

**SUMMIT TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY  
MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 27, 2018**

The regular monthly business meeting of the Summit Township Sewer Authority was called to order with the Pledge of Allegiance at 9:00 a.m. at the Sewer Authority Building, 8890 Old French Road, Erie, Pennsylvania. CALL TO ORDER

Present: Chris Fette, Chairman; Michael Rose, Vice Chairman; Laban Marsh, Secretary; Cloyd J. Rose, Ass't Secretary; Mark Welka, Treasurer; William C. Steff, P.E., Manager; George Joseph, The Quinn Law Firm; Chad Yurismic, P.E., Greenman-Pedersen; Caitlyn Haener-Schwab, Administrative Supervisor. Absent: None. There were seven members of the public present. ROLL CALL

Motion by Mr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. Welka, to approve the minutes of the August 30, 2018 Regular Business Meeting. Vote 5/0 8/30/18 REGULAR MINUTES

Motion by Mr. Welka, seconded by Mr. M. Rose, to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted to and reviewed by all Board members. Vote 5/0 TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion by Mr. Welka, seconded by Mr. M. Rose, to approve the Expenditure Report as submitted to and reviewed by all Board members. Vote 5/0 EXPENDITURES

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Solicitor Joseph provided an audit opinion letter to McGill Power Bell and Associates for the Fiscal Year End 2017-2018 Audit Report. A copy of the letter was also provided to Manager Steff. AUDIT OPINION LETTER

Solicitor Joseph reports that he has been working with Summit Township Solicitor Sennett to try to get a response from First Energy regarding the project to vacate paper streets in the Harold Road vicinity. Solicitor Joseph sent a letter to First Energy and is waiting for a response. Solicitor Joseph explained that the Authority owns 21 parcels on in the Harold Road area. In order for the Route 97 Retention Project to meet zoning requirements, the parcels must be consolidated. Solicitor Joseph has drafted plans to consolidate the 21 parcels into 3 parcels via deeds; 4 parcels will be combined into one parcel in Block 35, 8 parcels will be combined into one parcel in Block 34, and 9 parcels will be combined into one parcel in Block 33. Mr. Welka asked if the Authority would consolidate the 3 parcels into 1 in the future when the paper streets are vacated; Solicitor Joseph advised that the topography would likely present challenges, specifically a possible issue with a stream. HAROLD ROAD PAPER STREET VACATION

Motion by Mr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. C. Rose, to approve the consolidation of the parcels via deed as described and authorize Manager Steff to execute the deeds. Vote 5/0. APPROVE CONSOLIDATION BY DEED

**ENGINEER’S REPORT**

Engineer Yurisc reports that the New Road Wetlands Mitigation Monitoring has begun. The first inspection was last week and found that the wetland is functioning per the design and meeting the DEP requirements. A report will be submitted to DEP soon.

NEW ROAD  
WETLANDS  
MONITORING

Engineer Yurisc reports that the Meadows Lift Station Upgrade Project has received a Water Quality Management Permit from the DEP. Engineer Yurisc is working to finalize the design.

MEADOWS LIFT  
STATION  
UPGRADES

**MANAGER’S REPORT**

Manager Steff reports that Terry Rea of Five Points Trails, LLC has returned a signed Developer’s Agreement regarding The Trails at Five Points, Phase 7. Manager Steff recommends that the Board enter into the Developer Agreement.

TRAILS AT FIVE  
POINTS, PHASE 7

Motion by Mr. Marsh, seconded by Mr. M. Rose, to enter into the Developer’s Agreement with Five Points Trails, LLC for The Trails at Five Points, Phase 7. Vote 5/0.

ENTER INTO  
DEVELOPER  
AGREEMENT

Manager Steff gave a presentation regarding the history and progress retention planning in Summit Township and the Route 97 Retention Project. Detailed discussion followed. Residents expressed concern that retention planning may encourage more development in the area. Manager Steff explained how retention planning is integral to the Comprehensive Plan for Summit Township. The concept of retention is the foundation of the STSA sewer system and is the single best management tool when a system does not have unlimited capacity; the Authority has been planning retention since 1994. Mr. Marsh explained that the Comprehensive Plan was developed and approved by the Summit Township Planning Commission with the understanding that people are drawn to Summit Township, therefore the Comprehensive Plan has designated some areas for planned development.

