

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

VERNON WALKER  
JOHN BARR  
JAMES DRAPCHAK  
JOHN HEIDER  
JAMES PETERS

**OTHERS**

ROBERT SHAHADE, SOLICITOR  
KEN MESKO, ENGINEER  
ALICE HUMMEL, RECORDING SECRETARY

**OTHERS:** Cindy Cassat, Tom Cassat, Rick Chimiak, Neil Cobaugh, Scott Hunt

**CHAIRMAN CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:00 P.M.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 16, 2018**

John Barr moved, Jim Drapchak seconded to approve the minutes as submitted. **MOTION CARRIED: 3/0**

**PERSONS REQUESTING TO BE ON AGENDA:**

**Tom Cassat, 902 Goucher Street**

Mr. Cassat was concerned with the excessive amount of stormwater he has been dealing with at his property. Solicitor informed him that this meeting is in regards to the sewer system and stormwater issues are directed to the Township Supervisors, who meet the third Thursday of each month. Ken informed Mr. Cassat that many his neighbors were at last Thursdays Township Supervisor's meeting and their neighborhood problems were addressed with the Supervisors.

**Neil Cobaugh, 427 Woodmont Road**

Mr. Cobaugh questioned now that the main sewer lines are done, how is the Township going to handle the excess water on the roads, as Damian Drive recently had a major problem and a lot of homes were flooded. He questioned if curbing was going to be installed? Chairman Walker stated those questions need to be directed to the Township Supervisors, as they oversee issues regarding stormwater.

Mr. Cobaugh also asked if there is there any progress on finding out the percentage of homes per pump station area and the percentage of infiltration elimination. He questioned that if 80% of the homes in the Woodmont area have had their sewer lines done, is the infiltration down 80%? How close are we to eliminating the infiltration rate at the pump station? Ken will follow-up and get numbers regarding this matter.

Mr. Cobaugh indicated that the videos of the flooding around the Woodmont Pump Station was very impressive. Vern indicated that the pump station had very minimal water enter into it as a result of the flooding. He also indicated that once inside the Woodmont pump station it actually goes down two flights of stairs, approximately 12 feet down.

Mr. Cobaugh questioned if Laurelwood is having their lines done? Solicitor stated that Laurelwood is being metered along with the apartments, therefore they did not get a free pass. Their meter readings are being monitored and are looking pretty good.

Mr. Cobaugh stated that his basement was flooded for the first time in 13 years that he has lived there. He had talked to Ken about this and found that the gentlemen in the back of his property had his down spouting put out to the front yard. There was a cleanout pipe and viewport put into the middle of it, however, someone busted the cap and obviously with that much water coming out of it, it shot off the cap and came down and flooded Mr. Cobaugh's basement. His question is who supervises the work that is done, as he is concerned with the catch basin that sets next to the road, and if we get a decent rain, it is going to overflow. Vern informed Mr. Cobaugh that the stormwater issues are to be taken up with the Township Supervisors. Ken said that the cap was off and the water infiltrated the lines causing the flooding.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**PENNVEST PROJECT UPDATE**

Ken stated they are waiting for DEP to do their final inspection. Mesko's reached out to them today and there is some information that needs to be completed and returned to them, along with some administrative work that needs to be done. Ken stated at this point they are just waiting for final DEP inspection.

**FLOW METER REPORTS**

In regards to HGA, this was the last meter report from the meter at HGA before it was removed and the data stopped being collected, as of the 13<sup>th</sup>. Vern noted a lot of red on the graphs for the various flow meters, indicating high flow volumes.

**HGA SYSTEM UPGRADE**

Ken indicated Solicitor Shahade sent an email to the HGA Legal Counsel and we still haven't received a response from them. Solicitor indicated he wrote to them in June, regarding the billing and the rehabilitation for their project. Their Counsel is out until next week and he will keep the Board advised.

