

MINUTES OF PORTER TOWNSHIP SEWER BOARD

May 3, 2011

The Sewer Board Meeting was called to order by Carl Klappauf, Chairman, at 7:00 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Board Members Present: Dave Nagy, Carl Klappauf, Gert Temple, Leard Wylie (township board representative)

Board Members Absent: Denise Lamphier, John Penkala

Others present: None

Approval of Minutes:

Motion by Dave Nagy, seconded by Carl Klappauf to approve 4/5/2011 minutes. Motion passed.

No public comment or questions from the floor.

Reports

Severn Trent:

Carl Klappauf reported on Severn Trent report for March. Sewer plant was functioning properly.

Sewer Plant Expansion/Accepting Septage Haulers:

The Sewer Board members reviewed the third phase proposal from Wightman Petrie (Ken Jones) to certify the sewer plant for accepting domestic septage. A detailed discussion was then held regarding changes each sewer board member would like to implement. The details in the report were then finalized.

Motion by David Nagy, seconded by Carl Klappauf to accept the third phase proposal from Wightman Petrie (Ken Jones), to certify the sewer plant for accepting domestic septage, as amended per the Sewer Board's discussion, and recommend said proposal to the Township Board for action.

Financial Summary:

The 2011 Porter Township Sewer Budget was presented to the Township Board at the April 12, 2011 Township Board meeting.

Old Business:

- VerHamme hook-up: The Township Board passed a motion on 11/9/2010 requiring hook-up to sewer by 5/9/2011. There is no hook-up to date of 4/5/2011. Carl Klappauf to recommend to the Township Board that a letter be sent to the VerHammes requesting the status and their intentions regarding hooking up to the sewer.
 - Township Board did send a letter to the VerHammes requesting the status and their intentions regarding hooking up to the sewer.
 - VerHammes responded to the township with a letter stating their intention to complete their sewer hook-up by the required date.

- VerHammes contractor has pulled a building permit and sewer permit as of 5/3/2011.
- Hettmensperger (previously Mendoza property) was given a “requirement to hook-up to sewer” letter on 4/4/2011. Hook-up to be completed within 180 days from date of letter. Recommend sewer department maintain a progress status on this item.
 - No response from Hettmensperger regarding the township’s hook-up letter as of 5/3/2011.
 - Again we recommend sewer department maintain a progress status on this item.
- Alternate to the sewer board, Robert George, has again not been present at any sewer board meetings. Carl Klappauf will bring this to the township board’s attention.

New Business:

- Leard Wylie reported on a sewage back up into a newly constructed home due to an electrical outage at a nearby Porter Township sewer manhole pump.
 - Home owner wants the Township to be responsible for the damages.
 - Townships insurance carrier was notified and an insurance adjuster met with the home owner.
 - Leard Wylie stated he anticipates the Township will end up in court over this issue.
 - David Nagy verified that the latest Michigan plumbing code book (2009) requires a back flow prevention device in the new home’s plumbing system.
 - Home did not have such a device installed.
 - A plumbing inspection was never requested after hook-up to the Porter Township sewer system.
- Carl Klappauf discussed Welch property on Birch Lake. Two properties were combined under a new property I.D. but an existing garage from the property prior to the combining has water and toilet facilities. Carl will recommend that ½ REU be charged for this accessory building.
- David Nagy reported that the pole barn, known as Indiana Farms with suspected toilet facilities, and home on Indiana Lake (Wayne Street) is not hooked up to the Porter Township Sewer System. The property does have a tap as verified by the “as built” drawings. Need to verify if this property was given any dispensation by previous/prior township/sewer board members and correct this situation as property is on the water.
- David Nagy recommended that the sewer board do a “forensic” audit on the list of properties required to be hooked up to the Porter Township Sewer System vs. the properties that are actually hooked up to the Porter Township Sewer System.

Next Sewer Board meeting to be held on Tuesday, June 7, 2011.

Dave Nagy moved to adjourn. Carl Klappauf seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Nagy-Vice Chairman for Denise Lamphier-Secretary