

CHADDS FORD TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY
MINUTES of the MEETING of JULY 21, 2009
Meeting No. 237

The 237th meeting of the Chadds Ford Township Sewer Authority was held on this date in the Chadds Ford Township building.

Present: Chairman Keith Klaver, Vice-Chairman Roland Martin, Secretary Amanda Konyk and Member Marc Altman.

Not present: Treasurer Jim Egan.

Also attending were J. Michael Sheridan, Esq., Authority solicitor; Joseph DiMatteo, Delcora foreman; Evan Andrews, Authority engineer; Joseph Barakat and Valerie Hoxter.

Chairman Klaver called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Klaver announced that he, Konyk, Egan, Sheridan, Barakat and Supervisor Paul met on July 13, 2009 to review legal matters.
2. Klaver also announced that he, Barakat, Township Solicitor Donaghue, and Supervisor Paul met with representatives of a real estate developer to discuss their project on July 14, 2009.
3. Klaver announced that he, Barakat and DiMatteo met with representatives from Siemens on June 24, 2009.

MINUTES

1. Upon motion and second (Altman/Martin) the Board unanimously approved the minutes of the meeting of June 16, 2009.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Mr. Urban (28 Woodland Drive) appeared requesting that the Board reconsider their plans to construct a fence (particularly a chain link fence) around the pump station on Woodland Drive. He presented documents and plans which he believed constitute an agreement with the Authority in regard to the Woodland Drive Pump Station, which stands on his property. Mr. Urban informed the Board that he has always maintained the landscaping around the station. After discussion of the Board's consideration of a fence for purposes of safety, Klaver apologized for not contacting Mr. Urban and his neighbors earlier for their input. Mr. Urban indicated that he feels the station is locked and secure as it stands, without a fence. Klaver informed Mr. Urban that the Board would review the materials presented and further weigh the safety issue. Klaver also asked Mr. Urban for input regarding cosmetic or landscaping issues the Board should address, and informed him that the Board would contact him before moving forward with any fencing.
2. Mr. Fritsch (Register Associates) appeared on behalf of Mr. Novakis (owner of Springwater Plaza, also in attendance) and presented a study of three options to tie the Plaza in to public sewer – either in Chadds Ford Township or Concord Township. Klaver summarized that the construction cost to connect to Concord Township is significantly higher (by approximately \$13,000) than the construction cost to connect in Chadds Ford. Therefore, the basis for the noted savings to connect in Concord is the tapping fee

differential assessed by Chadds Ford Sewer Authority as opposed to that assessed by Concord Township. Klaver commented that the Board supports getting the property off of septic and into a sewer system, and that the Board's position has been that the property should be connected in Chadds Ford, unless it was determined that the construction cost to do so was extremely prohibitive. Since construction for connection in Chadds Ford is less costly, and the savings to connect in Concord comes from the tapping fee differential between the two municipalities, the Board would not accept connection in Concord.

Upon review of the connection plan presented, Andrews suggested an alternative connection route which would alleviate the need for one of the two easements necessary under the currently proposed route. Klaver and Andrews discussed the timing of bringing Springwater Plaza online, flow projections and the proposed future uses and rental capacity of the Plaza. Fritsch asked the Board if tapping fees are negotiable based on circumstances. Klaver answered they are not, and Altman added that tapping fees are based on a legal formula with no room for negotiation.

3. Mr. Ross Unruh attended on behalf of his client and requested certain items regarding the Ridings Plant. Konyk suggested he submit a letter requesting the specific items he would like so that the Authority could provide accurate information. Klaver agreed and suggested Mr. Unruh submit his request to Barakat.

DELCORA/RIDINGS WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

1. DiMatteo reviewed his written report.
2. There were no violations reported for the month of June 2009. Monthly wastewater treatment averaged 36,343 gallons per day. DiMatteo confirmed that the Ridings Plant continues to operate with both the sand and disc filter with no issues.
3. DiMatteo introduced Scott Netwall who will be working with Delcora in Chadds Ford.

DELCORA/TURNERS MILL WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

1. DiMatteo reviewed his written report.
2. There were no violations reported for the month of June 2009. Monthly wastewater treatment averaged 49,700 gallons per day.
3. DiMatteo reported that there were problems with the #2 Flygt anoxic mixer again and it was pulled out of the plant in late June. There was a rental unit put in place temporarily at no charge.

MANAGER'S REPORT

1. Barakat informed the Board that Township Building Inspector Jensen inspected the grease trap at Big Fork Restaurant and found a problem which has been reportedly repaired. Klaver asked Barakat to have the grease trap inspected again at the regularly scheduled interval. However, Klaver said the Board would like testing of the manhole for grease accumulation and asked that Barakat and Jensen follow up on that testing.
2. Barakat reviewed a new estimate for lawn cutting at Ridings and Smithbridge, as there have been complaints from the homeowner on Smithbridge regarding the current service. As the fees are comparable to those of the current provider, Barakat suggested keeping

the current company for the remainder of the season. Klaver asked Barakat to speak to the homeowner again to ensure he is on board, and asked that he use his judgment regarding changing service providers.

3. Barakat informed the Board that he expects to receive the proof of operations/maintenance agreement from the Springhill Farm plant in the very near future.
4. Barakat updated the Board on the status of Calvary Church's connection to the Knightsbridge Plant. Calvary does not yet have an agreement.

