

**Minutes  
North Lebanon Township Municipal Authority  
June 10, 2004**

The meeting of the North Lebanon Township Municipal Authority was held on Thursday, June 10, 2004 at 7:00 PM at the North Lebanon Township Municipal Building, 725 Kimmerlings Road, Lebanon, Pennsylvania. Chairman Parry opened the meeting with a salute to the flag, with the following people present:

Thomas Parry.....Chairman  
Wynanne Demler.....Vice Chairman  
Ronald Ensminger.....Secretary  
Susan Switzer Pierce.....Asst. Sec.  
Tod Dissinger.....Treasurer  
Scott Rights .....Steckbeck Engineering  
Sheila Wartluft.....Assistant Manager

Also, present at this evenings meeting was Mike Kneasel, Wastewater Foreman, and 5 Township residents.

At this time, Chairman Parry asked for a motion to approve the May minutes.

**MOTION: Motion was made and second to approve the May minutes. Motion approved.**

Next, Chairman Parry called for a motion to approve invoices and requisitions for payment all subject to audit

**MOTION: Motion was made and second to approve the invoices and requisitions all subject to audit. Motion unanimously approved.**

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

**William McMichael – 811 Kimmerlings Road**

Mr. McMichael said as of the last meeting, they were told to go to the Supervisors meeting in order to obtain a “peaceful” solution to the mandatory connection ordinance and the option to not connect at this time, rather, wait until the connection is needed for one reason or another. They went to the Supervisors and they were told there to come to the Municipal Authority for that decision. Their question to the Authority is, what can they do to avoid connection at this time? They are in agreement to pay the lateral fee, but not to connect at this time. The people with the good water want to be able to connect as their wells go bad. Do not force it on them now. Chairman Parry asked if any of the Board members had a comment on this? He said his comment would be, he can’t say on behalf of the Authority Board or himself, anything that is contrary to an ordinance. That would not be proper for any of us to say. To be perfectly frank, he has not spoken to any of the Supervisors since the last meeting about this. He then asked Mr. McMichael what his conversation was with them at the meeting? McMichael said the Supervisors did not seem to know too much about the ordinance. They told them that they had to go back to the Authority and ask them about it. They said they were going to straighten Parry out about this. Tod told the audience that the Supervisors were the ones that originally asked the

### **William McMichael – 811 Kimmerlings Road(cont'd)**

Authority to do the project. We did what they instructed us to do. Ms. Zellers said maybe the Authority Board should refresh the Supervisors' memory about this and bring up the fact that they instructed you to do it. Both Parry and Dissinger said they couldn't change what has already been done. Someone else asked if they cannot refresh the Supervisors memory by giving them a copy of the minutes for them to read so they can remember what was discussed. Tod asked what refreshing their memories is going to do to change this? The ordinance is still in place and unless there is an addendum to that ordinance it will remain in effect. Ms. Zellers said that the Supervisors said they never even saw this ordinance that the Authority is talking about. Parry said they had to see it; they are the ones that passed it.

### **Pam Parr – Patmar Drive**

Ms. Parr introduced herself as a resident of Patmar Drive. She asked if there is any way that the ordinance could be re-done? Parry said he cannot answer that, but he would imagine that is a possibility. As he explained before, they are not a legislative body; they cannot make ordinances or pass them. Ms. Parr then confirmed that the Board of Supervisors made and passed the ordinance. Parry said that is correct. She then asked if there is any way that a joint meeting could be held between the Board of Supervisors and the Authority Board so that the public could ask these questions and get an answer? That way, they could avoid running back and forth between the two Boards. Tod said we have a problem here, of which was discussed at an earlier meeting. We have a project here that was financed and paid for based on "X" amount of customers. Who decides who does and who does not have to connect? Who does pay and who does not pay? You have a line in front of 5 houses that don't need it, but 10 more down the street that do. Now these 5 people all of a sudden have a problem with their well and they have to connect to the line. Is it fair for them to not have to pay as the other 10 did to put the water line in? Is that fair? How do you justify who gets it and who doesn't? Ms. Parr said that is not what Mr. McMichael is saying. He is willing to pay to put the lateral in, just not connect to the line. Parry said that is not the question. McMichael said, what do you care, you are going to get them down the road anyway. Parry said we have a debt service to consider and if we cannot make our debt service then the Supervisors must the debt service payment for us. They have only one way of doing that, and he doesn't think he has to explain what that way is. Ms. Parr asked if he couldn't see any type of compromise in this at all? Tod said no, the interest rates have been as low as they have been in years, and if you read everything that they get as part of the Board, the upper government is forcing the local government to do these types of things for the betterment of the community. He was asked if this is what happened here in North Lebanon Township? He said he not saying it happened here, but it does happen and may happen here. He asked if she wants to pay \$47 per quarter now for debt service or do you want to pay \$60 down the road because the interest rates have gone up? Mr. McMichael said that should be up to the homeowner to make that decision and not have it made for them. Tod asked him if he is saying that in three years, if more people need the water, they would be willing to pay more then? He said he would, because he has good water now from his well. Ms. Parr said money isn't always the only thing that determines what is best. She went on to explain that she lives

