authorize their solicitor to formally review the agreement. Mr. Kalis asked the Authority Board's permission to proceed by preparing a draft response to the Borough. The Board authorized Mr. Wagner and Mr. Kalis to prepare a response to Justin Keller, Borough Manager with their response on the agreement with the Pottstown Borough Authority.

**Update on Sunnyside Avenue Repairs & Grants—**Mr. Wagner updated the Authority and said back on May 24<sup>th</sup> he sent a letter to Terry McMullen of the Montgomery County Health Department. Our 2017 CDBG grant was to reline 450 lf of pipe on Julie Road; unfortunately, the contractor was unable to get his equipment in to reline all portions of that pipe. In the letter we asked Mr. McMullen if we could change the focus to Sunnyside Avenue where repairs also need to be completed in this low mod area and it gets

the project done. He is waiting to hear back from Mr. McMullen but feels very positive that it will be a good response.

Mr. Wagner then asked Mr. Watson to discuss what he has observed when televising the line. Mr. Watson reported that when Sewer Specialties televised the 8" main that runs behind the homes on Byron Way lines were either crushed or had major cracks. There was a large section under the creek that is submerged making it hard to know what repairs need to be done there. Mr. Watson felt the pipe was beyond repair and needed a new one. Mr. Toth asked if the new pipe would be put in the same place and Mr. Watson responded yes that it would.

Mr. Wagner intervened saying that prior to this it was Boards request that we locate the worst sections of pipe on Sunnyside Avenue. In going over the I & I map provided to the Authority that what we were able to do was come up with an approximate cost estimate of \$283,000.00. This covers the area from manhole 1217 to manhole 1214 which is 744 lf and is located behind Byron Way in the grassy area and that will not involve any road reconstruction. Mr. Toth asked what area the estimated cost of \$193,000.00 was for and Mr. Wagner responded that this was the second worst section which is located in the road between manhole 1214 to 1221 which is 309 lf that falls between Byron Way and Pebble Beach Lane. Mr. Wagner expressed that these were just estimates and wanted to know how to proceed. Mr. Toth asked if we needed a motion and Mr. Vlahos asked if that estimated cost includes all engineering. Mr. Camburn responded yes. Mr. Vlahos made a motion to have Bursich Associates prepare a bid package for the 744 lf pipe to be replaced and Mr. Robbins seconded the motion and all unanimously approved by a 5-0 vote.

**Update on the Remediation Fee**—Mr. Wagner explained the sewer remediation fee for the benefit of new Authority member Sean Pence. He said that \$3000.00 remediation fee is charged when you hook up to public sewer. The original remediation map did not include one area of the township and so the Board needed to come up with a new map to include the entire township. He met with Mr. Kalis and Mr. Camburn on May 25, 2018 and said Mr. Camburn is working on the final figures and will meet with Mr. Wagner to go over proposed developments that they think are applicable towards future EDU's. We hope to have the map completed by the next meeting or August meeting.

**Discussion of the Borough Authority May 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting**—Mr. Wagner attended the Borough Authority Meeting on May 10, 2018 and reported that most of the discussion was on the Gryphon Dryer. He stated that their original budgeted amount was approximately \$3.7 million dollars and now with the bids coming back 35% higher than the original budgeted amount this increased costs to over \$5 million dollars. Mr. Wagner explained the reasons given by the Borough for this increase in costs was because they needed a bio-filter permit from DEP and the installation of the Gryphon Dryer increased from 5 days to 17 days as well as engineering costs increased 9.5% of the total project. Eastern Environmental, East Greenville, PA was the winning bidder and he spoke with the owner who will be trying to save us approximately 50,000 to 100,000 in costs. Our projected increase was over \$350,000.00 which was referenced in an earlier email to the Board on April 18, 2018.

Mr. Wagner asked the finance department at the Borough to supply us with a detailed breakdown on all the costs for the Gryphon Dryer that he supplied to the Board in the Authority packets for their review before the payment due is sent. Mr. Wagner ended with a positive note saying that they increased the bulk sludge rates 6.98% on April 1, 2018 and this will result in approximately \$150,000.00 increase in revenue. He said this will really help our operations.

