

**APPROVED MAY 24, 2007**



**THORNBURY TOWNSHIP**  
**DELAWARE COUNTY**  
**Sewer Committee**  
6 Township Drive  
Cheyney, PA 19319-1020  
[www.thornbury.org](http://www.thornbury.org)

Brian MacEwen, Chairman  
George Morley, Vice-Chairman

Jack Howley  
James Kelly  
Susan Ricciuti

**MINUTES**  
**Thornbury Township Sewer Committee Meeting**  
**Thursday, April 26, 2007**

The Thornbury Township Sewer Committee held a public meeting on Thursday, April 26, 2007 at the Township Administration Building, 6 Township Drive, Cheyney, Pennsylvania. Chairman MacEwen called the meeting to order.

**PRESENT:** Brian MacEwen James Kelly  
George Morley Susan Ricciuti  
Jack Howley

**ABSENT:**

**MEMBERS OF PUBLIC:** 10

**AGENDA**

- Public Comment
- Approval of Minutes – March 22, 2006
- Sewer Districts
  - Brinton Lea Sewer District Update
- Old Business/New Business
  - Springwater Subdivision HOA
  - 253 Old Gradyville Road
  - Andover Agreement
  - Wawa Status
- Next Meeting
  - May 24, 2007
- Adjournment

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Vice Chairman Morley asked for public comment on issues not on tonight's Agenda. There was no public comment.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

On a motion by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Howley, all members present voted “aye” to approve the minutes from the March 22, 2006 meeting, as corrected. Mr. MacEwen then arrived at 7:20.

## **SEWER DISTRICTS**

Mr. Lloyd Noll distributed information showing the division of the East and West side of the Township and Sub-districts within the township. Discussed was the inclusion of sub-districts within each Sewer District to delineate areas subject to different reimbursements, the old and new 537 plans, the new plan facilitating service within the Township, dividing lines of each district/sub-district, the location of treatment plants and the areas serviced/to be serviced by the treatment plants, the possibility of running gravity down Stony Bank Road and then pumping up to the Concord Chase system, reimbursement areas for Cherry Creek, Judith Lane, Brinton Lee, Blantyre, Brinton Lake (18 Aberlee low-pressure system), the status of the Brinton Lee module (submitted to DEP), the status of the draft Ordinance before the Board of Supervisors to establish the Brinton Lea Sewer District (submitted to Bob Anderman), the inclusion of residents in each sewer district regardless of whether they hook up or not, the Concept Plan, cost details, developer agreements, adding areas to the reimbursement areas shown on the map, and details of reimbursement to developer.

Mrs. Susan Ricciuti, 6 Woodridge Road, requested that a hybrid system in the Brinton Lea Sewer District be explored based on the geography of the two streets adjoining the 14 Woodridge Road property. It was noted that homes in this area could be serviced by a gravity line in lieu of a grinder pump, resulting in less use of electricity. The possibility of a hybrid system was then discussed and it was determined that a request would be made for Pennoni to provide a cost estimate for the affected residents.

Mr. Howard Nickle, 22 Woodridge Road, asked for and was given information regarding the timeline for the Brinton Lea Sewer District. It was noted that the earliest date for installation of the sewer line would be Spring, 2008. Mr. Jeff Ruane, 11 Springwater Lane, asked if Wawa was involved in the Brinton Lake Sewer District. Mr. Bart Bastion, 4 Springwater Lane, asked about the motivation for the creation of the Brinton Lea Sewer District. Chairman MacEwen stated that the motivation was to equalize cost among homeowners. Mr. Bastion asked why the infrastructure was being installed in that area. Chairman MacEwen and Mr. Kelly replied that the sewers being installed as part of an adjacent new development (Mill Creek) provided the opportunity to resolve long-standing concerns over on-lot systems in the Brinton Lea area.

## **OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS**

### **Springwater Subdivision Homeowners Association**

Residents from the Springwater Subdivision detailed information regarding problems that had arisen due to the need to use their second drainage field. It was noted that the Township Sewage Enforcement Officer had rejected the original alternate plan due to changes to state guidelines from when the system was originally installed, and that they had met with the Township Manager regarding the situation. Included in the ensuing discussion was the possibility of combining the current drainage field with the second field to expand the existing field, the size of the property, testing, the changes to the DEP flow rates for single family homes since the development was built, whether or not the lots within the development will perc (some will not), the choices available to the residents (public sewer or community system), the need to acquire additional space or tie into public sewer, the possibility of a drip field, the Township's plans (the current 537 plan shows on-site sewers in that area), the lack of open space in the area, a design consultation with a local company, and easements.

