

**MINUTES
HEALTH & SANITATION COMMITTEE
SEPTEMBER 1, 2026**

The Penn Township Health and Sanitation Committee convened on Tuesday September 1, 2026, at 7:44 pm. Present were Chairman Arnold, Commissioners Baile, Elksnis (by phone), Heiland, and Rice. Also present were Township Manager Sweeney, Township Engineer Bortner, WWTP Superintendent Lank, Zoning Officer LeFevre, Asst. to the Engineer Garrett, Township Secretary Miller, Chief Merwede, EMA Waltman and Deputy Chief Wysocki. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

There were no announcements.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The minutes of the previous Health & Sanitation Committee meeting were approved as written.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

There were no citizen comments.

UPDATE ON PLANT MAINTENANCE ACTIVITIES:

WWTP Superintendent Lank reported that staff installed a new generator at the Northview Pump Station. An outside firm has been contracted to complete the wiring. It should be ready for factory startup within the next couple of weeks. Staff have also been working to paint all the exterior doors, frames, and the exposed metal throughout the plant. The new plant influent gate valves have arrived. Conewago is scheduled to begin installation on September 15th and the work should be completed within two days.

NEWSLETTER/SHREDDING EVENT:

The newsletter was printed on August 13th and distributed to all Township offices, and the Recycling Center and was posted online. The shredding event is scheduled for Saturday October 17, 2026, from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm.

LOCAL LIMITS:

WWTP Superintendent Lank reported that the EPA conducts an evaluation every time a new plant permit is issued. Extensive inflow testing is conducted for residential areas, the collection system, and the plant. The information is entered into a spreadsheet, and the limits are reevaluated based on testing of the flow exiting the plant to ensure there is no overload of any toxins, metals, or pollutants. Any adjustments are made with EPA approval. A draft Resolution will be presented for consideration at this month's Board of Commissioners' meeting. Once adopted, the limits will be sent to the contributing municipalities for adoption, and updates will be made to industrial permits. The Committee recommended adding this to the Board of Commissioners' agenda.

2027 BUDGET:

WWTP Superintendent Lank reported on the highlights of the proposed 2027 budget. He began with the Recycling Center. Proposed revenue for 2027 is \$10,000. The 904 Performance Grant

has not yet been received, so there is a chance it will come in 2027. There is an almost 86% reduction in expenses. Wages are down to just two part-time employees who work a total of 24 hours per week. All insurance costs have been removed, supplies have dropped, gasoline is no longer needed because there will be no vehicles assigned to the Recycling Center. R-2, the pick-up truck is ready to be disposed of. The box truck will be sold or traded and has been transferred to the Public Works Department. The Mack truck will become a shared vehicle between Public Works and Sewer. There is no need for a full-time vehicle at the Recycling Center. Maintenance and repairs were increased to cover the building and the forklift.

The Sewer portion of the proposed 2027 budget will reflect a 22% increase in revenue due to the new rate increase. There is a 1.7% increase overall without the Enterprise vehicle replacement schedule and a 2.38% increase with it. Some electric costs have increased, specifically at the High Pointe Pump Station, where costs have doubled because of the amount of electricity used for the additional flow resulting from the removal of the Grandview Acres Pump Station. This should be a one-time spike, and costs should remain consistent going forward. There are no projects in the collection system other than what is left for sewer lining, manhole coatings, and I&I. Plant chemicals increase every year. Natural gas usage exceeded 95% of the budget because of the harsh winter, so the budget for natural gas has increased. There are funds budgeted for unforeseen parts and breakdowns, as well as centrifuge building repairs.

UTILITY INVOICE MAIL/PRINT SERVICE:

Manager Sweeney reported on ongoing issues with the current utility invoice mail/print service. Most recently, a production issue affected a considerable number of utility invoices, including those for landlords. The Township became aware of the issue after delinquent notices were sent in mid-August. Due to this issue, along with previous concerns regarding the timely processing and distribution of utility invoices, alternative service providers were reviewed. The Township is not under contract with the current service. Manager Sweeney provided three quotes and requested the Board's approval to switch to another service. The Committee recommended moving forward with the switch to another service.

OTHER MATTERS:

Commissioner Heiland thanked the staff for the time they put into drafting the proposed 2027 budgets.

CITIZEN'S QUESTIONS TO THE COMMITTEE REGARDING DISCUSSION ITEMS:

There were no citizen comments.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon M. Miller,
Township Secretary