

## LOWER POTTS GROVE TOWNSHIP AUTHORITY APRIL 10, 2023

The Lower Pottsgrove Township Authority held their Regular Monthly Meeting on Monday April 10, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm, the following attended:

James Toth – Chairman  
Sean Pence – Vice Chairman  
Joe McGeehan – Member  
Blake Romanowski – Engineer  
Tim Watson – Sewer Operator

Edward Wagner – Manager  
James Vlahos – Treasurer – Absent  
Mark Loshnowsky – Secretary  
Stephen Kalis – Solicitor - Absent  
Ashlea Bullock

Mr. Toth announced that this meeting is being recorded.

APPROVAL OF AUTHORITY MINUTES: Mr. Toth requested a motion to approve the March 13, 2023, meeting minutes and Mr. Pence made the motion and Mr. McGeehan seconded the motion, Mr. Loshnowsky and Mr. Toth both abstained from the vote, the minutes were approved with a 2-0 vote.

### OLD BUSINESS

#### MONTHLY UPDATE ON THE PRIVATE SEWER LATERAL INSPECTION PROGRAM

Mr. Wagner stated there is a large spreadsheet at your place this evening showing all the sewer lateral inspections that were completed since the inception. In the future we will provide a monthly spreadsheet of the sewer lateral inspection reports. Mr. Romanowski explained that we had 22 inspections this month with only three (3) failures. Mr. Pence asked about the color coding on the spreadsheet. Ms. Bullock explained that if the property fails it is in red, when it is resubmitted for follow-up, it gets a new line on the spreadsheet. The green code means it passes. Mr. Pence stated that he wanted to verify that all the previous failures from months ago have been resolved. Ms. Bullock stated that yes, the oldest one that was still outstanding was 1387 N. Adams and that was resolved the other day by Mr. Wagner.

#### UPDATE ON THE SANATOGA LAKE STREAMBANK STABILIZATION PROJECT

Mr. Wagner stated that McCarthy Engineer has submitted a draft contract that was reviewed by Mr. Kalis's office with some minor changes. The pre-construction meeting will take place with CMS of Reading for this Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 9AM. He stated that we should have a better idea when they will be starting the project.

#### MOTION TO ADVERTISE TO BID THE HILLTOP ROAD SEWER MAIN REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Mr. Romanowski explained to the group that there was additional survey work that needed to be performed. We are looking for the project to go out to bid on April 17<sup>th</sup> with a potential awarding the project at the May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. He stated that the motion would be to advertise the bid pending the solicitors' review of the contract documents. Mr. Pence questioned if there is an issue with other utilities conflicting the sewer line. Mr. Watson explained that they are abandoning the existing line and installing the new sewer line in the center of the road. The contractor will fill/plug in the existing manhole and just leave the existing line in the

ground. Mr. McGeehan made the motion to approve the advertising of this project and Mr. Pence seconded the motion and the group unanimously voted 4-0 to approve.

#### DISCUSSION ON BOROUGH AUTHORITY APRIL 13<sup>TH</sup> MEETING

Mr. Wagner stated there is an increase in O&M from the previous month of \$71,733. There is not really anything that stands out except the line item for Maintenance & Repairs Sewer Line which increased by \$40,000 this month which included budgeted maintenance items. Other than that, expenses have stayed relatively normal for the month. Sludge disposal came in at \$22,000 for the month, making YTD \$133,000, which is about \$3,400 higher than this time last year. The audit is still on-going. He stated that they will not have any borough authority representation at the upcoming meeting as they all work during the daytime. Mr. Toth asked if we were to get someone to attend, Mr. Wagner explained with Tom Carroll stepping down, they suggested Aram Ecker but when approached no Authority members stepped up. Mr. Toth and Mr. Wagner discussed the advantages of having an authority board member to help advocate for us.

#### DEVELOPERS DISCUSSION & UPDATE (CAP) – APPROVAL OF CAP/CMO REPORTS

Mr. Romanowski stated that there have been no wet or dry weather events year to date. He stated that the Chapter 94 report did identify higher annual peak flows from the Sanatoga Lake Pump Station, as a result there will be a concentration in 2023 on I&I removal to reduce the peak flows. Ebert Engineering met with Sewer Specialties and the authority staff to discuss potential 2023 projects. He stated that they discussed the lining of 150' of the 30-inch line coming into the Porter Rd. Pump Station. Also, a 900' section of Kepler Rd between the Stiko Farm and Pebble Beach Lane.

He stated that there is a section of 530' on Kepler Road that can be lined, including the installation of six (6) T-liners for the amount of \$45,850.00. Mr. Watson explained that the line is partially crushed; typically, they would have to completely dig out the line and replace it. Given the pipe is deformed, to install the liner they will use hot water to form out the pipe and blow the liner through while keeping the integrity of the pipe. Mr. McGeehan asked how many PSI is used to blow the liner, Mr. Watson advised that it is only 15 PSI. He clarified for Mr. McGeehan that the line is broken, not completely crushed. He explained that if they blow air into the line, it would most likely collapse.

Mr. Wagner explained that this is the same company working on the previously approved lining projects for Porter and Kepler Rds. They will be starting the Kepler Rd (between Stiko Farm & Pebble Beach) liner project tomorrow. Mr. Wagner explained to them he would need authority approval for the 530' section of partially collapsed pipe. However, they can have it approved to tie in with the Porter Rd project to eliminate three (3) mobilization fees. Mr. Pence made the motion to approve the additional lining project on Kepler Rd at a cost of \$45,850. Mr. McGeehan seconded the motion and the group voted unanimously 4-0 to approve.