Neil Cobaugh asked who handles Hiram G. Andrews. Vern replied that it is the State Department of General Services. Solicitor stated DEP has been made aware that HGA is non-compliant several times. Their response was, we did not give them a water shut off notice. Solicitor stated we can't shut their water off as they are an institute of human need. Vern stated they have put money into their system, but not enough to correct their issues.

**CAP / TAP REQUEST**

Vern acknowledged 15 taps have been approved. Ken confirmed 4 taps have been allocated for the West Hills Community Church. It was noted, no other taps have been requested at this time.

**CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN/CONSENT ORDER & AGREEMENT**

Ken stated everything is up to date and reported on as required, based on the Consent Order & Agreement. The reports are submitted twice a year, in January & July, along with any issues with storms, which he noted is decreasing.

**COMPLIANCE REPORT**

Ken indicated the Township is approximately 65% complete on all activities. As of the July 2018 JRA Report, Upper Yoder is showing 60.6% compliant. Solicitor questioned when the final letters are going out. Ken was unsure as to what properties were outstanding as far as Notice to Comply letters being issued and will request Sharon to report on that.

**DEMOLITION**

Solicitor stated that demolition permits have to be issued and there has to be official documentation as to the proper capping of any sewer lines. That was reviewed again with the Township Supervisors at last Thursday night's meeting. Ken stated that he obtained more information and the Elim St. property was not properly capped at the viewport as required and was not recorded. Ken stated Mesko's could not even get their camera up the line to see, so if it was capped it was by the existing building where it was demolished. Solicitor stated this should not happen in the future. Gary Serball Roadmaster confirmed the line was capped.

Solicitor indicated other demolitions were Tiffany St., Lutheran Home, and one on Keppler Drive.

**MONTHLY NON-COMPLIANCE FEES**

**Jim Drapchak moved, Jim Peters seconded to approve the August Non-Compliance listing with the exclusion of 3 properties, 631 Elm, 622 Elm and 211 Warren Street, which are now in compliance. MOTION CARRIED: 5/0**

**GIRARD STREET PUMP STATION-INSURANCE CLAIM**

Ken indicated his last correspondence received from Ron Gest was August 5<sup>th</sup>. He stated that per our conversation, Travelers was in need of an estimate to repair or replace the damaged equipment at the treatment facility located

at Girard Street, Johnstown, PA 15905. Travelers is looking for the material costs and labor charges all broken out. Ken stated that when he called them, they want to replace it, in place. What needs to be done is to verify that doing that would meet the current electrical codes and DEP codes. Terry had to go back in over the weekend. He had to clean it out again as mold was growing and we need a 3-D view of what is there. He not only has to measure looking down in plain view, but also the elevation of that; such as how high does a panel set off of the floor and how far is it from the top of the panel to the ceiling, those kinds of things, which is harder to do than it sounds. Ken indicated Terry gave him a plan this morning that looks like it would be ok, but he still needs to locate the Terry worked on the weekend, needs complete measurements, but still needs to locate the pumps and motors on the plan. Mesko's still needs to review the electrical code, and DEP will require upgrades, such as a backup generator/power source. The pump station has been out of service for over a year and they are not going to allow you to rebuild it without upgrading it. According to the insurance company, they will have to pay for the needed upgrades according to code, up to the policy maximum for that structure. Ken noted Travelers is handling part of the claim and PIRMA is handling part of the claim. Ken stated that if the Board recalls, they were going to try to make a more modern design, easier and safer for the maintenance people to work there, bring everything above ground as much as possible, but now the insurance company says no. It may be cheaper to bring it above ground and then the insurance company would give us the authorization to do that. John Barr questioned the condition of the pump station structure itself. Ken stated the structure is not in great shape, was installed in the mid 50's and is a steel metal chamber which is constantly leaking, as there is a sump pump inside to handle that. Ken stated, part of the project would be to seal and coat it as much as possible and use anode packs to keep it from degrading anymore. John Barr stated, unfortunately, we can only coat it on the inside and it is being attacked from the outside against the ground. Ken stated that type of pump station is still put in the ground. What needs to be done is to put an anode pack in the ground and attach it to the pump station, however, will decay and need to be replaced as needed, to keep the metal from degrading.

