

MINUTES
HEALTH & SANITATION COMMITTEE
November 5, 2024

The Penn Township Health and Sanitation Committee convened on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, at 7:15 p.m. Present were Chairman Fanelli, Commissioners Baile, Brown, Elksnis and Heiland. Also present were WWTP Superintendent Lank, Assistant WWTP Superintendent Kline, Township Manager Sweeney, and Assistant Township Manager Klinefelter. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were none.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the October 1, 2024, Health and Sanitation Committee Meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: There were none.

REFUSE AND RECYCLE CONTRACT FUTURE: WWTP Superintendent Lank discussed the current trash contract is set to expire at the end of 2025. The commissioners need to decide if they are going to put it out for bid or to extend the current contract for another year. Commissioner Heiland suggested setting a deadline that the Commissioners need to decide by. Superintendent Lank is going to work on the bid specs for the next meeting. The commissioners discussed the pay as you throw program versus the tote program. Commissioner Heiland discussed having two tote sizes for the residents. WWTP Superintendent Lank said he will do some research to see how other Municipalities handled going away from the pay as you throw program to totes, and how they shared the change with their residents. The Commissioners talked about the option of temporarily turning service off for residents who go South for the winter months. Commissioners said they can review the draft bid at the next meeting.

OAK HILL HERSHEY HEIGHTS PROJECT: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported there are three properties that still need to be connected, and the township is working with the solicitor.

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 the second screen was installed the prior week, and they are already seeing an improvement at the plant. Superintendent Lank said as they clean and maintain tanks, the more improvement to the system they will see.

GRANDVIEW ACRES PROJECT: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported the project is 35% complete. They are waiting for some items that are back ordered.

SHREDDING EVENT: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported the event that was held Saturday, October 12th was a success. They collected 3 ½ tons of paper. They are looking to have the next event, potentially on April 26, 2025. In conjunction with the event, they would also have the food drive with New Hope Ministries.

2025 BUDGET: Commissioner Heiland went through an overview of the draft budget with WWTP Superintendent Lank. Township Manager Sweeney will be updating the insurance numbers on the budget. Vehicle expenses for Recycle were over budget due to the MAC truck breaking down and needing maintenance. It was also explained that the maintenance budget for some of the vehicles has increased due to upcoming maintenance that may be needed. The commissioners discussed the budget for the trash bags and if it needed to be in the budget. Superintendent Lank discussed items that are split between Public Works and WWTP. The need for a generator at the Colonial pump station in case of electrical issues was reviewed. It is proposed in the budget to replace the current fencing at the wastewater plant as it is old and weakening in spots. Superintendent Lank discussed with the Commissioners increasing the base sewer bill rate in the future. Commissioner Heiland said this topic should be a separate agenda item in the future.

OTHER MATTERS: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported that he and Assistant WWTP Superintendent Kline are working with GHD on the response to DEP for our draft NPDES permit.

CITIZEN'S QUESTIONS TO THE COMMITTEE REGARDING DISCUSSION ITEMS: Resident Lenny Rice questioned if all residents would be required to have a tote in the next contract. He said that he has noticed some residents do not use the bag program currently and is unsure what they are doing with their trash. The Commissioners stated that everybody will be required to have a tote.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Klinefelter
Township Secretary