RETENTION  
PRESENTATION

**SUMMIT RESIDENTS TO BE HEARD**

Mrs. Denise Kochanczyk (7181 Old Perry Highway) suggested that the Authority should purchase more capacity to defer construction at the planned Route 97 Retention site. Manager Steff responded that in 1994, when the City of Erie was undertaking major improvement projects [Outfall, Headworks, Eastside and Westside Interceptors and the Overflow Retention Facility (ORF)], Manager Steff lobbied the Summit Township Supervisors to purchase more capacity from Millcreek and the City of Erie, but the Supervisors did not want to purchase more capacity at that time. Manager Steff expressed concern that negotiating for more capacity now could trigger greater contribution requirements for infrastructure improvements in Millcreek and Erie; Engineer Yurisc agrees and added that the initial costs of system improvements to accommodate added capacity could easily exceed the cost of retention. Engineer Yurisc estimates that the cost of running an upgrade project through a densely populated area could exceed \$500,000/1,000ft. Manager Steff explained that once Summit starts transmitting additional GPM flow, our three year average will begin to rise and the percentage contribution costs for maintenance, repairs and upgrades in Millcreek and the City of Erie

KOCHANCZYK  
(7181 OLD PERRY)

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will be increased forever. Manager Steff emphasized that retention is the best use of the Authority's current resources for controlling future costs.

Mr. Bob Stewart (7300 Old Perry Highway) asked the Engineer if the Authority has a plan for a failed pinch valve at the Route 97 Retention site. Engineer Yurisc responded that the design includes stand-by power via generator that can be manually operated.

STEWART  
(7300 OLD PERRY)

**MILLCREEK RESIDENTS TO BE HEARD**

Mrs. Pat Lacey (6141 Old Perry Highway) expressed concern about odors and stated that the tank should be covered. Manager Steff responded that covering the tank would add \$1.8M to the project, not including storm water management costs. Non-covered tanks are common and the research done by Manager Steff and Engineer Yurisc indicates that odor will be minimal. If odor should become an issue in the future, the Authority will take measures to test and treat for specific conditions at the site. Mr. Welka compared and contrasted the Route 97 Retention Project with the non-covered Millcreek retention tanks on Zimmerly Road. Mr. Fette reassured the residents that the Route 97 retention tank is not intended for daily use at this time, only peak events. Discussion of plans for scheduled maintenance of the site ensued.

LACEY  
(6141 OLD PERRY)

Mrs. Deb Sobina (6001 Old Perry Highway) expressed concerns about future growth in Summit Township and the timeline for the buildout of the ultimate design for three tanks at the Route 97 Retention site. Manager Steff responded that there is no way to predict growth in the corridor, but according to the best available information right now, one tank should be enough to serve the area for at least the next twenty years.

SOBINA  
(6001 OLD PERRY)

All residents left the meeting at 10:19 a.m.

**ONGOING BUSINESS**

Manager Steff and Operations Technician Hodge gave a presentation on Inflow and Infiltration in the Route 97 corridor. There were 8 meters. The data gathered to date has been analyzed and repair costs estimated. Discussion ensued. Manager Steff emphasized that many of the documented failures are a direct result of unqualified contractors or homeowners cutting into the main to tie in new lateral connections. Manager Steff explained that mitigating I&I will be an ongoing maintenance issue; I&I will never be gone completely. Manager Steff briefly described some of the I&I mitigation programs in neighboring municipalities. Manager Steff is concerned that allowing I&I to go unabated could result in possible backups and/or overflows during rain events, possible fines from the City of Erie and Millcreek for exceeding the permitted flow of 2,500 GPM, possible DEP moratorium on development, and an ever increasing need for equalization tanks. Engineer Yurisc agreed. Manager Steff reviewed the annual budget for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 with Operations Foreman McAtee. Manager Steff would like to reallocate \$40,000 from various budget accounts (I&I Supplies \$5,000; I&I Contract Services \$5,000; Jetting/Vacuum Services \$30,000) to I&I identification and abatement. Manager Steff reports that the Authority has already planned the spending of \$20,810. Manager Steff plans to get quotes for I&I repairs with the remaining balance of \$19,190.

INFLOW AND  
INFILTRATION  
PRESENTATION

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Motion by Mr. C. Rose, seconded by Mr. M. Rose, to reallocate \$40,000 to I&I identification and abatement as described. Vote 5/0.

BUDGET  
REALLOCATION  
AUTHORIZED

Regarding Mr. C. Rose's proposed Alternative Transportation Plan (first presented and discussed in detail at the July 26, 2018 Regular Business Meeting), Mr. C. Rose reports that there is a large access portal, left over from the former Hammermill Paper Company Plant, that may be available for entering the City of Erie Waste Water Treatment Plant in an alternative way, bypassing the current joint transportation route through Millcreek and Erie.

ALTERNATIVE  
TRANSPORTATION  
PLAN

With no further business to come before the Board, Mr. C. Rose motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Marsh. Vote 5/0.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Fette adjourned the meeting at 11:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Caitlyn Haener-Schwab  
Administrative Supervisor