

MINUTES  
HEALTH & SANITATION COMMITTEE  
JULY 2, 2024

The Penn Township Health and Sanitation Committee convened on Tuesday, July 2, 2024, at 7:40 p.m. Present were Chairman Berlingo, Commissioners Baile, Brown, Elksnis and Heiland. Also present were WWTP Superintendent Lank, and Township Secretary Sweeney. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were none.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the June 4, 2024, Health and Sanitation Committee Meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: There were none.

REFUSE AND RECYCLE CONTRACT FUTURE: WWTP Superintendent Lank sought guidance from the Committee following last month's discussions with Penn Waste. He proposed inviting a competitor to a future meeting. The Committee agreed to extend an invitation to the October Committee meeting. Updates and additional invitations will be coordinated via email by Superintendent Lank.

TRASH BAGS: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported ongoing issues with Walmart concerning their recognition as a vendor. The local store has been assisting in navigating the corporate website for onboarding. A UPC number has been obtained, and the process is still ongoing, though it has been slow.

Additionally, there were administrative issues with overdue invoices at both Giant Stores. He met with the manager of the Baltimore Street location and explained that Accounts Receivable had identified two deliveries not entered into their system. These deliveries have now been entered, and a receipt was obtained.

Lastly, the Penn Waste letter regarding some alleys pickup location change has been sent, with the pickups scheduled to start next week.

OAK HILL HERSHEY HEIGHTS PROJECT: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported no updates on connections, financing, or responses from the solicitor. The special purpose tapping fee billing has been included with this quarter's sewer billing. Any individual who owes the special fee and did not sign an agreement is being invoiced for the full amount.

BREEZEWOOD DRIVE SEWER PROJECTS: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported the solicitor is reviewing documentation for a pending agreement for the Breezewood Drive property.

FINE SCREEN PROJECT: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported that he has reviewed the submittals for the new screens with the manufacturer's engineers. The project has moved to the production phase, but a completion date has not yet been established.

ORDINANCES 815 AND 434 UPDATES: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported that two ordinances need to be updated to comply with DEP requirements for qualifying for a 902 Grant. The ordinances in question are the recycling ordinance and the open burning ordinance. These updates must be completed before the 902 Grants can be awarded. He has already submitted the grant application.

SIGNS FOR PLANT AND PUMP STATIONS: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported that signs have been ordered for each building in the plant and for each pump station as part of our ongoing safety and security updates, which were partially prompted by a security assessment conducted last year. Upon completion, we plan to invite the police and fire departments to conduct a walkthrough and provide them with a facility map. Currently, we are coordinating with Zoning Officer Smith to assign addresses to a few pump stations.

SCADA REPLACEMENT UPDATE: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported the SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system was commissioned on June 20th, and we are in the final stages of completing a few remaining items. It is currently functioning effectively.

OTHER MATTERS: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported receiving an email from Eric Mains of the Borough of Hanover regarding updating the 1988 agreement on sewer allocations and charges. A meeting has been scheduled for July 30th at 10:30 a.m. Commissioners Berlingo and Bale have volunteered to attend, alongside WWTP Superintendent Lank, WWTP Assistant Superintendent Kline, Police Chief Hettinger, Engineer Bortner, and efforts are underway to confirm Attorney Hovis' participation.

Secondly, he reported concerns were raised about potential regulatory changes requiring testing for PFAS and microplastics in sewer operations. It was noted that EPA mandates may necessitate testing influent, effluent, and sludge over a period of four to five years, impacting operational costs and procedures. The specifics of testing costs and laboratory capabilities are being investigated further, with updates to follow via email.

CITIZEN'S QUESTIONS TO THE COMMITTEE REGARDING DISCUSSION ITEMS: Mr. Jack Corriere, 114 Oak Hill Drive, requested an update on paving in areas where the Oak Hill/Hershey Heights sewer installations have occurred. It was clarified that paving was originally scheduled for fall to avoid summer disruptions and ensure all connections were completed. Concerns were raised about residents not yet connected and potential delays. It was noted that some residents are pursuing county financing, with a timeline possibly extending two more months.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Sweeney  
Township Secretary