

Mercersburg Sewer Authority
Borough Hall, Mercersburg, PA
March 8, 2012
Minutes

Attending: Vice-Chairman William Gaunt, Jim Malone, Doug Hoffman, Borough Manager Tammy Oberholzer, Assistant Borough Manager Dawn Scheller, Engineer Lance Kegerreis

Absent: Chairman Catalin Bonciu and Secretary Treasurer Daniel Chayes

Press: None

Guests: Angie and Jim Stinson, 18 Steiger Ave, Mercersburg; Ken Stinson, 10 Steiger Ave, Mercersburg; Mindy Stoner, 22 Steiger Ave, Mercersburg; and Larry Nair, 10913 Deerwood Ave, Mercersburg

Jim Malone led the meeting which began at 7:00 p.m. and asked if any of the guests had Public Comment.

Mr. Jim Stinson, 18 Steiger Ave, spoke about a sewer challenge that he had at his property. He stated that his plumbing was draining very slowly and he contacted a plumber to attend to the problem. This plumber came out to his property twice within a few days. During that time two other neighbors also had challenges with their plumbing and they also contacted plumbers to look at the problem. It was at that time the plumbers realized it could be a Borough Sewer Authority issue in the main line. That is when they contacted Don Shaffer to check out the problem. Don Shaffer and the Public Works Employees determined the main line was clogged due to tree roots and the Public Works Department cleaned out the line. He was very pleased and complimentary about Don and his efforts of keeping him informed.

Don Shaffer provided the Borough Office with a report along with a video of the line.

Mr. Stinson is requesting that the Sewer Authority reimburse him for the plumbing expenses due to the problem in the Main Line which total \$522.50.

Ken Stinson spoke that he also had drainage issues due to this problem as well. He stated that he contacted a plumber after he tried to fix the problem. Ken stated that his plumber spoke to Don Shaffer and Don left after a short time. Tammy Oberholzer reviewed Don Shaffer's Report and stated that Don Shaffer reported that his plumber only asked him simply how/where to shut off the water because he was going to be working on the plumbing in the home. Tammy Oberholzer stated that Don Shaffer reported that the plumber did not speak about their being a drainage issue. Ken stated that he was not sure of what his plumber and Don spoke about.

Ken asked that the Sewer Authority reimburse him for the \$474.81 plumber expenses.

Mindy Stoner also stated that she had contacted Eberly's Plumbing for the same reasons as stated. She stated that she hadn't received a bill from them, but that a bill may either be coming to the Authority directly or herself. She asked that if/when she receives that bill that the Sewer Authority pay for those expense.

The Authority Members present stated that they would review what occurred and discuss the information with the two Authority Members who were absent. The Authority stated that Tammy Oberholzer would contact them within one week as to what the Authority was willing to do for them. The Authority Members thanked them for attending the meeting.

The Authority asked if there was any additional public comment. Larry Nair spoke to the Authority regarding a recent bank matter that was brought to his attention. After discussion it was determined that the loan payment should be

made via automatic transfer out of an existing account. The Authority expressed their appreciation to Larry for his efforts and also for attending the meeting.

The Authority discussed and determined that they need to communicate the importance of contacting the Borough Office first before calling a plumber about slow moving drains. The Authority reviewed the existing policy which authorizes the PWD employees to check the main lines anytime when called regarding slow moving drains. This policy was established to determine if it is a Sewer Authority problem or if it is the property owners' responsibility. The Authority asked that letters be sent out to (a radius of 20 miles) surrounding plumbers so they become aware of the policy. The Authority also asked that a note be placed on the next bills for the Sewer Customers regarding slow moving drains. The Authority also asked that Dawn place an announcement on the Borough website as an additional reminder of this policy.

Jim Malone asked for a motion approving the Treasurer's Report and Bills Payable.

MOTION: to approve the Treasurer's Report and Bills Payable for the month of February was made by Doug Hoffman, second by William Gaunt, all ayes, motion carried.

The Meeting Minutes from February 9, 2012 were approved as presented.

There was nothing to report from the Solicitor.

The Engineer provided the Authority with information regarding the Park Street Project. He stated that it is ready to be put out for bid and that the Sewer Authority would be able to award the project at the Sewer Authority Meeting in May. Lance stated that he would make sure that whoever received the job that they would be in direct contact with the Funeral Director so that they can work with each other. Lance stated that the PennDOT HOP permit was approved and needed signatures and the Detour Information will be properly posted by the contractor who is chosen. The Authority Members present were pleased with the progress, approved advertisement of the Park Street Project, and is looking forward to having the project underway.

MOTION: to authorize the Chairman and Secretary Treasurer to sign any and all documents including a \$20 check to the Recorder of Deeds, Resolution 2012-2-S regarding the HOP Permit, and the HOP Application #6009 that are all required items by PennDOT was made by Doug Hoffman, second by William Gaunt, all ayes, motion carried.

Jim Malone asked for the Manager's Report.

Tammy Oberholzer reviewed that the majority of items were previously discussed. She stated that a tour of the plant would be scheduled sometime in April. She provided the billing information to the Authority Members for their records.

MOTION: to authorize the Borough Manager, Chairman and Secretary to complete the necessary paperwork to have the Sewer Authority Loan payment be made by automatic transfer was made by Doug Hoffman, second by William Gaunt, all ayes, motion carried.

Jim Malone asked for the Secretary's Report.

Dawn Scheller stated that under New Business is an updated Fee Schedule 2012-1-S for approval. The updates were the salaries were increased 3% to reflect the increase of salaries for 2012 and two pieces of equipment were added that are now available. Dawn provided the Authority with information regarding an appraisal that was approved at the Borough Council. After discussion it was determined that the Authority would not act on this item at this time.

Dawn Scheller also provided the Authority with pricing information for Manhole Cover and Riser costs.

MOTION: to approve the Resolution 2012-1-S : Schedule of Fees was made by Doug Hoffman, second by William Gaunt, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: to approve the purchase of needed materials for the manholes from LB Waters not to exceed \$738.79 was made by Doug Hoffman, second by William Gaunt, all ayes, motion carried.

Jim Malone stated that the Public Works report and Calendar were included in the packets for review.

MOTION: to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. was made by Doug Hoffman, second by William Gaunt, all ayes, motion carried.

These minutes were transcribed by Dawn L. Scheller, Assistant Borough Manager, from her meeting minutes. Respectively submitted by Assistant Borough Manager Dawn Scheller.

Approval Date: _____