

MINUTES
HEALTH & SANITATION COMMITTEE
MARCH 5, 2024

The Penn Township Health and Sanitation Committee convened on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at 7:31 p.m., following the Finance Committee Meeting. Present were Chairman Berlingo, Commissioners Baile, Brown, Elksnis and Heiland. Also present were Township Manager Ledley, and WWTP Superintendent Lank. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were none.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the February 6, 2024, Health and Sanitation Committee Meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: There were none.

OAK HILL HERSHEY HEIGHTS PROJECT: WWTP Superintendent Lank provided an update on the progress of the project. Four additional residents have connected, seven are scheduled to connect, and seven are pursuing financing. There are two residents who have not communicated at all; however, overall, we have responses to all the last letters sent out. We are still awaiting some final documentation and one warranty repair to be completed on a generator.

JANET STREET AND BREEZEWOOD DRIVE SEWER PROJECTS: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported that once the sewer crew has completed the lateral for Wawa, they are moving to Janet Street to complete the demolition. We are still revisiting plans for the bypass pumping and installation of the work at the Breezewood site, but it should be completed soon.

SHREDDING EVENT: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported that the Shredding Event is also a food drive for New Hope Ministries. The event is scheduled for Saturday, April 20th, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

TRASH BAG BID UPDATE: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported that documentation is being processed. We should have the performance bond from XL Plastics by the end of the week, and then we can proceed with placing an order.

NEWSLETTER: WWTP Superintendent Lank provided an update stating that the first batch of 500 newsletters was distributed very quickly, and he immediately ordered an additional 500, which were delivered the same day as ordered. Commissioner Elksnis had contacted several grocery and convenience stores, so the timing was perfect for the additional delivery. Kim Woltman had already contacted several places and provided the PDF version, and, of course, it was posted in our usual places (Township sign, Facebook, website, etc.). So far, we haven't needed any additional copies, and the recycling center employees are handing them out if asked.

OTHER MATTERS: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported that after the delivery of our centrifuge scroll to the repair facility on February 23rd, they determined that two parts are worn out to

the point that they need to be replaced. The parts are being manufactured and should be completed this week, for a cost of \$12,000. There is a technician scheduled for the week of the 18th to reassemble the machine and to complete the service with all the new bearings and seals. Our staff has been working diligently to make other repairs and modifications to the auxiliary equipment in the centrifuge building while it's out of service.

Superintendent Lank reported that we have been experiencing issues with our mechanical fine screens, as previously mentioned. We were finally able to obtain a quote to retrofit them to a different style of screen, which would resolve our issues and allow for a higher flow through the screens during high flow events. The company originally proposed shipping the screens to Florida but has agreed to send parts and a technician to complete the job onsite. The total cost for both is \$167,214. He is awaiting confirmation if this can be split into two payments.

He would like to attempt to complete at least one retrofit this year, although it is not currently budgeted for. However, there is some money available in the capital expenditure funds. With a lead time of 4 to 5 months, he proposes waiting to execute the task closer to the end of the year in case funds are needed for an emergency. This issue has persisted for over three years, and while we could wait for budgeted funds, the process is suffering due to the additional manual removal of rags and the potential for pump and centrifuge clogging. This also creates a safety concern with all the manual cleaning, which includes having to empty the tanks more often for the staff to enter and remove accumulated debris.

CITIZEN'S QUESTIONS TO THE COMMITTEE REGARDING DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Mr. Jack Corriere of 114 Oak Hill Drive addressed the Committee regarding the Oak Hill/Hershey Heights sewer installation project. He asked if the Township remains on target for the paving of the area. Superintendent Lank stated it is on the agenda for this year, they would like to hold off until most residents have connected. Mr. Corriere added that he has heard from other WWTP employees, and he feels the same that WWTP Superintendent Lank has done a superior job.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Sweeney
Township Secretary