### **Pam Parr – Patmar Drive(cont'd)**

with her daughter and her family. These children have allergies and their water is so pure and good for them. She doesn't think that this has been considered in this decision making process. Why can't they have the best of both worlds? She has no problem with having City water in her home, but she does have a problem with no well water in her home for the children to drink. If the well water is kept outside the home, then it does not go through her filter and then it is of no good for the children. She would like to see a compromise in that degree as far as she would still be hooking up to the water line, paying the debt service, but also still be utilizing the well water in the home. In actuality, she is not busting on the City water system, but she knows for a fact that the City is not as good quality as her well water is. She knows this because she works for DEP and this is a fact. She still thinks we need to come to a compromise on this. If the residents that want to keep their wells want to go to the expense of running separate pipes in the home for both the well water and the City water, then that should be up to them. Is this so cut and dry that this cannot be even considered? It would also help the value of your real estate as well. She talked to her Supervisor about this and he confirmed this to be true. She said the children could really use the pure water, short of putting a filter in the back yard; we are going to have to buy bottled water. She just cannot believe that they would make them connect to this system, when they have this wonderful well that supplies their water to them now. She could use the City water for other uses other than drinking or cooking. Has anyone ever thought about this from another angle as she has proposed this evening? Parry said he would like to think that they have looked at this project from every possible angle, but they have debated this for about 10 years in one form or another. This is not something that came about in the last year or two. Parry said we couldn't sit here and say anything that is contrary to the ordinance that would be wrong to do. Parr said she understands that. Parry said that her statements are all understood and well taken, but we cannot say anything that is contrary to the ordinance and the ordinance is very clear. Any building must be connected to the public water system that is occupied by a family or otherwise. Parr then asked if an addendum could be added to the ordinance? She would still be hooked up to and paying for the City water, but she wants the option of still using her well. Parry said that could be a legal question and he hesitates to answer that since Sol Wolf is not present this evening. He is ill this evening. Engineer Scott Rights said, in the big picture, it was pointed out that the Supervisors made the call to provide the water service. This Board's job is to implement that water system project and then physically manage it and pay for it. Whether we have 200 customers on line or 300 customers on line, the debt service, which is equivalent to a mortgage, is going to remain the same. So they had to struggle with several things. Do they require everyone to connect to the water system or do we require only those that want to hook up do so? If we required only those that want to connect, the cost per homeowner would be "x" amount of dollars. If we require everyone to connect, then the cost would be a lesser amount. They balanced that act after what they felt was best and had to look at the long term, 10-20 years down the road. He did mention that in projects like this, it is mandatory that all customers do hook up. One of the reasons that they have struggled with this is because, if they don't, 5 years down the line, if someone wants to connect, then those that have been paying the debt service all those years will start barking about how they paid for this line and now these other people are coming on and have not paid into the line like they have.

