

South Strabane Township Sanitary Authority August 16, 2017 Meeting Minutes

The South Strabane Township Sanitary Board met for its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, August 16, 2017 at 5 PM in the Mae C. Reynolds Meeting Room, 550 Washington Road, Washington, Pennsylvania, 15301.

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Ronald Carrola at 5 PM.

Ms. Rossi volunteered to record the meeting minutes in the absence of Recording Secretary Stephanie Humensky.

Roll Call: In attendance: Ronald Carrola, Vice Chairman; Edward Mazur and Cynthia Rossi board members; Engineer Eric Tissue of KLH Engineers, Inc. Solicitor Josh Carroll was absent.

Visitors: Douglas Burig, Michael Dufalla, Laynee Zipko, Thomas Regets, Deborah Regets

Public Comments: Mr. Dufalla provided copies of his "Floral Hill Drive Sanitary Sewer Project Position Statement" to the Board. Mr. Duffala said he personally saved \$27,000 in project costs. Ms. Rossi made a motion to attach a copy to the meeting minutes, seconded by Mr. Mazur. Motion carried unanimously. Mr. Regets and Mr. Burig inquired about the anticipated completion date and the connection date for the Floral Hill project. Mr. Tissue responded that it is anticipated the project will be complete and connections may commence in three weeks.

Approval of the July 19, 2017 Minutes: Ms. Rossi noted that Mr. Eric Tissue was present as Township Engineer from KLH Engineers, not Mr. Michael Sherrieb. Motion to amend the minutes with this correction made by Mr. Mazur. Second by Ms. Rossi. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to Amend the Agenda to Elect New Officers: Motion by Ms. Rossi. Second by Mr. Mazur. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Election of New Officers: Due to recent resignations of Chairman Joseph Trifaro and Secretary/Treasurer Ellen Wallo, new officers and designated signers for the Authority's accounts at Huntington Bank and Slovenian Savings and Loan Association are needed. Discussion: Mr. Carrola said he would be willing to become Chairman with the understanding that it would not be a many year term. Motion to elect Mr. Carrola Chairman by Mr. Mazur. Second by Ms. Rossi. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Mr. Mazur made a motion for Ms. Rossi to be Secretary/Treasurer. Second by Mr. Carrola. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Ms. Rossi made the motion for Mr. Mazur to become Vice Chairman. Second by Mr. Carrola. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: Motion to accept the Treasurer's report and file for audit by Mr. Mazur. Second by Ms. Rossi. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Authorization for Payment of the Sanitary Authority Bills: Motion by Mr. Mazur to approve payment of bills pursuant to the correct authorizations be established with the banks. Second by Ms. Rossi. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Solicitor's Report: Solicitor Carroll was not present and there was no report.

Engineer's Report: Mr. Tissue explained the process of the final inspection and approval for the Floral Hill Project and start-up will occur soon. It will be confirmed and a letter documenting substantial completion will be issued by Mr. Tissue to the Authority who will then notify South Strabane Township. Mr. Tissue presented contractor Petrakis' Pay Estimate No. 2 in the amount of \$48,217.25. Motion by Mr. Mazur to pay the estimate. Second by Ms. Rossi. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Mr. Tissue said a little over \$7000 is left in retainage. Motion by Mr. Mazur for Mr. Tissue to send the Completion Letter to the Authority and a copy to South Strabane Township. Second by Mr. Carrola. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Mr. Tissue said a service request had been received from a resident of Sanitarium Road. Mr. Tissue and former Consultant Ray Dami visited the area and determined there only seven or eight homes that would be involved and there is no economical way to serve the area by a gravity system. A less expensive method would involve the installation of grinder pumps. Mr. Tissue will obtain information about the request from Mr. Dami. Mr. Mazur noted it is the responsibility of a resident who requests sewers to solicit neighbors. Motion by Mr. Mazur to have Mr. Tissue investigate the point of contact and report to the Authority Board. Second by Ms. Rossi. Motion unanimously approved by voice vote. Mr. Tissue also advised the Board of an inquiry made by Mr. Benjamin Seitz of North Main Street to connect by gravity. Mr. Tissue noted the connection would be made to WEWJA's system but the resident's home is in South Strabane Township. Mr. Tissue noted the final Floral Hill costs are not anticipated to exceed estimates.

