

BERWICK AREA JOINT SEWER AUTHORITY

ADVERTISED WORKSHOP MEETING

JANUARY 2, 2014

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

1108 FREAS AVENUE

BERWICK, PA 18603

The monthly scheduled and advertised workshop meeting of the Berwick Area Joint Sewer Authority (BAJSA) was called to order by Vice Chairman Will Fairchild at 6:00 pm.

Members in attendance were as follows: Secretary Louis Biacchi, Assistant Treasurer Gary Pinterich, 2nd Assistant Treasurer Joe Siecko, and Pres Pro Tem George Welliver and Asst. Secretary W. Bruce Michael.

Also in attendance were: Authority Manager Gloria Bobersky, Engineers Dennis Peters, and Solicitor Anthony McDonald. Allan Fish, Richard Banks and Janel Yorks were present from the WWTP. Thomas Dibatista, Peter Talanca, Joey Scheno and Mike Digiandomenico were present on behalf of the Maria Assunta.

OLD BUSINESS

Meeting was held to address the Maria Assunta's lateral that connects to Assunta Avenue.

Maria Assunta presented a letter from the Borough's Solicitor Frank Kepner in regards to his opinion as to the ownership of the manhole behind the Maria Assunta.

Attorney McDonald, BAJSA's solicitor, stated, "frankly I think it's a matter of interpretation and the question in my mind is the MA the only business served by this line and is the manhole any different than a clean out pipe that someone has between the house and the main. In this particular instance it's just a big clean out pipe." Attorney McDonald stated that Mr. Kepner's proposition hinges on what was the intent? We don't know what the intent was but we know what the fact is and the fact is there is only one building serviced by that line. If there were three or four going into that manhole then that would be a different situation all together.

Solicitor McDonald posed the question is the manhole sitting on a main or is the manhole sitting on a lateral. BAJSA Engineer Denny Peters stated that laterals can be 6" and the plan shows that the line goes to a lateral connection at Assunta, it does not go to a manhole. So it would appear on the maps that it is a lateral but the bigger question is if there is a problem with this line I don't see where BAJSA would have anything to do with cleaning the line if the grease trap at MA was kept clean. Mr. Talanca stated that he agreed with Engineer. He stated that the MA would take care of cleaning it out. His issue and concern is that is something ever happens to the pipe or the manhole then the

cost would be on them. The MA stated that they have plans to add an additional grease trap. The MA stated that the grease was failing due to temperature not coming down quick enough. So they plan on putting on two grease traps back to back.

Solicitor stated that the chances of that line ever breaking short of someone hitting it with something, it's not going to break. It's a terra cotta pipe.

There was discussion as to who cleaned out in the past.

Solicitor McDonald recommended to the board that if the MA was going to put in grease traps and clean them like you are required to, he says give them a letter that states if the pipe ever breaks or the manhole ever breaks BAJSA will replace the hardware.

There is only one possibly source of the grease and the MA is willing to maintain and clean that.

Janel Yorks, pre-treatment officer addressed that when she goes to check the grease trap at the MA she needs someone to open the lid for her.

Motion made by Joe Siecko that BAJSA agrees to fix the manhole/pipe if it ever breaks. The MA is responsible for all grease and cleaning of grease in said manhole/pipe. Second by Gary Pinterich.

Under discussion Joe talked about giving the MA time to do the work and not fining them for grease violations. The MA asked how sample are taken. Janel Yorks explained the sample is taken in the flow.

Joe Siecko asked to amend the motion to state that BAJSA will reconsider the fine. Second by Gary Pinterich.

Pete Talanca stated after the MA's meeting on January 5, 2014 he will write out a timeline with what their expectations are to get this taken care of and he will have to Gloria by the end of next week.

Solicitor McDonald stated that the MA can still be given more violations if the MA continues to put grease in the line.

Joe Siecko added 120 days to allow the MA to come into compliance install the grease traps.

Pete Talanca stated that maybe with frequent inspections BAJSA can let them know when they are getting close and the MA will have cleaned out to avoid more violations. Solicitor stated that we can work with MA however if we do sample and sample is over limit then the MA will be fined.

Solicitor stated that if the MA is fined again he will personally hand deliver to the MA with no charge to BAJSA.

Joe Siecko amended motion again to state he is giving the MA 120 to correct there grease trap issue but the MA must stay in compliance with the regulations. 2nd by Gary Pinterich. All yes.

Bruce Michael suggested that a copy of the minutes be sent to Mr. Kepner to advise him of what we have agreed to with the MA.

Tony McDonald stated the minutes should be clear BAJSA is not taking ownership of manhole in alley or lateral to Assunta Avenue. BAJSA will repair if manhole or lateral breaks.

Authority Manager discussed odors coming from taking Bloomsburg's hauled waste. Park Place Village and Bandits Restaurant are complaining with bad odors. Bloomsburg Sewer Plant is not processing anything at this time and is hauling out everything. Bloomsburg is bringing us primary sludge, nothing is pretreated. Bruce Michael spoke about the revenue we receive from taking hauled waste, approximately \$600 a week from Bloomsburg.

Board discussed the hauled waste cost and what our cost is. Some hauled waste haulers have meters on their trucks and some just have sight glass. BAJSA needs to determine their actual cost per gallon for treating sludge and come back to the plant with the findings.

Meeting was adjourned Gary Pinterich. 2nd by Geogre Welliver.