

MINUTES  
HEALTH & SANITATION COMMITTEE  
FEBRUARY 6, 2024

The Penn Township Health and Sanitation Committee convened on Tuesday, February 6, 2024, at 7:23 p.m., following the Finance Committee Meeting. Present were Chairman Berlingo, Commissioners Baile, Brown, Elksnis and Heiland. Also present were Township Manager Ledley, WWTP Superintendent Lank, and Township Secretary Sweeney. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were none.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the January 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 has provided an update indicating that work progress appears to have halted, leaving 21 properties still requiring connection. This week, we will be mailing two types of letters to those residents. The first serves as a reminder to those who have initiated the process but have since paused, while the second is directed towards those who have taken no action at all. Both types of letters will be mailed via certified and regular mail.

Additionally, GHD continues to collaborate with Conewago and PSI on the closeout documentation. Some warranty work has been undertaken on both generators at the pump stations, water pumps, and a fuel gauge.

JANET STREET AND BREEZEWOOD DRIVE SEWER PROJECTS: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported a lack of activity at both sites, attributed to adverse weather conditions including snow and wet weather. They anticipate resuming operations in the coming month.

CODORUS PUMP STATION: WWTP Superintendent Lank provided an update, stating that we were able to secure a technician who conducted on-site repairs with the assistance of our staff. However, we encountered challenges with the manufacturer regarding warranty coverage. Unfortunately, the pump failed again a week later. Our staff promptly addressed the issue, and it has been operating smoothly since then. The recurring problem appears to be a leaking seal on the pump shaft, leading to the infiltration of raw wastewater into the drywell of the station.

TRASH BAG BID UPDATE: WWTP Superintendent Lank has provided an update, reporting that we have received three bids for the trash bags. These bids were opened and read aloud on January 15, 2024, at 1 p.m. Bids that were submitted include Central Polly Corporation at \$20.40 per 100 bags, Interboro Packaging Corporation at \$29.72 per 100 bags, and the lowest bid comes from XL Plastics, offering a rate of \$19.71 per 100 bags, totaling \$88,695.00 for the 450,000-bag order. It's noteworthy that our budget allocation for this purchase is \$140,000.00. The previous order was priced at \$0.23 per bag. I recommend that we award the bid to XL

Plastics during the upcoming Board of Commissioners meeting scheduled for February\_19, 2024.

NEWSLETTER: WWTP Superintendent Lank provided an update regarding our ongoing efforts to address the newsletter printing issue following the shutdown of the Merchandiser. Since last month, we've encountered challenges in incorporating all necessary information into the newsletter and have identified the need to add an additional page (front & back). After obtaining price quotes from printers and considering that the majority of people now view the newsletter electronically, I propose that we proceed with printing 500 copies at Roller Printing, with the additional page, and we'll monitor the demand to determine if additional copies are needed.

These printed copies will remain available at the Municipal Office, police department, and recycling center. The initial printing is estimated to take 2 weeks to complete, with subsequent printing possible within 1 to 2 days.

OTHER MATTERS: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported that we have encountered some process issues, necessitating the draining and refilling of a clarifier. Additionally, we had to increase sludge production to reduce system volume, leading to overtime operation of the centrifuge. It is crucial to maintain close oversight of these challenges as we are scheduled to dismantle the centrifuge on February 22 for repairs. During this period, we will empty a tank and allocate it solely for solids storage until the machine is operational again. It's worth noting that the plant's performance has notably improved, and we have successfully averted any risk of permit violations.

CITIZEN'S QUESTIONS TO THE COMMITTEE REGARDING DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Mr. Bill Bowman of 123 Oak Hill Drive addressed the Committee regarding the Oak Hill/Hershey Heights sewer installation project. He raised inquiries about the number of residents who have not contacted the Township, interest rates, and funding options. WWTP Superintendent Lank responded, stating that he has communicated with bankers, drafted letters on behalf of residents, and referred some individuals to Penn Vest for funding opportunities. Manager Ledley suggested contacting 211 for potential assistance in resolving financial concerns.

Mr. Bowman inquired about the rate of the trash bags. WWTP Superintendent Lank responded there is no rate increase for trash bags.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Sweeney  
Township Secretary