**Developers Discussion & Update—CAP/CMP Report # 9 and Engineering Report:** Mr. Camburn reported some of the highlights of his CAP/CMP and Engineering report for April and May 2018 that is provided to the Authority:

1. CAP / CMP

- In April approximately 7,601 lf of mains were televised
- 36 Sewer Inspections were completed in April and May all passed.
- No exterior property inspections were performed in April or May
- Through March 2018, 915,553.25 of the \$1,224,601.25 SSS contract has been completed. Remaining contract cost is \$258,860.00
- 197 EDU's are available to allocate
- There were 3 wet weather SSO's observed on April 16, May 17, and May 19 at the Porter Road Pump Station due to heavy rains.

2. I/I Contract

A meeting was held on May 31 with the LPTA Manager, Operator, and our office to review work completed and plan future I/I work. We also reviewed SSS invoice #28 and #29 prepared a recommendation for payment.

3. Grants

An application for the 2018 CDBG grant was submitted on April 16, 2018 for the replacement of 520 lf of sewer main on Sunnyside Avenue. The grant request was for \$152,000 with a \$30,000 match from the LPTA. A request has been made to the County to revise the scope of the project for the use of the \$110,000 CDBG grant to be used for the replacement of sewer mains on Sunnyside Avenue. We are currently waiting for a response from the County.

4. Developments

- **Spring Valley Farms (Phase 1)**—The punchlist, including testing of some sewer mains, manholes, and Koch low-pressure force main remains to be completed. Construction is underway on 4 houses.
- **Sanatoga Green**—The project has been granted Preliminary Approval by the Board of Commissioners. Our latest review letters were issued on June 7, 2018. A new Sewage Facilities Planning module package was received on June 11, 2018 and is under review.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Request to relinquish one (1) EDU at 2144 Sunnyside Avenue**---Mr. Wagner reported the resident at 2144 Sunnyside Avenue purchased this property which had a in-law quarters and was billed for 2 EDU's. We requested the resident write a letter to request relief from 1 EDU. Mr. Groff went out and inspected the property to see that everything was removed from the in-law quarters and that it is only being used for a single family home purpose. Mr. Groff reported the in-law suite was removed. Mr. Toth asked for a motion and Mr. Vlahos motioned to relinquish (1) EDU from 2144 Sunnyside Avenue and direct the solicitor to process the agreement needed and Mr. Pence seconded the motion and all unanimously approved 5-0 vote.

**Motion to Purchase Electromagnetic Flowmeter for Porter Road for \$9,717.00**---Mr. Wagner asked Mr. Watson to explain the flowmeter to the Board. Mr. Watson discussed the big issues with the importance of the flowmeter. He said that it controls the two valves that run each force main the 18" and the 16". The meter is located in an outside pit in the middle of Porter Road. It was not designed to be a submersible meter therefore it did get wet and needs to be replaced in order to both electronic valves back online. He is currently running it manually but does not recommend doing so. Mr. Camburn said that this

is the main meter for most of the flow going through the township and stressed the importance of getting this new one.

Mr. Toth asked how we keep this new meter from getting wet and Mr. Watson responded that this will be a submersible meter. Mr. Pence asked if the quote of \$9,717.00 was the lowest quote and Mr. Wagner responded yes that this was a co-stars quote. Mr. Toth asked for a motion to purchase the meter. Mr. Loshnowsky made the motion to purchase the Electromagnetic Flowmeter for \$9,717.00 and Mr. Robbins seconded the motion and all unanimously approved by a 5-0 vote.

Mr. Wagner noted that we originally going to have the controller replaced at Porter Road Pump Station but because of this issue with the meter we pushed the controller back to 2019. The meter will be part of the current Capital Improvement Project.

**Motion to hire MGK Industries to install the Electromagnetic Flowmeter---**Mr. Watson explained the two quotes he received for the installation of the meter with MGK being the lowest quote at \$7,864.00. Mr. Watson said he that he would also recommend doing this during the night when the flows are at their lowest point then we may not need a pump truck. Mr. Wagner said this was all reviewed by Mr. Dick Smith from Bursich Associates and was mutually agreed that it would be best to perform overnight. Mr. Toth asked for a motion to hire MGK Industries to do the installation. Mr. Pence made the motion to hire MGK Industries to install the Electromagnetic Flowmeter at Porter Road for \$7,864.00 and Mr. Toth seconded the motion and all unanimously approved by 5-0 vote.

