SOUTH FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

Sewage Management Ordinance Hearing Meeting Minutes South Franklin Township Municipal Building March 30, 2016

Supervisors: Chair Kellie Orlosky, Vice-Chair William Cline and Mark Knestrick.

Solicitor: Jim Jeffries

Township Manager: Tyler Linck

Visitors present: Dempsey Moore, Leo Hughes, Rebecca Waters, Lawrence Scott, Robert Waters, Marc Simon, Robert Neilson, Dennis Vasquez, Nancy Haines, Jess Sumney, Bruce Livingood, Steve Halligan, Sharon Maloy, Jim Maloy, Ernest McCullough and Jim Zanardelli

Chair Orlosky called the hearing to order at 5:30pm. Chair Orlosky turned the hearing over to Solicitor Jim Jeffries. Solicitor Jeffries marked Exhibit A as the legal notice sent to the Observer-Reporter to be placed in the paper for public notice. Exhibit B was then marked as the actual notice from the newspaper. Next, Solicitor Jeffries opened the hearing up for public comment.

Dennis Vasquez asked if public sewage would ever reach Vaneal Road. Chair Orlosky stated the Township is still working on the logistics of a public sewage project but this meeting was not to discuss that matter.

Rebecca Waters asked where sewage would be located. Chair Orlosky and Solicitor Jeffries reiterated the purpose of this hearing and for which ordinance was being discussed and cited Section I C of the ordinance for clarification.

Sharon Maloy asked if this ordinance impacts all existing sewage systems. The answer was yes. She also asked for clarification about Section VIII G. Solicitor Jeffries replied that the Washington County Sewage Council oversees the enforcement of sewage in the Township and that the Township would base its decisions on the recommendations of the Council in a reasonable manner.

Nancy Haines brought up a situation on her probably about pipes flowing in the creek by her house but has received letters from DEP saying it is not sewage.

Robert Neilson accused the Township Supervisors of passing the buck on the sewage issue onto the responsibility of each resident. He was quickly refuted by Solicitor Jeffries, Chair Orlosky and Vice Chair Cline. All three made statements backing the fact that the Township has been diligently working on a public sewage plan for the Township. Mr. Neilson apologized for now knowing all the facts.

Jess Sumney backed the facts of the Supervisors stating that the Township has been working on a public sewage plan.

Vice Chair Cline emphasized the Township's trials with trying to develop and adopt an Act 537 plan. The Supervisors have not given up and are still moving forward to get something accomplished.

Jess Sumney reiterated that not all malfunctions are in need of a complete system overhaul. Repairs are allowed to be completed to a malfunctioning system.

Chair Orlosky explained further about the Township's past process and that this proposed ordinance is mandated by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as part of an approved Act 537 Plan. The Township has no real choice in the matter. It needs to be adopted to move forward.

Marc Simon commended the Board of Supervisors and Township Manager for a job well done in their continued efforts in improving the Township. Mr. Simon also had a question about the existence of cellar drains not being allowed in the ordinance. It was clarified that cellar drains are allowed, they are just not allowed to be tied into the sewage system of a property.

Chair Orlosky adjourned the hearing at 6:05 pm and noted that the Board of Supervisors thanks all of those in attendance and their comments are greatly appreciated and will be taken into consideration for the adoption of this ordinance.

Respectfully submitted,

Tyler Linck