Solicitor stated the critical thing is, the insurance has to cover what the codes will permit by way of replacement or repair. That is the sole issue and we need to operate with a Permit. He also indicated Stonycreek Township Authority is being kept informed of the claim progress.

#### **PAST REHABILITATION PROJECTS/LATERAL CONNECTIONS**

Ken stated there is a list of work that needs done, it's just a funding matter. Most is related to the manholes from the past rehab projects, as rehabilitation was started back at Woodmont in the 1980's and if you replace a manhole, it won't last 50 years without it having issues over time, especially like those that are in the roads and other places where there are a lot of surface water issues, ponding and the significant amount of rain we have had. Ken noted manholes are not water tight and a lot is just routine maintenance.

#### **DEMOLISHED AND ABANDONED PROPERTIES/CAPPING**

Ken stated he has a listing and status of the demolished and abandoned properties, which he will forward to the Authority office.

#### **PUMP STATION POSITION**

Solicitor stated this is on hold until we find out what is going on with the Girard St. Pump Station from the insurance companies.

#### **SOLICITOR**

##### **HGA REPORT**

Solicitor had submitted his report to the Board and it was discussed earlier in the meeting.

#### **D & T RENTALS**

Solicitor stated D&T Rentals has approximately 110 tenants and rather than pay quarterly, they would like to pay monthly without penalty. Solicitor stated D&T Rentals currently do all the collections and tender one check. Solicitor stated that when the Authority billed their tenants individually, we had a horrible collection rate. They are not asking for a discount, just to pay monthly without penalty.

**John Barr moved, Jim Drapchak seconded D & T Rental pay monthly instead of quarterly without penalty. MOTION CARRIED: 5/0**

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**JOHN FLYNN, 300 ROBINSON AVENUE, SHARK BITE CORRESPONDENCE**

Ken stated that he sent all that information to State Pipe and had several discussions with them. They found the homeowner did their compliance in August of 2016, which was after State Pipe had been there the previous March and they are saying they can't be responsible once another contractor came in and dug in the same area that they dug. They are not even sure that they cut the water line and neither did Mesko's. State Pipe installed the viewport on 3/29/2016. The owner had his compliance work done on 8/25/16, replaced the line with PVC and they had no records of the water line being broke when they were there. It appears to be one contractor blaming the other contractor. Ken stated that the shark pipe is a repair clamp which the owner had Laurel Plumbing replace June of 2018. Mr. Flynn is requesting \$576.23 plus water bills and sewer bills. Solicitor requested that Ken have State Pipe send their findings in a formal response to both the Authority and the property owner. Ken will contact State Pipe.

**DEP LETTER FROM AUGUST 16, 2018 - WEST HILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH, WOODMONT ROAD, PLANNING APPLICATION**

Vern stated that DEP is questioning the boundary of the property and that part of the property is in Lower Yoder Twp and he feels that it needs to be reviewed further. Solicitor stated it should be on the Planning Module.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**ADMINISTRATION REPORT**

**BANK ACCOUNT TRANSFER – PENNVEST LOAN PAYMENT**

**Jim Drapchak moved, John Heider seconded to transfer \$32,039.12 from the General Fund Checking to the PennVest Account to make the September 1, 2018 PennVest loan payment. MOTION CARRIED: 5/0**

**SOMERSET TRUST – ANNUAL FEE – LETTER OF CREDIT**

**Vern moved, Jim Drapchak seconded to authorize \$1,677.94 payment to STC for the Commercial Loan Letter of Credit Annual Fee. MOTION CARRIED: 5/0**

**APPROVAL OF AUGUST 2018 BILLS**

**Jim Drapchak moved, Jim Peters seconded to approve the bills listing for the month of August in the amount of \$841,922.21. MOTION CARRIED: 5/0**

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

**John Barr moved, Vern seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried. 5/0**

**ADJOURNED 7:44 P.M.**

JB/aeh

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John Barr, Secretary