### Pam Parr – Patmar Drive(cont'd)

The one solution to this would be to charge the ones that came on later a different amount other than what the original customers paid, which then becomes an accounting nightmare. Ms. Parr said she respects what he is saying and she has no problem with that, but she does have a problem with told that she must use only City water in her home. Why can't she have the best of both worlds and have both well water and City water inside her home to use? She was told that the City has required that both well water and City water cannot be inside the home at the same time. She said she has read that and all it states is that "strictly cannot be a physical connection or cross connection". It does not state that it has to be eliminated from the home. Scott explained that there is an agreement between the City of Lebanon and this Authority and in that agreement it states that the City is requiring that everyone connect to the public water system, as it is available to them. It was asked if this is an ordinance or an agreement? Scott said it is an agreement with the City. Ms. Parr said, they are mis-understanding what she is trying to tell them. She wants to connect, **but** she also wants to keep her well water flowing into her home. Scott then asked her if she is also willing to pay the quarterly debt service as well? Ms. Parry said yes she is. Parry said he thinks she is simply stating that she wants the option to use whichever source of water in her home that she chooses. It was stated by someone in the audience that they would still be paying the minimum bill for the water as well as the debt service, so no funds would be lost. Tod asked to ask a question of Ms. Parr. He said, she stated that her water is so pure, who is telling her that her water is so pure and he wants her to understand that he is not saying that it is not, but what tests are they doing on the water to determine this? Ms. Parr said they had it tested 2-1/2 years ago and it was perfect. She said it is the same way that you get the City testing read-outs. She said that they have the letters that state that her water is pure; does the Board want to see them? They have the reports with them this evening. Parry asked her who did the testing for her? She said it was Martins Water Testing. He then said, it was not a laboratory? Parr said, yes, they have a laboratory and it is State approved. Parry then asked, State approved for what tests? He said he knows the series of tests that Martins does and it is not the same as the testing on a public water supply. If you want to pay them \$1,000, they will go through the entire series of test, otherwise, they only test for hardness, iron, Ph, etc., the normal residential water testing. If they would send the water sample to a certified laboratory for the full series of tests, it would cost you a lot more than the \$25 that they charged you for the tests that were done on her water. She said if he tells her where, she will send hers to the same place. Mr. McMichael again repeated that Martins is a certified testing laboratory. Parry said certified to the degree of testing that they do, not certified for everything that the City of Lebanon Water supply undergoes. Scott said there is a difference in what the two sources are tested for based on regulations. He also stated that it is tested the way it is because it is a public water supply and is very carefully monitored for all contaminants. Parry asked Mr. Parr what exactly she was charged for this test that they did for her? She said \$25. He said that explains it then, it was not the same tests that are done on the City water, it was most likely for hardness, Ph, iron, and coliforms. She said that is beside the point. She has a good, pure well with a filter good system and she wants to keep it. Why can't they use both? She would really like someone to come back with an answer to that. She can't find anything to substantiate the information that the Township gave, and she went over it with a fine toothcomb, she took it to work with

## **Pam Parr – Patmar Drive(cont'd)**

her for her Supervisor to read as well and all the information says is what the City wants. It basically said that there cannot be a cross connection, period. She does have to say this. She did live in West Lebanon and she is not sure what they have worked out with the City of Lebanon Water Authority, but, she does know anytime that they would go to the meetings, they would provide a report showing the number of days on City water and the number of days on the well water. They didn't even have two sets of pipes for these two sources of water for their residents. At this time, Mr. McMichael went to the Board table and showed the Board members a copy of his water testing results. He stated that he was told the results would hold up in any court of law and has held up in court. Scott said it is probably tested for fecal coliforms and other coliforms. Parry read the items that the water was tested for: ph, iron, hardness, dissolved solids, nitrates, bacteria, coliforms, and e-coli. Scott explained that these are the normal things that a well is tested for. What they have to understand is that a public water supply has to be tested for a lot more contaminants than residential well water is. Mr. McMichael then produced test results for City water that they had tested. The only difference in the results was the ph factor. McMichael said, it still failed that test and that makes it a lower quality water source. Scott asked if this sample was a tap water sample? They said it was. He then explained that this is not the whole gamut of testing. The statement that you can make from the results of these tests is that the things that were tested for may have proved that the well water was purer than the City water was, but these are not the tests that the public water supply must be tested for and these tests are a lot more extensive than normal tap water or well water is tested for. The testing for public water is very extensive and more in depth than the normal tests by a firm such as Martins may do. The comparison is not done to public water supply requirements, rather to well water requirements. Parr again asked if it were possible to get together with both Boards to go over this and get answers and possibly get an addendum to the ordinance as requested this evening? Parry again explained that this is a legal question and they are not prepared to answer that. Scott said he could be wrong, but his understanding is that the agreement between the City and the Authority is what dictates the connection ordinance. Parr said there is a small paragraph in the agreement that states well water cannot be used in the home. Parry said that is probably because wells are not an issue within the City of Lebanon. He said it could also be a liability issue as well if, which is hypothetical he agrees, you have a cross-connection and your well becomes contaminated and by some manner or means that contaminated water gets back into the City water supply, then you have a big legal problem. Parr said that is why you have your back flow valves. Parry said stranger things have happened and we don't want it to happen here, but he does understand what she is saying. Parr then said that is why she mentioned the situation with West Lebanon, because they have both sources coming into their homes. Parry said he couldn't answer for them. Parr said they have their own well, yet they are also connected into the City Water supply. Scott said West Lebanon has their own well, as well as using City water, but their well is also a public water supply well, which is tested along with the same regulations as the City supply. It is not a private well as the residents have. It falls under the same DEP regulations as the City of Lebanon does which is why they operate they way they do. Again, she asked what could be done to get a joint meeting together. She then said she has one other question this evening. She asked about the macadam with curbing

