

BOROUGH OF LEMOYNE

"The little town that has it all!"

Sewer Committee

Minutes of the Meeting Held on May 15, 2014

1. Call to Order

A meeting of the Sewer Committee of Lemoyne Borough Council was held on Thursday May 15, 2014 the Lemoyne Borough Hall, 510 Herman Avenue Lemoyne, PA. Chairwoman Stacy Gromlich called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present at roll call was Committee member Suzanne Yenchko. Committee member Dennis McGee was absent. Borough Manger Robert Ihlein and Sewer Department Manager Jack O'Neill were also present.

3. Public Comments

Will Hesse of Walton Street shared his opinion on the possible replacement of the sewer service laterals as part of the sewer main replacement project on Herman Avenue. His opinion is that it would not be prudent to spend the estimated \$1million when it appears that the laterals are functioning even if they are 60 year old.

Audra Spilewski of Walton Court expressed concerns over the water billing period being longer than usual which caused more billing days in the sewer bill making the period more costly. This led to discussion on this issue. The Committee listened to the concern and believes the Water Company does not often have long billing periods such as the one that took place.

4. Review of Previous Minutes

The Committee reviewed the draft minutes of the April 2014 meeting. Ms. Yenchko made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Ms. Gromlich seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

5. Unfinished Business

A. – Sewer Fund Budget and Financial Administration

1. Review of Sewer Fund Revenues/Expenditures

Mr. Ihlein presented the monthly reports, noting that revenues and expenditures appear to be on target with the projections at this time.

2. Delinquent Account Collections

Mr. Ihlein explained that the reports he began last month were completed for this month but was not able to print them in color. He will have them for the June meeting.

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3. Verbal Report on Billing Process and Payment Processing

Mr. Ihlein reported that the billing process is working very well with Diversified. There was a 1 week shift in mailing of the bills, which is a onetime event that has made bill processing easier and more in line with billing by the water company. Starting in July a 5% penalty fee will be added to those who do not make payments on time.

4. Department Personnel

Mr. Ihlein reported that the three candidates that applied for the Assistant Department Supervisor position have been interviewed, and now second interviews will be scheduled.

B. – Sewage Facilities

1. Verbal Report of Collection System and Pump Station Operations - Mr. O'Neill reported that line flushing will soon take place throughout the Borough.

2. Treatment Plant Upgrade

Mr. O'Neill reported that work continues and the next step is the arrival of specialized equipment to complete the next steps in the construction process.

3. Staff Training Plan/Retirement Plan

Mr. O'Neill reported that First Aid Training will be taking place on an upcoming Friday. Interviews will be scheduled for the start of retirement planning as we will the next Supervisory position.

C. – Lemoyne Municipal Authority

Verbal Report from Meeting held May 13, 2014

The Authority is planning to draw regularly on the loan both loans as the treatment plant project progresses. Mr. Ihlein also reported that the LMA audit is taking place at this time.

6. New Business

A. Disconnection of Water Service for Delinquent Sewer Bills

Mr. Ihlein reported that staff is moving forward with shut offs for those over 90 days late and the first shut offs will take place in July.

B. Replacement of Sanitary Sewer Laterals on Herman Avenue

Mr. Ihlein shared that the LMA was opposed to Council moving forward with the replacement of all of these laterals at this time because of other needs in the sewerage system. However, should Council want to proceed the request should be in writing. Mr. O'Neill reported that replacing the sewer main in parts of Hummel Avenue would be at the top of his list. The Committee decided they were not interested in proceeding with

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the work on Herman Avenue and will ask Council at the next meeting to make a final decision.

C. Concerns over Commercial Sewer Account Increases

Ms. Gromlich shared that the subcommittee group had collected ideas and would have one more brainstorm session before proceeding with determining the best course to research and move forward. The following ideas were added to the list of possible solutions: Create a varied flat rate (include residential); Create a varied block flat rate; Create an increasing flat rate with decreased consumption rate; Add business units to the mix rather than metered bills only (could require all addresses to have water meters); Create a charge based on the type of discharge or strength of the characteristics of the waste produced. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 19th at 8:30 a.m.

D. Purchase Flusher Truck

The current vehicle was purchased in the late 1970s. This item will be discussed in conjunction with the 2015 budget. The estimated expense is \$320,000.

E. Increase Revenue by Accepting Outside Sewage

This item can be further explored once plant construction is complete.

F. TV Camera Equipment

Contractors are called when a lateral needs to be inspected. This item will be discussed in conjunction with the 2015 budget.

G. Control Inflow & Infiltration and work with Property Owners

It was discussed that wherever we begin this project it should highlight the project in the fall newsletter and notify residents.

H. Adopt a Resolution Affirming the responsibility of rental property owners and Sever Bills and assessing the owner an annual fee to send duplicate bills to renters

Ms. Yenchko made a motion and Ms. Gromlich seconded the motion to affirm that sewer bills will be mailed to the property owner and a fee will be assessed if the property owner requests a duplicate bill be mailed to the renter. The motion was approved. Mr. Ihlein will prepare a Resolution for consideration by Council at their next meeting.

I. Announcing Vacancy on the Lemoyne Municipal Authority Board

Mr. Ihlein announced that Craig Burgraff moved out of Lemoyne creating a vacancy on the Board. The vacancy will be posted on the Borough website and Facebook page.

7. Announcements/Next Meeting

The next Sewer Committee meeting is set for Thursday June 19, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss Ms. Gromlich declared the meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.