**Motion to purchase a portable meter from Hartco Environmental, LLC for \$4,995.07---**Mr. Wagner said that this is the last portable meter in the Capital Improvement Plan to be purchased. We purchased (4) meters last year and Hartco had given us a discounted price for the (4). This cost is a little more because it is just one meter and W. G. Malden is going to do the installation for \$750.00. Mr. Pence asked what the purpose of the meter is. Mr. Wagner explained that these meters are portable and are moved around the township to measure the sewer flows. Mr. Toth asked for a motion to purchase the portable meter. Mr. Loshnowsky made the motion to purchase the portable meter from Hartco Environmental for \$4,995.07 and Mr. Robbins seconded and all unanimously approved by 5-0 vote.

**Motion to hire WG Malden to install the portable meter----**Mr. Toth asked for a motion to hire WG Malden to install the meter. Mr. Loshnowsky made the motion to hire WG Malden for \$750.00 and Mr. Pence seconded the motion and all unanimously approved by 5-0 vote.

**Motion to award the maintenance contract to M & S Service Co. for \$3,682.00—**Mr. Watson explained to the Board that M & S Service is our contractor for all our pump stations controllers. He checks the controllers, floats, bubbler system and all that makes the pump station run smoothly. He comes out twice a year and checks everything and if anything needs repair and he replaces it and or repairs it right away and is on call 24/7. Mr. Toth asked for a motion to award the maintenance contract to M & S Service.

Mr. Loshnowsky made the motion to award the maintenance contract to M & S Service Co. for \$3,682.00 and Mr. Robbins seconded the motion and all unanimously approved by a 5-0 vote.

**June 11, 2018**  
**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**I. TREASURERS REPORT:**

Mr. Vlahos read the Treasurers Report dated June 11, 2018:

<b>SEWER REVENUE ACCOUNT</b>	<b>\$4,795,167.32</b>
<b>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT RESERVE</b>	<b>\$ 821,239.94</b>

A motion was made by Mr. Loshnowsky and seconded by Mr. Robbins and all unanimously approved by a 5-0 vote to approve the Treasurer's Report dated June 11, 2018.

**II. BILLS FOR PAYMENT**

Mr. Kalis presented the following bills for payment:

**CAPITAL BILLS**

**SEWER CAPITAL RESERVE PLGIT**

<b>BURSICH ASSOCIATES-JULIE &amp; COUNTRY CDBG</b>	<b>\$ 3,071.75</b>
<b>BURSICH ASSOCIATES-I&amp;I CONTRACT</b>	<b>\$ 8,998.88</b>
<b>BURSICH ASSOCIATES-MISC CAPITAL</b>	<b>\$ 7,882.67</b>
<b>BURSICH ASSOCIATES-SANATOGA LAKE PERMIT</b>	<b>\$ 4,499.05</b>
<b>BURSICH ASSOCIATES-SUNNYSIDE AVENUE</b>	<b>\$ 907.75</b>
<b>BOROUGH POTTSTOWN-SECURITY</b>	<b>\$ 6,993.00</b>
<b>BOROUGH POTTSTOWN-GRYPHON BELT DRYER</b>	<b>\$ 92,576.00</b>
<b>SEWER SPECIALTY SERVICES-SUNNYSIDE AVE</b>	<b>\$ 400.00</b>
<b>SEWER SPECIALTY SERVICES-PAYMENT #28</b>	<b>\$ 39,071.70</b>
<b>SEWER SPECIALTY SERVICES-PAYMENT #29</b>	<b>\$ 24,097.50</b>

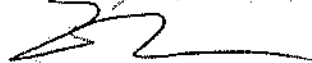
**OPERATING ACCT PAYMENTS**

<b>BURSICH ASSOCIATES</b>	<b>\$ 2,563.75</b>
<b>FOX ROTHSCHILD, LLP</b>	<b>\$ 900.20</b>

Mr. Robbins asked for clarification of the security fee to Borough of Pottstown on the bills for payment. Mr. Wagner responded that this is for security access card system to get in and out of the Borough. The security project is complete and was part of the Borough's Capital Improvement Plan. A motion to approve Bills for Payment was made by Mr. Vlahos and seconded by Mr. Loshnowsky and all unanimously approved by a 5-0 vote.

Mr. Robbins motioned to adjourn the public meeting and Mr. Loshnowsky seconded the motion the meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm. The next meeting is Monday, July 9, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,



Edward C. Wagner  
Manager