

BOROUGH OF LEMOYNE

"The little town that has it all!"

Sewer Committee

Minutes for the Meeting Held on October 20, 2016 at 7:30 PM

1. Call to order

A meeting of the Sewer Committee of the Lemoyne Borough Council was held on Thursday, October 20, 2016 at Lemoyne Borough Hall, 510 Herman Avenue, Lemoyne, PA. Chairperson Dan Green called the meeting to order at 7:37 PM.

2. Roll Call

Committee members present was Zachary Border. Dennis McGee was absent. Staff members present were Robert Ihlein, Borough Manager, Audra Spilewski, Office Manager/Borough Treasurer, Tim Travitz and Charles Moll, Sewer Department.

3. Public Comments

Mrs. Spilewski reported that there were several more phone calls to the office this past month complaining of high sewer bills. This was most likely due to swimming pools and other outdoor water usage.

4. Review of the minutes from the previous meeting

Mr. Border made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Green seconded the motion and it was approved.

5. Unfinished Business

A. Sewer Fund Budget and Financial Administration

1. Review of Sewer Fund Revenues/Expenditures

Mrs. Spilewski provided a written report outlining expenses for the month which was reviewed with the Committee.

2. Report on Accounts Receivable and Delinquent Account Collections/Water Shut Offs

Mrs. Spilewski provided a written report for review and discussion.

B. Sewage Facilities

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1. Verbal Report on Collection System and Pump Station Operations

Mr. Travitz reported there were some recent glitches, but services are now running properly. There was another problem with a line of the 200 block of Walton Street. This time he tried flushing the line, but then the nozzle got stuck. He called a contractor for assistance, and sent a TV camera down the pipe. Apparently, some years ago someone ran a water or gas pipe right through the top of the sewer main. The Committee directed Mr. Travitz to work with the utility companies and have this area excavated and repaired.

Mr. Travitz reported continuing problems with flushable wipes causing problems in the collection system. The Committee requested that a flyer be added to the sewer bill discouraging residents from flushing hygienic/baby wipes into the sewer system.

Mr. Travitz reported that he had a contractor televised the sewer main running between the 800 and 1000 blocks of Hummel Avenue. This section of the main appears to be in good condition at this time.

Mr. Travitz reported a major problem with a lateral at 309 Herman that serves Grace United Methodist Church. The church paid a plumber to clear the line, but nothing would work. Mr. Travitz called in a contractor for an emergency excavation and found that the lateral had not been connected to the new main when it was installed 2 years ago. Apparently, some years ago the lateral from the church was run all the way down to the old Plum Street pump station. The contractor that worked on the new main missed this, but it took this long for the old lateral to back up. Mr. Green said this may be a contractor litigation issue and that he would bring it to the attention of the LMA Solicitor.

2. Verbal Report on Treatment Plant Upgrade Project

Mr. Travitz reported there are still issues with the electrical system within the plant. They have met with representatives from PPL, who admitted there were some issues recently in the local grid network. The LMA Engineer is working with a contractor to see if there any solutions in the main electrical controls at the plant.

C. Lemoyne Municipal Authority

1. Verbal report from meeting held on September 13, 2016

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Mr. Green gave a verbal report from the meeting. He referred back section B.2. of the agenda. Litigation is still ongoing.

2. Sale or lease of the sanitary sewer assets.

Will Hess of the LMA board reported that they are working with Mr. Ihlein on a RFP for asset valuation consulting services. He also reported that the LMA received a legal complaint from the Bridgeport Homeowners Association alleging issues from the construction of the North Side Pump Station and force main in 2010-2011.

D. Ordinances

1. Standards for new connections and commercial businesses –Charles Moll

No report.

2. Individual on-lot sewerage disposal systems

No report.

6. New Business

A. 2017 Budget Discussion

The Committee discussed the concept of setting aside a set percentage of operating revenue to be dedicated to collection system improvements. Currently \$50,000 is budgeted for emergency repairs and other maintenance. An increase in user fees may be necessary to dedicate more than that amount. The Committee also discussed the list of items submitted by Charlie Moll costing over \$5,000. If approved, those items would be paid for from the Sewer Capital Reserve Fund.

7. Announcements/Next Meeting – next meeting will be held on November 17, 2016 at 7:30PM.

8. Adjournment

Seeing no further business, Mr. Green adjourned the meeting at 8:50 PM.

Minutes submitted by Robert Ihlein, Borough Manager/Secretary