## **Pam Parr – Patmar Drive(cont'd)**

that was outside her house prior to the water line going in. Will that be replaced by the Authority as part of the project restoration? They told her it would be restored to the way it was prior to the project as they have photos of all the properties prior to the start and will be restored back to that condition. If she sees that it is not being restored back to the original condition, then she shall call them and they will take care of it. The restoration has not been started yet, so give them some time, but if it is not done, please give them a call to inform them. Ms. Parr then thanked them for their time this evening. Mr. McMichael encouraged the Board to give this suggestion a lot more serious thought because there are a lot more people out there that do not want to lose their good well water.

## **SOLICITORS REPORT**

As the Solicitor is not here this evening, there will be no report.

## **ENGINEERS REPORT**

### **Water Project**

Scott said he has a pay request this evening for Marks in the amount of \$99,617.56. This brings the total to date to, \$1,972,431.79. That leaves about \$321,000 to go to the end of the project and we are holding \$105,000 in retain age. Parry asked if this payment request includes the retain age amount? Scott said it does not. Tod asked where we stand as far as the contract is concerned? Scott said when you compare it to the original contract; we have about \$222,000 left. We think when we are all set and done; we will be about \$75,000 over contract. We have about 20% to go yet on the entire project. All we have left is the 7<sup>th</sup> Street part of the project and that is still pending at this time. Scott mentioned that in the event this falls through, we made application to PennDot for another highway occupancy permit supplement to put the water main at the edge of the pavement. Parry asked if anyone had any questions on the pay request? There were no questions, so a motion for payment was made.

**MOTION: Motion was made and second to approve the request for payment to Marks in the amount of \$99,617.56. Motion approved.**

The work that was completed this past month has been all service line work and restoration work. There were no mains put in and all mains have been completed last month. The only thing we have left are a few services in the Phase III area up in Oakridge Court and a few on Woodridge Court. That is pretty much it in Phase III. There are a few stragglers in Phase I of the project that will be put in this month. Phase II has all of their service lines put in. They started paving restoration over the past few days, which is the final paving restoration. There are some driveways in Phase II that will be restored this week as well. They did meet with the State this past month and it looks like we will be OK with them. The trenches that were made to retrieve the lost moles will have to be restored to State specs and to their satisfaction. Scott said that PennDot was going to come down

## **Water Project(cont'd)**

with a 4' wide milling machine and put the center of that milling machine on the white line and then go up there and basically mill it down 1-1/2" and then overlay it with black top so it is flush with the existing blacktop that is out there now. What we had them do is to come in and instead of going on the white line, go over into the cartway 1' and go into the shoulder 3', because they require us to pave at least a 3' wide shoulder. Tod asked where this is? Scott said on East Maple Street. This will also be done at PennDot's cost, not ours. All we have to do is restore the driveways that we disturbed and the crossroads. Tod said that this would most likely bring the paving up to the properties then. Scott said it would bring it up to the edge of the grass. There is going to be a little bit of a "gap" there and they sent a letter to the State informing them of this, but the PennDot inspector didn't think there would be a problem with it. But Scott explained we wanted to go on record so that it does not come back to haunt us. We have not heard anything back from them yet, so we are assuming that they do not have a problem with it.

Scott said, just for everyone's information, he has Nick from his office go out every week and updates the photographs of the project restoration so we can see what the people are talking about when they call with a question or complaint. This will hopefully take care of any disputes that may occur. There have been a lot of ruts made in the restorations of the grass that Marks has gone back out and fixed, but Scott is telling the Board now, there will come a time, where they will not go out and continue to fix them, because of careless drivers. There was some phone calls from the residents on Woodridge Court after the heavy rains this past weekend and we are going to have Marks go back out and take care of them. A lot of the phone calls that they have been getting about the restorations, have been that they residents think that it is the final restorations and it is not. So they are explaining to them that they would be back out to do the final restorations. They started keeping a schedule of the complaints as Sheila has been receiving them; they then keep tabs on them to make sure that they are taken care of. We know as this goes on and on, we will be getting more and more phone calls about the restoration process.