Unfinished Business: There was no unfinished business.

New Business: To facilitate the process for changing designated signers to accounts at both Huntington Bank and Slovenian Savings and Loan Association letters must be prepared for each institution. Ms. Rossi will draft letters and submit them to Chair Carrola. The letters will document: the motions to elect new officers; appoint new signers; and remove former signers. Ms. Rossi inquired about bonding of the Secretary/Treasurer and the inquiry will be directed to the solicitor. Ms. Rossi inquired about letterhead for the Authority and offered to design one. Motion by Mr. Mazur to draft and send the letter to Huntington Bank and to sign new cards. Second by Mr. Carrola. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Motion by Mr. Mazur for the letter to be drafted and sent to Slovenian Saving and and Loan Association and new cards be signed by the new officers. Second by Mr. Carrola. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Mr. Carrola will contact both institutions. It is planned that Mr. Carrola, Mr. Mazur and Ms. Rossi will meet Monday, August 21 at Huntington Bank at 3:30 PM and then

proceed to Slovenian Savings and Loan Association to complete the necessary paperwork. The Slovenian change of designated signers cards were signed following these discussions. An Executive Session to develop policies and procedures for the Authority was considered. Because the subject would be outside of the permitted use of Executive Session, a workshop format was proposed. The Chairman will contact Solicitor Carroll to discuss the matter.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Mr. Mazur. Second by Mr. Carrola. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Adjournment at 5:48 PM.

By: _____
Cynthia Rossi
Secretary

Mr. Defalla asked for his letter to be submitted in the meeting minutes from August 16, 2017

Read below.

Floral Hill Drive Sanitary Sewer Project Position Statement (revised)
By Michael H. Dufalla, 501 Floral Hill Drive
For: August 16, 2017 South Strabane Sanitary Sewer Authority Meeting

At the July 19, 2017 SSSA meeting, the Board discussed my involvement in the sanitary sewer project. I participated in the project in three areas for the following three reasons:

- (1) Presently on lot sewage is addressed with septic tanks and several residents septic systems are malfunctioning. This is an environment issue that should be addressed. I regret not asking PaDEP for a septic system assessment for the project area.
- (2) Several residents namely (Cara Dobbin, Penny Steggles) ask for my involvement due to my experience in civil engineering.
- (3) The present on lot septic systems have a finite life and will eventually malfunction, and public sewage will improve the environment and add real estate value to the properties.

I participated in the project, which is being funded by the residents in the project area, in the following three areas because I am a 1/15 (6.67%) investor in the project and I want the best project for the money spent. My effort resulted in a \$ 17,000.cost savings.

- (1) Attendance and participation at the monthly sanitary sewer authority meetings.
- (2) When I learned the cost to extend the sewer parallel Quarry to the intersection of Floral Hill and Quarry was \$ 10,000.+/- , and the cost to bore under the new pavement on Floral Hill with 3 to 6 pits for manholes and connections was \$ 20,000. +/- to reach the old farmhouse , and three residents would have to pipe their sewer laterals from the rear of their houses around their houses to Floral Hill, I believed the \$ 50,000. easement request by George Moore to proceed through his property to the old farmhouse should be revisited. I told Ray and Eric I would meet with George, which I did, resulting in an \$ 18,000. plus attorney review fee compromise. I told George a Sewer Authority representative would contact him. $\$ 10,000 + 20,000 = \$ 30,000$. (extras for Floral Hill option) less \$ 18,000. (extra for behind the lots option) was a \$ 12,000. plus review fee savings.
- (3) When I learned the system pump station was located in my front yard near Floral Hill Drive, I surmised the Authority would spend \$ 5,000. +/- for my grinder pump to pump some 80 feet +/- to the system pump station. Survey elevations indicated “if the system pump station was moved some 40 feet into my yard” my \$ 5,000. grinder pump could be eliminated saving \$ 5,000. in project costs.