

**WARWICK TOWNSHIP**  
Board of Supervisors' and Water and Sewer Authority  
Joint Public Meeting Minutes  
**OCTOBER 26, 2009**

Members Present: Judith A. Algeo, Esq., Chair  
John W. Cox, Vice Chairman  
Edward P. Thompson, Member

WTWSA Present: Paul Stavrides, Chairman  
Richard Carlin  
David Bergeron  
Michael Sullivan  
Edward Thompson

Others Present: Gail Weniger, Township Manager  
Bryan McAdam, Township Engineer  
Mary Eberle, Township Solicitor  
Edward Rudolph, Esq, W&S Solicitor  
Kenneth Heydt, W&S Engineer  
Linda Grant, Recording Secretary

■ **CALL TO ORDER:**

The joint public meeting of Warwick Township Board of Supervisors' and Warwick Water and Sewer Authority for October 26, 2009, held at Warwick Township Administration Office, 1733 Township Greene, Jamison, PA., was called to order at 7:05 p.m., by Board of Supervisor Chair, Judith Algeo who then led attendees in the pledge of allegiance.

■ **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Ms. Algeo announced that the Halloween Happening will take place this Thursday, October 29, at 5:30 in Community Park. In the event of rain, the Halloween Happening will take place at Warwick Fire hall.

■ **MANAGER'S REPORT:**

⇒ Bill Payments October 19, 2009 (exhibit)

General Fund		
Check N <sup>o</sup> : 17018 through 17077	\$	146,183.80
Park & Recreation		
Check N <sup>o</sup> : 5269 through 5293	\$	11,609.48
Park & Recreation Capital Projects Fund		
Check N <sup>o</sup> : 1017	\$	268.80

Capital Projects Fund	
Check N <sup>o</sup> 113	\$ 4,809.00
Total -	\$ 162,871.08

**Motion by Mr. Cox to approve the October 19, 2009 Bill Payments, subject to audit.  
Second to motion by Mr. Thompson.**

Chair Algeo invited comment or discussion. There being none, the vote was called.

**Motion passed unanimously.**

⇒ ACT 537 Special Study Discussion:

At this time the Water and Sewer Authority meeting was called to order.

Mike Sullivan, WTWSA, Executive Director, summarized a previous public meeting regarding the ACT 537 Special Study. Mr. Sullivan explained the purpose of the ACT 537 study, noting that this is required by the PA DEP. Mr. Sullivan demonstrated with the actual document, that the act 537, which was done in the late 1990's is the result of a comprehensive Township wide study. The document is duly adopted by the Board of Supervisors. The special study to be presented this evening addresses specific areas within a watershed where public sewer are proposed. These changes would require the Board of Supervisors to amend the Act 537 and authorize a submission to the DEP for the projects to be discussed.

Ken Heydt, WTWSA Engineer, explained several alternatives and costs for public service for the areas of Eddowes Road and Breton Hills using a PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Heydt noted alternatives for each area, as follows:

**Eddowes Road**

- Alternative #1 – Gravity Sewer to Warminster Authority Collection System
- Alternative #2 – Combination Gravity & Low Pressure Sewer to Sweetbriar Drive
- Alternative #3 – Combination Gravity & Low Pressure Sewer to intersection of Stony and Turkey Trot Roads.
- Alternative #4 – Combination Gravity & Low Pressure Sewer to intersection of Stony & Turkey Trot Roads.
- Alternative #5 – Regional Pump Station with Discharge to Heritage Creek Sewer.

**Breton Hills / Stony Road**

- Alternative #1 – Low pressure to Sewer in Stony Road
- Alternative #2 - Breton Hills pump station and force main to gravity sewer in Stony Road
- Alternative #3 - Low pressure Service to Hidden Ponds east pump station

At the end of the PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Heydt invited questions.

➤ Richard of Riclin Homes, asked about the number of parcels included for Breton Hills. Mr. Heydt explained that the number of parcels includes vacant parcels which are not yet developed.

➤ Greg Mester, Fairway Drive, asked about existing sewer capacity, and if there is sufficient capacity at the sewer plant. Mr. Heydt stated that the capacity at Hidden Pond can take the flow.

➤ Richard Hartz, Stony Road, asked what houses on Stony Road are included. Mr. Heydt said that if the Board elects to do so, the houses highlighted would all be included.

Mr. Hartz asked when the ACT 537 study was developed and why the cost is being pushed onto residents. Ms. Algeo said that we are not pushing this study, we have had individuals complain about failing systems and we are seeking input from the public so that we can make the best decision.

Mr. Hartz asked why functioning systems are in the study. Mr. Sullivan said we need to look at the watershed, not just isolated lots.

➤ Bud Herrman, Breton Hills Drive, asked who prepared the ACT 537 plan. Mr. Sullivan said that Warwick prepared the plan, as required by the DEP. Mr. Herrman asked if the estimated \$15,000 to \$18,000, as the cheapest cost, is at today's price. Mr. Herrman states the cost may be higher when it goes out for contract.