## **K Copper or Plastic Pipe**

Scott said those people that are more than 100' from the edge of the right-of-way are required to put in a meter pit, per the City's regulations. The question is, are they required to put in copper pipe in downstream from meter pit to meter pit into the house? Most Authority's do not have regulations on what occurs after the meter pit. Upstream of the meter pit they require copper because, in their opinion, they feel copper is best type of pipe to use. When the issue came up, copper versus plastic, downstream of the meter pit, we suggested keeping it copper as well. We feared that with all of the calls we were getting on the project in the early going with opposition, we were afraid if one guy was using copper pipe without the meter pit from the main to the home, then his neighbor, who may be back more than the 100' and required a meter pit, is putting in polyethylene pipe, back to house. You then get into the argument of why is he allowed to use the plastic pipe and I have to put in copper pipe? This then has to be explained over and over. So we decided to make it consistent and require everyone to put in copper piping. Now the price of copper has really skyrocketed, and when we first started the project, we did not anticipate people back over 400-500' wanting to connect to water. But we have these

## K Copper or Plastic Pipe(cont'd)

people requesting service to their properties and people running piping substantial distances. Since we have just started getting these customers going, we have told them to send a request in writing to the Board, explain to them why you would like to use the other pipe, don't just say because it is more expensive. We want them to show actual numbers so that the Board has a realistic view of the costs involved and can base their decision off that. If he remembers correctly, the numbers were basically double. In light of this, his recommendation is that if personal preference calls for a change, then we can switch the material, but be aware that we may get complaints from other customers. Parry asked since the initial group of letters went out, how many actual hook ups have there been? Scott said we are not sure because we would have to check with the inspectors. Probably a call to the City would take care of this by finding out how many meters have been handed out and lines inspected. Tod asked a question about the type of pipe used. He asked if a home were 200' back from the main, would the first 100' be copper or plastic? Scott said what happens is that if you have a house that is 100' back from the main; they use copper back to the house. If their neighbor is 125' back from the main, and they put in 5' of copper or 10' of copper, and the meter pit is right at the edge of the right-of-way, and then the rest is plastic, then the location of the meter determines whether or not that person can use plastic versus copper. But Sheila said, those people are also responsible for purchasing the meter pit, which is not cheap. So they have the extra financial responsibility that the others do not. Ron said if we are going to allow people to use plastic pipe, we should state that anyone over 200' is allowed to use the plastic pipe. Scott and Sheila both said that the people that are over 100" are the ones that will have to use the meter pit and we only have about 20 of those, so hopefully, it will not be an issue. Ron still said he feels anyone over 200' should be allowed to use plastic no matter what to keep the expense down. Tod asked if you could connect copper to plastic mid-stream? Scott said you can, there is an adapter that can be used to connect the two pipes. Tod then asked if this portion of the line would be inspected? The City would be inspecting it if it is going back to the house and if it is over 100', because it is their liability if it leaks. Parry wanted to confirm that the City's responsibility is from the curb stop to the meter. Scott confirmed this, but if there is a leak in the line, they're paying the freight on the water in the line. Who pays to repair the line if there is a leak in it? Scott said the homeowner. Tod stated that the City would pay for the lost water, but the homeowner would pay for the line repair because they initially paid to have it installed in the first place. Scott said the State now makes Municipalities track all the individual water meter readings that are in the system and then they must compare that to the master water meter reading at the water plant and if they are off, they have to determine where they are off. If you are drawing this water from a well, you have a finite supply to it and then you go back to the State and tell them that you are out of water. They will in turn tell you that you have to look at your meter readings because you have a lot of unaccounted for water, before we will talk about a new well. Tod asked what Scott's suggestion would be? Parry said it sounds like he is saying anything under 200' should be using copper. Susan said she agrees with Ron's idea to avoid any arguments or quibbles between neighbors. Anything over 200' would be able to use plastic pipe for their water line to the main. Tod asked how many people we have over 200'? Sheila said not many; this one is an exception to the norm. These particular people had just moved into the area and thought that they would make out better connecting now, than waiting until later when the cost