Potential options were discussed including a connection to the possible Fulford line, stream discharge, a sand mound on an alternate site, and on-site systems for houses that have perced. Mr. Rick Bayard, 12 Springwater Lane, stated that the tanks are pumped yearly, and that each house has two tanks plus there are an additional two tanks for the neighborhood. Mr. Bayard noted that the current drainage field is getting saturated. Mr. Kelly stated that he will look into options for Springwater and will talk to the Sewage Enforcement Officer and the Township Manager to come up with a solution. Mr. Keith Leonard, 15 Springwater Lane, asked if there was a possibility of a grant from DEP and was told that grants are very difficult to acquire in this part of the State.

### **253 Old Gradyville Road**

It was noted that the Planning Modules for 253 Old Gradyville Road are currently being reviewed by Mr. Kelly, and that he will be preparing a letter to the Board of Supervisors upon completion.

### **Andover Agreement**

Comments received from Mr. Morley were discussed, including a standard agreement between township residents and the Township as opposed to an agreement between Homeowners Associations and the Township, and keeping the body of resident agreements identical to Homeowners Association agreements. It was determined that Mr. Anderman will be consulted to

determine whether the agreement should be with each resident or with Homeowners Associations.

**Wawa Status - Judith Line Extension**

Mr. Noll stated that the manholes are on-site, the trees have been cleared, and installation will start Monday, April 30<sup>th</sup> (due to predicted rain on Friday).

Mr. Howley asked about some specifics regarding the Wawa line. The ensuing discussion included easements, the direction of the line, setting up the Thornhill sewer district, and requesting authorization for Pennoni to provide a design package.

**On a motion by Vice Chairman Morley, seconded by Mr. Kelly, all members voted "aye" to recommend authorization of Pennoni Engineers to conduct a preliminary design study for the Thornhill Sewer District.**

**Fox Lair**

Mr. Dan Filetti, 31 Fox Lair and Ms. Wendy Lamarre, Highpoint Lane, reviewed information regarding a connection from the Cherry Creek Line that was installed to tie in both of their properties. Some of the issues with the tie-in include both properties hooking into one lateral - which is not an allowable option, running another lateral through a flood plain, and the requirement of a larger sewer main to allow both properties to tie in. The ensuing discussion included the easement granted when the line was first installed, properties interested in tying in, potential easements for installation of the line, dedicating the line vs. a private line, the need for low gravity for some of the properties in the area, the need for a dedicated 8" sewer main, documentation possessed by Ms. Lamarre approving the 6" lateral, and the reasons for the installation of the 6" line as opposed to an 8" line. Possible solutions included a separate line for Mr. Filetti's property, four 6" lines to be run through the wetlands, a manhole and one 8" line, and the Township's financial commitment. Mr. Andy Nick, 35 Fox Lair, asked if a 6" line with a grinder pump would be able to service more than one house. Mr. Kelly replied in the affirmative and further stated that gravity requires at least an 8" line. Mr. Filetti asked if a sewer main could handle both gravity and grinder pump and was answered affirmatively. Chairman MacEwen stated that the Sewer Committee will review the options and present a recommendation to the interested parties and the Supervisors. Mrs. Ricciuti reviewed information regarding how infrastructure costs were being handled in the Brinton Lea Sewer District. Gravity vs. low pressure system for the Fox Lair area was then discussed.

Mrs. Deborah Weischedel, 4 Judith Lane, stated that her current sewer is failing and that she is having it pumped out every two months. Her concern was whether she should wait to tie in to public sewer or put in a new system. Mr. Kelly informed Mrs. Weischedel that they will have information at the next meeting which will determine when she might be able to tie in when the proposed Wawa line is constructed.

A document prepared and distributed by Mr. Howley to some residents in the Thornhill Sewer District was discussed. Chairman MacEwen stated that the Sewer Committee had not reviewed or approved the document distributed by Mr. Howley. Mr. Howley disagreed with the Committee's comments.

**ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Vice Chairman Morley, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Howat  
Sewer Committee Secretary

cc: Sewer Committee Members  
Board of Supervisors  
James McCann, PE, Township Sewer Engineer  
Jeffrey Seagraves, Township Manager  
Elizabeth Geoghegan, Subdivision Coordinator  
Ted McCandless, Code Administrator  
Lloyd Noll, Township Sewer Engineer  
Robert P. Anderman, Esq.  
Deborah E. Perry, Township Administrator