### SEWER ENGINEER APRIL MONTHLY REPORT

Mr. Romanowski stated that the line was televised for Wawa and there were no issues found. He stated that they met with the developer engineer for Royal Farms, and they will be issuing a sixth review letter to them this week. Mr. Pence asked if the review/comments are starting to dwindle down in regard to this project, Mr. Romanowski advised, he would assume so, but he has not been involved with the project, so he is not certain. Mr. Wagner then advised the group that they have changed plans and are only looking for approval for Royal Farms, not the storage facility or drive-thru restaurant.

Mr. Romanowski stated that the Sewage Planning Facility Module for Wawa on Evergreen Rd. will be submitted later next week to DEP.

### SEWER OPERATOR CHECKLIST FOR PUMP STATION TASKS/MAINTENANCE

Mr. Wagner stated that Ms. Bullock created a weekly checklist to be completed at Porter & Sanatoga Pump Stations based on a meeting with Mr. Watson. In addition, there is a list of spare parts that are readily available for the operations of the pump stations. Mr. Wagner requested input from Mr. McGeehan if this is sufficient for keeping track of maintenance tasks that need to be completed by the sewer operator. Mr. McGeehan stated that this would be considered a feeder that you would enter in a PM (Preventive Maintenance) program. You would assign the task into a category (annually, bi-annually, quarterly, monthly, weekly, daily). He stated that this is a good start but had some additional questions for Mr. Watson. Mr. Watson explained that there are service contracts for most of the equipment that comes out and service them on their schedule. Mr. McGeehan questioned how they know to come out, and how do we know to re-issue these service contracts. Mr. Wagner explained they are present it to the board for approval to renew the service contracts throughout the calendar year. Mr. Watson explained that he manages basic maintenance on all the equipment, such as yearly oil changes etc. Mr. McGeehan stated that this is the right direction, he would like to go through the two stations and do a walk thru to evaluate the assets that we have, if the board is interested in pursuing a PM program the size of it dictates the cost. He found a windows-based software program that would cost approximately \$14,000.00. They will do some research over the next few months and revisit this topic.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### CONSIDERATION FOR MGK INDUSTRIES INC FOR THE REMOVAL OF A MANHOLE CONE SECTION AT THE PORTER RD PUMP STATION FOR THE LINER PROJECT AT A COST OF \$9,990.00

Mr. Wagner stated that they discussed this at the March month and Mr. Watson was able to speak with MGK Industries and get a quote for \$9,990.00. Mr. Watson stated that it will be a three (3) day project and are hoping to dig up the cone section of the manhole without breaking it then cover the hole with a steel plate during the three (3) days it will take to install the liner & then put it back together. Mr. Watson and Mr. Wagner stated that they would not start the project until they have a lead or guarantee replacement for the manhole cone in case it does break. Mr. Watson explained to the group that they are hard to come by at this time for various reasons. Mr. Pence asked for clarity on what is included in the \$9,990.00 quote.

Mr. Wagner stated that it is to dig up the old manhole cone to allow the lining crew to access to line the 30" sewer main to the Porter Road Pump Station. Once the lining is completed, reinstall the existing cone if all possible and repave the roadway. Mr. Watson stated that the manhole cone itself should be under \$1,000. The goal is to get the old manhole apart without breaking it. Mr. McGeehan made the motion to approve the project, with Mr. Loshnowsky seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved with a 4-0 vote.

#### MOTION TO ALLOCATE (1) EDU FOR 1773 N CHARLOTTE STREET

Mr. Wagner stated that we recorded the agreement back in October, they filed everything with Mr. Kalis's office and Mr. Ebert approved their design. The homeowner paid for the EDU, and this is the last step in the process before building permits are issued. Mr. Pence made the motion to allocate one (1) EDU to 1773 N Charlotte and Mr. McGeehan seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved with a 4-0 vote.

#### CHAPTER 94 2022 MUNICIPAL WASTELOAD MANAGEMENT REPORT

Mr. Wagner stated that this is in the packet and that Mr. Ebert will review the report with the group at the May 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### TREASURERS REPORT

Mr. Loshnowsky read the Treasures Report for March 2023:

Sewer Revenue Account	\$3,770,128.45
Capital Improvement Reserve	\$2,100,558.15

Mr. Pence made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and Mr. McGeehan seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved with a 4-0 vote.

#### BILLS FOR PAYMENT

Mr. Loshnowsky read the bills for payment:

##### *Capital Invoices:*

• Ebert Engineering, Inc. – Capital Update	\$96.63
• McCarthy Engineering – Sanatoga Streambank	\$815.93
• Borough of Pottstown - WWTP Capital	\$10,938.00
• Sewer Specialties Services – Payment #68	\$3,330.00

##### *Operating Account:*

• Kappe Associates, Inc. (Sanatoga PS new radar level sensor & pump install)	\$5,111.00
• Fox Rothschild	\$266.00
• Ebert Engineering	\$4,342.14

Mr. Toth asked for a motion to pay the bills; Mr. Pence made the motion and Mr. McGeehan seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved with a 4-0 vote.

Mr. Toth stated that he greatly appreciates the new format of the financial report prepared by Michele Hogrelius.

Mr. Loshnowsky made a motion to adjourn the public meeting at 6:34 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for May 8, 2023, at 6:00 PM at the Township Building.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'E. Wagner', written over a horizontal line.

Edward C. Wagner  
Authority Manager