### **K Copper or Plastic Pipe(cont'd)**

would be higher. Scott's suggestion would be, if you may have to connect within the next 6 years, it would pay you to connect now, rather than wait, because the additional \$2,500 in the tapping fees would be equal to 6 years of debt service. Sheila was a little confused by some of the comments that were made about the length of pipe to the meter pit and the type of pipe that would be required. She asked Ron to explain this again. He said they would have to install copper to the meter pit, which would be about 10' from the lateral, and then after that they could use plastic, but they would have to be over 200'. Chairman Parry said what if a neighbor that is under 100' and does not need a meter pit says, why can't I use plastic as he did? Scott said he is restricted by the City's regulations because he is less than 100'. If he were between 100' and 200', that is a different story. Sheila said she thinks we will have the questions from the people between the 100' and 200' most. The people under 100' will know that the City requires copper piping to the meter and their meter is in their house. It should be a "trade-off" between the people over 100' needing a meter pit and are allowed to use plastic pipe, and the people that are under the 100' must use copper piping, but do not have to purchase a meter pit. Parry suggested that we put this on paper to be able to look at it and see if it makes sense. Sheila said so she understands this correctly, anybody that needs a meter pit can use copper to the meter pit and beyond that can use plastic. Anyone under the 100' must use copper piping. Parry said we need to commit this to paper before any approvals are done. Do we agree on this? Tod asked if Sheila were to draft this on paper and send it to everyone, could we then agree to this? Chairman Parry said this really needs to be done at an open meeting. Ron asked when they get to the house, can they continue using plastic or must they then use copper? Scott said once they get downstream from the meter they could use anything they want. The meter is the important factor in all of this, once you get past the meter, it's really no big deal. Sheila said she thinks we need to take care of this tonight so the project can keep moving forward. She repeated that there are people that are beyond 100' and those people require a meter pit and copper is required to the meter pit and anything downstream from the meter pit is up to the homeowner's discretion. Is the Board in agreement of this?

**MOTION: Motion was made and second to allow persons to use the alternate pipe material of their choice after the meter pit. Motion approved.**

### **Booster Pumps**

Scott said this is in reference to Phase III of this project. The water storage tank across the street will be providing the water pressure to the homes on this project. Obviously, the third phase of the project, Patmar, Marcon, Woodridge, Oakridge, etc., sit up higher and will have less water pressure. But they are within the guidelines as set by the American Water Works Association. The guidelines call for the pressures to be above 20 PSI. All those homes up there have that pressure, but he wants the Board to be aware that some residents may call and say they have low water pressure. Their well may have had better water pressure, but the pressure is well within the guidelines. There might be about 25 homes that the pressure will be between 20-30 PSI, and this includes the second floor of the home as well.

## **Booster Pumps(cont'd)**

Sheila asked Scott if he feels that the Phase III water packets would be ready to go soon? Scott said they should be ready in about 2 weeks.

Scott mentioned that at the last meeting they discussed the topic of substantial completion. He is recommending that we approve the request for substantial completion for Phase I and II, with the comments and punch list items to follow. After a discussion with Jon Beers of the City, they have agreed to approve the substantial completion. Chairman Parry looked over the minutes from the last meeting and it was decided that before any certificate of substantial completion for Phase II was issued, we need the OK from the City in writing prior to the certificate is issued. We will make sure that all restoration is completed before we sign off on it. As far as Mr. Gingrich is concerned. The City said they would not take dedication of any 2" line in the area of North 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue. After a second discussion with the City, they are still firm in their decision, but would waive the meter pit requirement on his line, but in essence the way the regulations read, if the dwelling is 100' from the edge of the right-of-way, then a meter pit is not required. The way he would be snaking the line, his line will be beyond the 100', but the actual distance is not 100'. Scott also pointed out that we are going to stop everything here until he comes in and signs the agreement with the Municipal Authority because if we are going to incur any time and costs dealing with this, you have to reciprocate with us. He was one that did not pick up his certified mail packet and still hasn't. As far as Scott knows, he has not yet signed any agreement as well. If he does not cooperate, we can cooperate as well and we cannot help him. He has to agree to connect before we make the service available to him. Mr. Gingrich requested that he get something in writing to this effect. Scott said he thinks this is a good idea; he isn't sure whom the letter should come from. The Board all concurred that the letter should come from Sol Wolf.

## **Reline Project**

Scott reported that we are in a holding pattern with this project. He then referred to Mike to continue. Mike brought along a sample of an "epoxy liner" that is put on the benches of the manholes. They wanted to apply this epoxy liner to the base and then place the plastic liner on the walls. Where the liner meets the base, they were to put a particular type of caulking. For whatever reason, water got behind the epoxy liner and peeled right off. When this new product was originally introduced to us, it appeared to work fairly well. It was applied to wet surfaces and it stuck. So it was applied to our manholes and we will keep an eye on it for the next year. But until that, we will hold off paying the bill for the relines. Mike said he was pleasantly surprised when they did the manhole on Hillside Drive because they never shut the pump down and there was water in it the entire time. He thought sure it would not adhere, but it did and has not come off. He has it marked on their schedules to go out and check these manholes once a month to make sure they are still OK. Tod asked what made the previous liner come off? Mike said they claimed it wasn't moisture friendly. But yet, they recommended that we use this in our initial conversations. Tod said so you could take the liner and apply it to the manhole as one solid piece. Mike corrected him by saying it is only on the bench, not the entire structure. Parry asked if the contractor is saying it was the wrong material? Scott said the contractor

