

**Public Water and Sewer Advisory Board
Minutes of Meeting
February 21, 2019**

In attendance: Joe Van Houten, Gary Munkelt, Wally Pattyson, Joe Krumenacker and Dan Wood. John Canterbury participated via the phone. Board of Supervisor Members in attendance: Ryan Manion and Rick Colello. Staff in attendance: Andrea Susten, Special Projects Coordinator, Keith Hass, DTMA Executive Director and Stephanie J. Mason, Township Manager. Absent: Rod Stone.

Mr. Van Houten welcomed everyone to the meeting and extended a special welcome to new Board member Dan Wood.

Selection of Officers: On motion of Mr. Krumenacker seconded by Mr. Munkelt, Joe VanHouten was selected as Chairman and John Canterbury was selected as Vice Chairman. Mr. Canterbury indicated that he does travel and is typically out of town for many months per year. Mr. Van Houten said his participation by phone is fine for now. Being no further nominations the motion carried unanimously.

The notes from the January 17, 2019 were approved by consensus with the correction of the spelling of Mr. Canterbury's name. Mr. Van Houten asked staff to check on the September minutes approval. He thought they were approved in November.

Guest Introduction: Mr. Craig Forwood, Operations Manager, Lower Salford Township Authority. Mr. Van Houten welcomed Mr. Forwood to the meeting. He explained that the PWSAB's role is to evaluate areas of the Township in need to water sewer. Sometimes those result in the need for public facilities. He indicated that the PWSAB wanted to know how Lower Salford Township Authority (LSTA) has dealt with expansion over the years.

Mr. Forwood explained that it's been awhile since a large expansion has occurred. However, he indicated that it was not met with enthusiasm. The last time was when public sewer was going into a new development and LSTA provided it to nearby existing neighborhood. LSTA has a requirement that if a building is 150' or less from the sewer line the property must connect. LSTA also requires property owners to connect upon the sale of the home.

He indicated that Lower Salford Township has poorly draining soils and problems with soil perking for on lot septic systems. The Township Board of Supervisors makes the determination that areas should be connected and then the LSTA implements projects.

Mr. Forwood indicated that the square miles of each community are about the same. LSTA has 5,000 customers and operates two sewer plans. One was built in 1962 and expanded in 1972.

The plants discharge to the Perkiomen Creek and the Skippack Creek. They have tertiary treatment.

DEP did come in twenty years ago to the area for the expansions.

Ms. Manion asked if from a real estate value having public sewer aides in the sale of homes. Mr. Munkelt indicated that a year ago the PWSAB inquired about the same thing and the information they gathered indicated that there can be a difference of \$30,000 more in the sale price of home with public sewer.

Mr. Van Houten inquired of Mr. Forwood who does LSTA engineering. Mr. Forwood explained that they have a consulting engineer to do their analysis work.

Mr. Forwood indicated that it seems that Doylestown Township is doing more to be proactive with the PWSAB in place to provide information to the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Pattyson believes that Township residents are doing a better job maintaining their on-lot systems then years ago since the Township implemented its septage management program.

Mr. Hass inquired if LSTA has expanded its public water program recently and if so how they go about it. Mr. Forwood indicated that the LSTA sends mailers to interested property owners.

Mr. Forwood explained that LSTA requires residents to pay a front foot assessment or a benefit assessment for the water and/or sewer when a project is completed.

Guests: Ms. Regina Schneider of 65 S. Woods Lane was present to learn more about the work of the PWSAB. She wanted to know if a pipe might be coming soon to her area.

Mr. Robert Salanik of 206 Pebble Ridge Road indicated that John Butler of the BCWSA was out to his home three times to speak with neighbors and did a good job explaining the project and was everyone appreciated his time. However, he was disappointed that there hasn't been an update recently from BCWSA on the progress of the project. He'd like an update from BCWSA. Ms. Mason indicated that she'd reach out to BCWSA.

Also, Mr. Salanik wanted to know how much Toll Brothers contribution to the project would be. Ms. Mason said approvals are still pending for the land development but that the fees to be contributed are outlined in the Tradesville Ordinance recently adopted by the Board. She said she'd send a link with the information to him. However, she indicated that it would be significant.

Mr. Van Houten indicated that the DTMA was working to bring public water to the Pebble Ridge Area as well. Mr. Hass explained that DTMA conducted a survey last year and received about 120 responses. Of those there were two streets within the neighborhood that indicated a

greater desire to know more about public water. So DTMA sent follow up letters the residents. This letter had cost information in it. Total cost would be about \$17,000 per property to bring and connect to public water. DTMA was looking for about 70% response to feel comfortable moving forward. Also DTMA provided a discount. Mr. Forwood indicated LSTA would require 100% participation.

Meeting Schedule: After some discussion the PWSAB decided to cancel its March meeting and have BCWSA come to the April meeting to review the Phase II sewer information.

Adjournment: Being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephanie J. Mason
Township Manager