

MINUTES
HEALTH & SANITATION COMMITTEE
MAY 7, 2024

The Penn Township Health and Sanitation Committee convened on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, at 7:46 p.m., following the Finance Committee Meeting. Present were Chairman Berlingo, Commissioners Baile, Brown, Elksnis and Heiland. Also present were WWTP Superintendent Lank, and Township Secretary Sweeney. Township Manager Ledley was absent with notice. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were none.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the April 2, 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 project's progress. Since the last meeting, nine additional properties have been connected, and one more is scheduled for next week. There are eight properties left to be connected, five of which are still working on their financing. Two property owners have not made contact with us, so he suggested moving forward with accessing fines if the Committee agrees. Several residents have paid their tapping fee or signed an agreement for a payment plan. Seven residents still have not paid or made an agreement for the special purpose tap fee but have paid the regular tapping fee. Three residents have done nothing toward either tap fee; the last letter sent out had an April 26th deadline. Joao & Bradley is supposed to finish up their punch list this week, and we are trying to schedule another walk-through with the county to close out the project.

JANET STREET AND BREEZEWOOD DRIVE SEWER PROJECTS: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported that the property from the Janet Street pump station is being transferred to the neighboring property, as per a previous easement agreement. The property for the Breezewood site still needs to be addressed, and the neighbor has already expressed interest at a meeting several months ago.

902 GRANT APPLICATION: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported that the grant application will be submitted this week, requesting 90% of the cost for a new chipper, partial costs for newsletter printing, recycling bins, and the solicitor's fees to update recycling ordinances. He completed the seventeen-plus page pre-application and met with the DEP via a Zoom meeting to discuss the need for more information and guidance on the narrative. We should hear by late August if we are selected to receive grant funds.

SHREDDING EVENT: WWTP Superintendent Lank thanked everyone who participated, as there were 230 vehicles for shredding and 411 vehicles for recycling. Approximately 10,000 pounds of paper were shredded, and 780 pounds of food were collected for New Hope Ministries. The next event has been scheduled for October 12, 2024.

NEWSLETTER: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported that an additional printing of 500 newsletters was required last week as residents were stopping to pay their sewer bills and receiving a newsletter. That brings the total number to 2000 printed for a total cost of \$1,640.00, of which he is seeking (902) grant funds to cover 40% of the printing cost for two years.

FINE SCREEN PROJECT: WWTP Superintendent Lank expressed his gratitude to the Committee for their support and approving the transfer of funds to get this project started. He completed the purchase order and contacted the manufacturer to start the project the day after the last Board of Commissioner meeting.

REFUSE AND RECYCLING CONTRACT: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported that the Township is currently in a three-year contract ending on December 31, 2025, with two single-year extensions available. The recent trash bag order is sufficient to last until the end of 2025. He contacted Penn Waste, which is prepared to fulfill the full contract requirements, including the two-year extension. Penn Waste is willing to attend our next meeting to discuss the program, noting their shift towards an automated system due to labor, insurance, and truck issues. They can offer two separate cart sizes for cost considerations and could use smaller recycling carts to prevent items that should go to the recycling center.

The Committee expressed concerns about how moving towards a toter system would impact funding for programs currently supported by the cost of the bags, such as brush and leaf collection, shredding events, and the recycling center. The Committee agreed that it would be beneficial for the Penn Waste representative to attend the next meeting and decided to start the June 4 meeting at 6 p.m., beginning with Health and Sanitation, followed by the Finance Committee meeting.

OTHER MATTERS: There were none.

CITIZEN'S QUESTIONS TO THE COMMITTEE REGARDING DISCUSSION ITEMS: Mr. William Bowman had a question by proxy for Jack Corriere. Township Secretary Sweeney will look into the matter.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Sweeney
Township Secretary