## **Reline Project(cont'd)**

told him it doesn't always hold well where the environment is very wet and contains a lot of moisture. The question was asked, then why put it in the sewer? Scott said that is what they asked him and he told that he has used it on other manholes and the applications have held up and some have not. But this is what they are using lately. Someone in the audience asked to interject. He asked if this is an epoxy, is it possible that it froze? Scott said it was pretty warm when it was put on. The individual said, no, before it was even applied, it may have froze, and then thawed. Parry said it is possible, we would not know that. Scott said the bottom line is the product did not adhere properly to the surface and now they are using a better product, which seems to adhere a lot, better. Tod said he hates to be the "devils advocate", but this is still concrete and it seems the liner adhered to the concrete and the concrete pulled off the structure. It almost seems like the structure was made incorrectly in the first place. Scott said you have to remember that not all of the structures were like this; most of them were very flexible, like rubber. This is the exception. Mike said when they discovered this; they were dumping the flush truck at manhole E-96. The water was flowing directly into the channel and it just floated up and lay over. At a later date, he crawled down in and stripped it out. It was almost like rubber.

## **8<sup>th</sup> Avenue Pump Station**

Scott, Mike and Harry from Scott's office have been working on this and trying finalize the plans. They have now moved into part of the building layout. The big thing is that there is no intermediate landing in the station anymore; the pumps are on the first floor. This takes away a lot of the problems we had with the old station. Unless, there are any other questions on this, we will continue to work on the plans. Sheila said that Fred told her he is working on the bid documents for the demolition of the house. Mike said he received two quotes for the asbestos removal. We have to have an inspection of the home on the asbestos matter. They will take samples and we want to check and see on the requirements of the contractor and how he has to move forward with the demolition. He is actively working on this.

## **Plan Reviews**

### **Briar Lake**

These plans have been approved, but now they have run into problems where other utilities were marked. The gas lines were marked incorrectly and now the sewer line has to be moved because of this. The gas line is right where the sewer line was supposed to be located. They want to come out at the main entrance right across from Meadowlark Lane and put a manhole right at the edge of North 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue. This would be a drop manhole about 8' deep there. The manhole itself will be about 20' deep and there would be a line coming out the bottom. In order to do this, they will have to open cut North 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue and come in the bottom. We advised them that they have to comply with the Township's specifications when it comes to street restoration. Scott asked that if any of the Board member's object to this method, to please let him know.

## **Brohnwood Plan**

Scott said he does have some comments on this plan, but must discuss with Mike and Sheila first before he would recommend approval.

Chairman Parry said Scott mentioned a comment indirectly about PA One Call; he wanted to mention the copy of the article that the Board members received from Sheila in their packets. He felt it was very enlightening. He felt in this case, PA One Call was not the bad guy. He felt it was the utility that did not do what they were supposed to. Tod said he feels it is more the gas company than any other utility that violates the PA One Call laws. Mike said he is correct in that statement. Scott said once the one call is placed, it is up to the utility company to take responsibility and mark their lines. PA One Call cannot do anything if the utilities don't do their job, other than fine them. Tod asked what happens if the lines are marked incorrectly? Mike said there is certain criterion and you are allowed to be off within a certain amount. If you are off outside those criteria, then One Call can fine you. But if our line is hit or damaged because we marked it wrong, then we are responsible for repairing it.

At this time, Tod asked a question about the North 25<sup>th</sup> Street Industrial Park. He asked if since the farm that is in this area is included in farm preservation, could the sewer line legally go through that property? Mike said there is a driveway with 2 houses back past the pump station on Hillside Drive. One of the homes is hooked up, the other is not. By looking at this, you would have to acquire a right-of-way and get it to where the property of the industrial park starts. This is his opinion only. Parry asked how far the Bowman farm goes into the Township? Mike stated that we are about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way back from the Bowman property. The Board all decided that a lot more work has to be done on this plan before it gets anywhere near ready for approvals.

## **ASSISTANT MANAGERS REPORT**

### **Notice to Connect Packets**

Sheila reported that as of today, we have had 115 permits that have been picked up out of 300 packets sent out. She still has 11 packets that were returned that were unable to be delivered for one reason or another. She has 2 packets that were not delivered, but still has the slips, so they were not yet picked up. She said she thinks Fred is looking for their direction on how to get these packets to the homeowners. We can either re-send them a letter or tell them they can pick them up at the office and they can pick them up at their convenience, or we can go right to the constable for delivery. Tod asked what the cost would be for the constable? Parry said it wouldn't matter, because the homeowner would be responsible for paying the costs. Since the constable is paid by the hour, Fred's suggestion is to wait until they all come back as un-deliverable and then have the constable do them all at the same time. Chairman Parry said since we do not know the reason for the packet not being picked-up, maybe a first class letter would be the way to go at this time. If that does not work, then the constable would be the way to go. The Board agreed that this is the way to go.

