

MINUTES  
HEALTH & SANITATION COMMITTEE  
AUGUST 5, 2024

The Penn Township Health and Sanitation Committee convened on Monday, August 5, 2024, at 6:41 p.m., following the Finance Committee Meeting. Present were Chairman Berlingo, Commissioners Baile, Brown, Elksnis and Heiland. Also present were Police Chief Hettinger, Fire Chief Clouser, Township Engineer Bortner, Zoning Officer Smith, WWTP Superintendent Lank, and Township Secretary Sweeney. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were none.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the July 2, 2024, Health and Sanitation Committee Meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: There were none.

REFUSE AND RECYCLE CONTRACT FUTURE: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported a representative from Republic Services is scheduled to give a presentation at our October committee meeting. He requested to begin the meeting at 6 p.m., the Committee agreed. Additionally, he will continue to explore other available options from service providers.

OAK HILL HERSHEY HEIGHTS PROJECT: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported there have been no new connections recently, but four residents have qualified for county grants. The county covers the cost of hiring the plumber for the connections but does not cover any additional fees. One of the residents, who had previously been unresponsive, has now signed the tapping fee agreement and is preparing to schedule the connection. Currently, we still have seven residents who have not yet connected.

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 the manufacturer has informed him that they expect to receive the remaining materials by the end of this month and estimate that the screens will be completed within two weeks thereafter. Once the screens are finished, he will begin coordinating the shipping and installation schedule.

GRANDVIEW ACRES PROJECT: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported the Grandview Acres project is set to begin. He is currently collaborating with the solicitor to prepare a bid for manholes, as the total cost exceeds the bidding threshold. Typically, they purchase one or two manholes at a time to stay under the threshold, but for this project, ten manholes are needed. The cost per manhole ranges from \$8,000 to \$12,000, depending on height variations.

OTHER MATTERS: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported he along with a delegation from Penn Township, including Commissioner Baile, Police Chief Hettinger, Engineer Bortner, Attorney Hovis, and Assistant Superintendent Kline attended a meeting on July 30<sup>th</sup> at the Borough of Hanover. The meeting involved representatives from surrounding Municipalities and other

attorneys and focused on discussing the flow exchange agreement and formalizing a water shutoff agreement.

The majority of the discussion centered on current conditions and gathering input on future considerations. This meeting was primarily a starting point for opening communication between all parties involved. A draft for the water shutoff agreement will be circulated soon, which appears to be a simpler task compared to finalizing the flow exchange agreement. Currently, we have a list of bullet points to review. Overall, the meeting was productive.

WWTP Superintendent Lank also reported that On Wednesday, July 31st, they underwent an unannounced DEP inspection of the biosolids program. The inspection included a review of records and lab testing equipment, a tour of the plant, and an examination of biosolids processing equipment and storage. The inspection went very well; the inspector praised the plant's appearance and expressed satisfaction with the condition of the processing program. Kudos to the team for their excellent work.

Additionally, over the past few weeks, we have had our clarifiers out of service, one at a time, for intensive cleaning and mechanical upgrades. They replaced deteriorating aluminum parts of the skimmer mechanism with stainless steel to enhance durability and extend the system's lifespan. All counterweight cables, rollers, and floats were also replaced or upgraded. The floats received a UV-blocking coating for better protection and longevity. These clarifiers are original to the plant, so efforts in performing this maintenance are aimed at maximizing their service life. Overall, they are making significant progress in catching up on necessary maintenance.

CITIZEN'S QUESTIONS TO THE COMMITTEE REGARDING DISCUSSION ITEMS:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Sweeney  
Township Secretary