

Linda S. Siegle
193 Orchard Drive
Hanover, PA 17331

August 31, 2015

VIA U.S. FIRST CLASS MAIL AND
EMAIL: office@berwicktp.org
Berwick Township Supervisors
85 Municipal Road
Hanover, PA 17331

Re: New Oxford Municipal Authority

Dear Berwick Township Supervisors:

On July 13, 2015, I attended the Board of Supervisors' Meeting, which meeting agenda included correspondence from the New Oxford Municipal Authority (NOMA). Although listed first on the Correspondence section of the agenda, Supervisor Foltz first addressed the Hamilton Township residents attending the meeting. Throughout the meeting, the content of the correspondence from NOMA was never fully explained. Two times during this meeting Supervisor Foltz made the emphatic comment, "Berwick Township sewer system is not for sale, and will never be for sale," which statement I found odd, given the reason that the Hamilton Township residents were in attendance. Supervisor Danner affirmed Supervisor Foltz's statements about the sewer system.

In the Public Comment (General) section of the meeting I asked about the content of the NOMA letter. I was informed by Supervisor Foltz, which Supervisor Danner affirmed, that the content only involved Berwick Township granting its approval for NOMA to discuss with Hamilton Township the potential purchase or operation of its sanitary system. However, upon obtaining a copy of the NOMA correspondence referred to on the meeting agenda, the letter also states that "As an alternative to the purchase of the Hamilton Township collection system, NOMA would consider the purchase of the entire sanitary sewer system which would include the Hamilton Township collection system, Berwick Township collection system and the wastewater treatment plant." The NOMA correspondence further states that NOMA has been "extremely successful in operating its own wastewater treatment plant in a cost efficient manner. Our tentative review of your operating expenses and budget would lead us to believe that there are operation efficiencies that could be implemented with NOMA operating the Berwick and NOMA sewer systems." The NOMA correspondence sheds light on Supervisor Foltz's odd comments.

As a result of obtaining the NOMA correspondence, I find that Mr. Foltz's comments about the Berwick sanitary sewer system were self-serving and a severe conflict of interest, as not only is he a supervisor, but the Berwick Township employee who is in charge of the operation of the sewer system. As Mr. Foltz's comments were affirmed by Mr. Danner, I question Mr. Danner's motives. So, for whose interests are the Berwick Township Supervisors looking out, Mr. Foltz's or the residents of Berwick Township?

Overall, I found Supervisors Foltz's and Danner's statements as not being in the best interest of the Berwick Township residents, as they gave no basis for their statements. The Supervisors have repeatedly stated "we're for the people," "we haven't raised taxes in years."

On August 27, 2015, I attended the special meeting held by the Berwick Township Supervisors whereby NOMA representatives Tom Beamer, Facilities Manager, and Steve Hovis, Solicitor, discussed the content of NOMA's letter dated June 16, 2015. While most of the discussion focused on the purchase of Hamilton Township's collection system, on several occasions Atty. Hovis mentioned NOMA purchasing Berwick Township's collection system and wastewater treatment plant. Not once did any Supervisor reply to Atty. Hovis's proposal or delve into questions exploring the possibility of the purchase of Berwick's collection system and waste water treatment plant. In fact, all responses and questions from Berwick Township Supervisors related to the purchase of Hamilton Township's system.

The discovery of the full and true content of the NOMA correspondence, along with the Supervisors' comments on July 13, 2015, and the discussion, or lack thereof, at the August 27, 2015, leads me to ask the following questions, to which, as a resident of Berwick Township, I expect and would appreciate truthful answers.

1. Why didn't any Supervisor speak up and state the entire content of the NOMA letter when questioned on July 13, 2015?
2. As a result of the NOMA letter, did the Supervisors discuss NOMA purchasing the Berwick Township collection system and waste water treatment plant? If yes, what was the outcome of the decision and when was it made? If no, why not?
3. Have the Supervisors conducted a cost/benefit analysis of NOMA purchasing the system and treatment plant? If yes, what was the outcome? If no, why not?
4. At the August 27, 2015, meeting why didn't any Supervisor reply to or ask questions of Atty. Hovis when he proposed the purchase of Berwick Township's collection system and wastewater treatment plant?

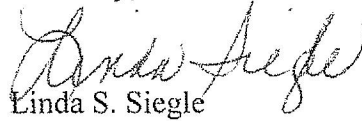
Based on the information presented by the NOMA representations, merging of the Berwick Township Collection system and waste water treatment plant with NOMA may save Berwick Township residents substantial money in sewer system costs.

Therefore, in continuing to represent the best interests of Berwick Township residents, the Supervisors have a fiduciary duty to the residents to conduct a thorough investigation as to whether

merging the Berwick Township sanitary sewer system with NOMA is more economically feasible for the residents and in their best interests, and to fully disclose the report to the residents.

Further, I want to comment on the rude and disrespectful dismissal of the NOMA representatives by Supervisor Bob Foltz. At the conclusion of the NOMA representatives' presentation and ensuing questions, Mr. Foltz, turned to the Secretary Jean Hawbaker and asked her to get a package from another room. He then turned to the NOMA representatives and stated "we're finished with you." A professional would have stated, something to the effect that "If there are no other comments, we are concluding this part of the meeting and will take your proposals under consideration, and reply to you in a timely manner." I must say, the way I have seen different visitors treated during the many Supervisors' meetings I have attended is embarrassing and appalling. The Supervisors of Berwick Township are an embarrassment to the Berwick Township residents, who deserve professional representation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Linda S. Siegle".

Linda S. Siegle