

COOLBAUGH TOWNSHIP BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES  
June 27, 2019

The meeting was called to order by Chairman William Weimer at 6:30 pm in the meeting room of the Pocono Mountain Public Library, 5500 Municipal Drive, Tobyhanna, PA.

**Board Members present:**

William Weimer, Anthony Lamantia, Lynn Kelly, Alma I. Ruiz-Smith and Clare Colgan

**Board Members absent:**

None

**Staff present:**

Patrick Armstrong, Solicitor, Erin Masker, Township Secretary and Meredith Thompson, Assistant Business Manager

**Staff absent:**

None

**Announcements:**

Mr. Weimer announced the following:

- Public Input will be considered following the Power Point Presentation for non-agenda items. The public will be given an opportunity to speak on each agenda matter.
- The meeting is being recorded to aid in the preparation of the minutes, please remember to state your name and community or city you reside in before speaking.

**1. Waste Water Treatment Plant- Power Point Presentation**

Mr. Weimer reviewed the power point presentation stating that it will answer many questions that were submitted. Mr. Weimer stated that the Board of Supervisors have been discussing the possibility of selling the Wastewater Treatment Plant stating that the Township is not a sewer authority and should not be in charge of the sewer stating that this meeting is to hear public concerns and comments. Mr. Weimer stated that presentations were made to the Board from the Mount Pocono Municipal Waste Authority and PA American Water stating that many of these questions that are being answered stem from those presentations.

- Discussion: B. Henry asked the Board to explain what an EDU is and was advised by Ms. Kelly that it is the way that customers on the current sewer are being billed by the Township stating that an EDU is equal to 252.5 gallons per day. The Township does not bill based on flow stating that PA American would bill customers that are only on the sewer in EDU's (a flat rate) and those that are on the water and sewer would be billed based on the flow at the rates outlined in the presentation. Ms. Ruiz-Smith stated that the plant is driven by the customer base stating that there is room for expansion as more businesses enter into the community stating that it would require revising the ACT 537 plan to make it possible. C. Dunn, APCP Community Manager asked about the outstanding debt from the plant upgrades over the years, being advised that there is currently \$1.2 million in outstanding debt. Ms. Dunn also asked how the sale will benefit those that are not on the sewer as far as the tax dollars that were being used to cover the cost of the plant. Mr. Weimer responded that

those tax dollars would be able to be used on road maintenance, bridge repairs and other projects throughout the Township. C. Dunn asked if all delinquencies are residential properties being advised that they are. C. Nidoh stated that the number of delinquent accounts seems low confirming that there are no accounts listed in the presentation that are less than 90 days delinquent being advised that is correct. C. Nidoh stated that she had requested bench marking from other users stating that only having a comment from APCP is not sufficient. Ms. Kelly stated that there were 2-3 other communities that the Township reached out to that declined to answer. C. Nidoh asked C. Dunn how much the average bills are for residents in her community. C. Dunn stated that the average cost of the monthly bill in APCP for a family of 3 is approximately \$80.00 for both the sewer and water stating that she lives in Bushkill and her bill for water and sewer for a family of five ranges between \$88.00-\$124.00 a month, stating that she has had great response time when there were issues at her home or in the APCP community. C. Nidoh asked if PA American responded about the comment made at their presentation when they stated that there were areas with a B rating being advised that they had not. Ms. Ruiz-Smith stated that this is not going to be a quick process. Solicitor Armstrong stated that we are currently in the due diligence stages and still have a process ahead of us that we must follow which will take some time. Mr. Lamantia stated that the debt for the plant will continue to grow as long as we have the plant. Mr. Weimer stated that the Board of Supervisors is trying to do what is best for the community and residents. C. Dunn asked if the facility is at maximum capacity being advised by Ms. Kelly that it is not, stating that a filter system that was installed will allow for the plant to double in capacity. Mr. Lamantia stated that PA American has an insurance plan for a minimal fee which covers issues from the curb to the inside the house that will benefit the residents. M. Oser stated that it appears from the presentation that the Board has chosen PA American as the purchaser, being advised by Mr. Weimer that the Board has not officially chosen anyone, stating that PA American is his first choice personally. M. Penn, Mount Pocono Mayor, stated that Mount Pocono Municipal Authority is interested in purchasing that system stating that the 104 account holders are who they answer to not a higher power.

## **2. Public Comment**

Nothing was heard

## **3. Other Business**

Nothing was heard

## **4. Adjournment**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Ms. Ruiz-Smith second by Ms. Colgan to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.

NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING: Tuesday, July 2, 2019, at the Coolbaugh Township Municipal Office meeting room.

- Work Session - 6:00 pm
- Business Meeting – 7:00 pm

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Erin Masker, Township Secretary

Witnessed by: \_\_\_\_\_  
William Weimer, Chairman

Date: \_\_\_\_\_