Mr. Carlin explained that the Water and Sewer Authority will bear the public cost to put pipes in the ground so that residents can access public water. Ms. Algeo clarified that this cost does not include a tap-in fee. Ms. Algeo notes that she has recently gone through this process and reported that the costs include public line costs, tap in fees, and edu's. Mr. Herrman asked who maintains the grinder pumps. It was noted that would be private cost to the property owner.

Mr. Hartz asked what the time frame is from the study to implementation. Ms. Algeo clarified that the study is done, and now we are discussing what to do. There is no time frame set currently for implementation, we are currently discussing what to do. Mr. Hartz asked if these costs are today's costs. Ms. Algeo said that even if a decision is made today, there are procedures that could take months. Mr. Heydt described the process and timing, noting the need for approvals prior to going for bid and all of this would likely be more than year.

➤ Mark Macanally, 1455 Breton Hill, stated that he has excavating contractors in his family and asked if he can do his own work or will he have to use the same contractor that the Water and Sewer Authority uses. Mary Eberle, Township Solicitor, said the Township cannot make a resident use a specific contractor, but whoever the contractor is, they must be certified and registered.

➤ Ron Martin, Old York Road, asked if there is any chance of getting money from a Federal grant. Mr. Sullivan that one cannot apply for a grant until a project is defined. The concept of "shovel ready" was discussed.

Mr. Martin asked if the EPA can test properties and force property owners to do this. Ms. Eberle noted the Board of Health can force the issue. Mr. Martin said he would prefer to see the failing systems fixed.

Ms. Weniger explained that the project, if done in phases, can provide residents who are in Phase II with an opportunity to plan for the financial costs and make decisions based on future public service.

➤ Mr. Hoffmeister, Old York Road, said he recently had to borrow \$30,000 to fix his system and is now concerned that he will be forced to spend more money. Mr. Hoffmeister also states that he and several of his neighbors are against this.

➤ Ron Tunison, 1665 Meetinghouse Road, spoke of septic system failings and notes that he is now tied to his home because he would not be able to sell it. Mr. Tunison asked if there has been any discussion for stimulus dollars. Mr. Sullivan explained that requirements call for ready-to-go design plans that have been approved.

Mr. Hartz asked why older properties across the road are not included in the plan, that only properties with new systems have been included. Mr. Heydt showed the area included and explained phase I.

➤ Pete Klein, 1350 Eddowes Road, commented that many on Eddowes Road do need this public service and there is no way to repair our systems.

➤ Mr. Pescatore, Breton Hills Drive, is asking how the cost is assessed and how much time residents will have before tap-in is required.

Mr. Rudolph states the Water and Sewer Authority will not ask for anything from property owners until six months from completion of the project. Ms. Algeo asked if the estimated costs in the presentation include tap-in fees. Mr. Rudolph states only project fees are included.

Ms. Eberle explained that this is mandatory by ordinance of the Township, not by the Water and Sewer Authority. Ms. Eberle further stated that the Authority can charge sewer rentals if someone did not connect.

➤ Megan Taylor, Eddowes Road, said she has been waiting seven years and wants to know how much longer until we can try to get state funding. Ms. Taylor is anxious for the project to move on.

Ms. Algeo believes we still have work to do before we make a decision.

Mr. Cox asked if it makes sense that there would be an opportunity for a grant if the project was ready soon. Mr. Sullivan believes there is not a great chance. Mr. Heydt reported that submissions from last February have still not awarded grants, but it is possible we could get in the second wave of stimulus grants.

➤ Dave Mullen, Old York Road, he was one of those who pushed for the line in Eddowes Road when it was being widened and thought that within two years, he would have had a connection. Mr. Mullen simply wanted a line down Eddowes to be connected to Warminster. Mr. Mullen does not understand why individuals with working systems should have to hook up and suggested that service phase I should include those who need service and let people with working systems go for a while. Mr. Mullen also points out that at some time, if one wants to sell their home, the septic system could cause a problem.

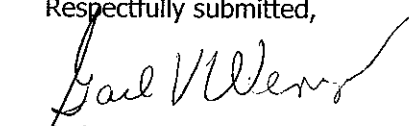
Mr. Thompson agreed that originally, the issue was just for nine homes, but with 47% of systems failing, the DEP and Board of Health could come back and require all in the watershed to hook up, and this is not within the control of the Board of Supervisors or the Water and Sewer Authority.

■ **ADJOURNMENT:**

The October 26, 2009, Warwick Township Board of Supervisors' and Water and Sewer Authority joint public meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

October 26, 2009 Joint meeting  
Board of Supervisors and Water and Sewer Authority  
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Respectfully submitted,



Gail V. Weniger,  
Township Manager/Secretary

These minutes were approved at the  
Board of Supervisors' meeting held: **November 2, 2009**