SIEMENS NEGOTIATIONS

1. Klaver informed all that he, Barakat and DiMatteo met with Mr. Corley from Siemens on June 24, 2009. Klaver reviewed the items discussed at the meeting, most importantly the ongoing capability of the disc filter, particularly in light of the issues experienced in the last six months. Although the disc filter has met permit levels, it has only met the contract specifications requirements once in the last six months. Klaver raised concerns regarding the Authority's ongoing costs due to reinstating the sand filter, continuing chemical costs (particularly if the Authority moves to the recommended polymer addition), as well as winterization and the need for housing. These additional costs were not anticipated when the Authority entered into the agreement with Siemens in 2007. Siemens indicated their commitment to support the filter's performance – both in technical support and maintenance of supplies. After the meeting, two issues remain: operationally, the Authority must be sure that the filter operates without the need for blending with the sand filter that we currently have; and financially, the Authority expects a concession with regard to purchase of the filter.

Klaver, DiMatteo and Andrews then reviewed and commented on Siemens' proposal sent in response to the meeting. Klaver reinforced the Board's position that Delcora is the operator and will make the decisions regarding operations, including chemical additions. Andrews stressed the importance that testing proposed by Siemens be done for at least one or two months during cold weather. While some Board members felt this proposal by Siemens may be an attempt to redefine the contract, Martin felt this could be an opportunity to improve the performance of the SBR through reasonable and cost effective upgrades.

Klaver will attempt to schedule another meeting with Siemens in the coming weeks, during which they will identify and agree upon the operational issues. Klaver asked DiMatteo and Netwall to identify those demands and issues to ensure that the Authority can shut down the sand filter and continue to operate in compliance. Klaver also asked Andrews to define a performance testing procedure that will meet both Siemens' and the Board's requirements. Klaver also commented that the Siemens proposal did not address the Board's concerns regarding winterization of the filter. He will report the results of the meeting with Siemens at the Board's next meeting.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

1. Andrews reviewed his written report.
2. Andrews informed the Board that the DEP has indicated the permit transfer for Turners Mill (from the Township to the Sewer Authority) should be complete within a week.

3. Andrews informed all that the Part II Permits (which were found to be administratively complete in April) have not yet been received.
4. Andrews reviewed the bid process and timing for the Ridings projects. He expects there will be items to review in August, with the goal to be bidding in September.
5. Andrews reviewed a June 24, 2009 letter from DEP in which they agreed with the Corrective Action Plan regarding inflow and infiltration, and released the three residential connections anticipated in 2009.

In reviewing the Connection Management Plan and the Chapter 94 Report, the DEP letter notes there is a projected organic overload that will need to be addressed. Klaver clarified that Andrews was referring to only two measurements in 2005 and several measurements in 2008. Without those unusual measurements, there would be no concern in projected (or existing) BOD levels. DiMatteo indicated he did not have any concern over BOD levels at Ridings. Andrews commented that, for purposes of projections, these measurements unfairly skew the numbers.

Andrews will prepare an immediate written response to the DEP letter. He also recommended a telephone conversation and an invitation for the DEP to visit the plant to review the manner in which samples are collected, and to see how the plant is operated in order to make them comfortable with the fact that these numbers are anomalies. Klaver agreed to invite the DEP to the plant and suggested that we get their input on dealing with root cause issues for these numbers. Altman asked Andrews if he could prepare the BOD projection chart he included in the Chapter 94 report again - without the anomalies. Andrews agreed to do so before responding to the DEP. Andrews will also respond to DEP regarding meter data and pump station monitoring items included in their letter.

After discussion by the Board, Andrews and DiMatteo, several members thought these numbers could be attributed to outside dumping. Barakat informed the Board that other municipalities experience outside dumping, and it appears to be a problem in our region. Martin suggested we alert our customers and ask for their assistance to watch for any dumping. Klaver suggested we put an alert on our website.

6. Andrews reviewed the Route 1 Force Main Capacity Review. He is optimistic that the study will show some improvements for the Township. Klaver reviewed the inception of the Capacity Review, and informed the Board that Pennoni has presented an estimate of \$10,000 to perform the review. Supervisor Thorpe has agreed that the Township will absorb 50% of the cost of the study. After some discussion, Klaver confirmed the review will clarify Pennoni's initial estimates of capacity, as well as determine what can be done regarding restrictions. Upon motion and second (Altman/Konyk) the Board unanimously authorized the expenditure of \$10,000 (to be shared equally with the Township per Supervisor Thorpe) for the Route 1 Force Main Capacity Review.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

1. Sheridan reviewed the tapping fee demand letter sent for accounts BP1410 & BP1414.
2. Sheridan informed the Board that the default judgment obtained on account SD0005 has been transferred to the County. There will be depositions scheduled to determine assets.

3. Sheridan reviewed an account for which he received notification of bankruptcy. He will be filing a proof of claim in bankruptcy court.

TREASURER'S REPORT

1. Klaver reviewed the financial reports, and noted that Treasurer Egan has investments diversified. He noted that operationally the Authority is behind budget, which can be largely attributed to some extraordinary costs incurred by looking at alternatives to the Ridings Plant.
2. Hoxter reviewed disbursements for approval. Upon motion and second (Klaver/Altman) the Board unanimously approved the payment of bills in the amount of \$39,404.53 through the issuance of checks, debit and automatic account withdrawals.
3. Hoxter and Klaver reviewed the concept of a proposed letter to send to residents of Painters Crossing who have yet to remit part or all of their tapping fees.
4. Hoxter updated the Board on the status of accounting/invoicing error corrections from 2008. She also informed the Board that the start date for the 2008 Audit is July 28, 2009.
5. Klaver informed the Board about the undertaking of a filing project in an effort to get the Authority's files in reasonable order.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to report.

NEW BUSINESS

1. As Klaver will be out of town on August 18, 2009, he requested the Board move the next meeting to Tuesday, August 11, 2009. Upon motion and second (Konyk/Martin) the Board unanimously approved moving the August monthly meeting to Tuesday, August 11, 2009 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion by Altman and a second by Martin, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Valerie Hoxter
Assistant Secretary/Assistant Treasurer