## **Notice to Connect Packets(cont'd)**

Another thing that Sol Wolf was questioning was the first reading of the water meters. She contacted Jon Beers at the City and he said they would read them in September. The bill would then go out in November.

## **Pertinent Issues**

The only other thing she has, is Resolution 06-2004, which eliminates the previous Res. 02-2004, Special Purpose Tapping Fee III. The checks will go out to Mrs. Gingrich and Tri Valley.

**MOTION: Motion was made and second to approve Res.06-2004, which rescinds Res. 02-2004 regarding the Special Purpose Tapping Fee III. Motion approved.**

Sheila also has agreements ready to be signed for the installments for the water customers. After the Board has signed them, she will give them to Sol Wolf to be recorded.

Chairman Parry said he wants the Board to know that he and the Chairman of the City Authority are in constant communication on the project. They obviously cannot go beyond loose conversation, but it keeps everyone on the same page as far as the project is concerned.

## **SEWER DEPARTMENT REPORT:**

Mike referred to item 10 on the meeting items concerning Ridgeway Mobile Home Park. He said that Tommie was mowing right behind where Stashaway Storage Units are and found the bad manhole we were looking for. It is not in a stage of collapse, but we should put it in for a repair or replacement. Parry asked if he is looking at a rehab of the manhole or a replacement? Mike said he is not so sure yet. Parry said if he thinks rehab will do it, and then OK, if not, then we will look at replacement. Mike said we are not in a pressed situation yet.

He then reported that they pigged the lines at the GLRA and got those lines all cleaned out. We had to clean all the line from the top of the hill at Getty Mart to E-59, which is at Ann Hasson's, which is at the upper end of Lions Lake because of all the silt, and dirt that was in the line. It really produced a lot of material in the upper segment from Elias Avenue out. They put in over size pigs this time. The line is about 5-3/4" in diameter and when they came last year, they put 6" pigs in. This year they put 8" pigs in because they compress so much. This really started to push the stuff out of the line. They went after and jetted this entire out and sucked it out. They followed it all the way down to where Larry Spangler's place was and we are OK. It went pretty good and fast this time. Sheila asked since it went so well this time, how often would he recommend we do it next year? Mike said he would like to think about this and also, talk to Larry Taylor about it as well. Parry said we did it last fall and this spring, and got good results. So what if we were to do it again this fall and get good results, would that pretty much answer the question as to where it is coming from? Mike said when they put the over-size pigs in and what they blew

## **SEWER DEPARTMENT REPORT(cont'd)**

back into their vault, virtually gave about a 5 gallon bucket of debris. Last time they got a lot of debris. When they did the section going up to Elias it was the same way, it gave very little compared to last fall. Apparently, looking at the videotapes, the scale was ripped off the walls by this larger pig. He is wondering if there is a lot more in there. Parry said then we should probably do it again in fall and if we don't get a lot out, then they could back it off some. Susan said she would suggest doing it again in the fall using the same size pig and then makes the comparison and decision on how often to pig the lines. Tod asked if the speed of the pig has anything to do with the amount of debris you get off the line? Mike said he is not sure about that. They had one pig, temporarily stuck in there, and they had to go open the valve at Elias, let the water pressure off for a period of 5-10 minutes, then close it, get them to fire the pump back up, and then give it a punch to get it out at the end at the hill. That is when it really starting pushing the debris through the line. Chairman Parry wanted to make sure that the pig would not take any of the pipe away. Mike and Sheila both said it is a foam type pig and could not damage the line. The Board recommended that he do it again in the fall using the same method as this time so that a good comparison could be made on the progress of the pigging operation.

Next, he reported that they are out flushing and have made substantial progress. They are utilizing Tim, the Township Mechanic, since Tom K is out with his broken leg. Mike said so far this year; they show 26,245' of line cleaned out of a total of 179,019 in 4 years. We have 317,000' of line in the system.

Tod asked Mike about the underpass at 25<sup>th</sup> Street. Mike said they are keeping an eye on this and will continue to do so.

With there being no further business for the good of the Authority, the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Tina M. Haser  
Recording Secretary