

MINUTES
HEALTH & SANITATION COMMITTEE
AUGUST 7, 2023

The Penn Township Health and Sanitation Committee convened on Monday, August 7, 2023, at 7:09 p.m., following the Finance Committee Meeting. Present were Chairman Berlingo, Commissioners Allison, 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: None.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the July 3, 2023, Health and Sanitation Committee Meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: Mr. Kenneth Dohm, 218 Moore Drive, was present to address the Committee regarding the refuse and recycling program. He is concerned about the price increase of the refuse bags. Chairman Berlingo addressed his concerns and explained the cost of the bag also includes the cost of bag creation, collections (Penn Waste), Tipping Fee, Recycling Center, and the vendor. She explained that it also helps offset the costs for paint collection, large items, metal collection, shredding events, and brush and limb collection. She explained that at the time, numerous options were investigated, and the pay as you throw was the most economical for all the residents. The contract is locked in for 3 years, 2 more to go. WWTP Superintendent Lank explained that this is not a for profit program. Chairman Berlingo stated that all options will be looked at upon renewal of the program and welcomed Mr. Dohm and any resident to attend meetings and express their input prior to contract renewal.

OAK HILL HERSHEY HEIGHTS PROJECT: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported the paving has just been completed at both sites and the fences should be going in this week. The electricians were prepared for electrical service to be connected at Oak Hill but Met-Ed decided they wanted to replace the pole first. The Township does not have a time frame for the pole, but an 811-call was placed and the work should be starting this week. The start up testing with the pump manufacture was pushed from August 1st to August 24th, which works out well for the electricians.

JANET STREET AND BREEZEWOOD DRIVE SEWER PROJECTS: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported the Township is waiting for Bon Ton to switch from their grinder pump to the new gravity lateral.

He reported the Breezewood Drive project started on July 21st, the crew dug down to expose the tie in point and Conewago core drilled. The crew set the second manhole on Friday and are now laying pipe to get across Breezewood Drive. They plan to set the manhole on the other side of the road and may stop after a few more pieces of pipe, depending on whether they are

needed for paving projects. The goal is to get across Breezewood Drive prior to the start of school and that will soon be accomplished.

GRANDVIEW ACRES PROJECT: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported the Township is waiting on right-of-ways and finalized prints to order the materials for the project.

OTHER MATTERS: WWTP Superintendent Lank reported a notice of violation was issued to ESAB on July 14th for exceeding their solids and copper limits back in March and April. The Township didn't realize they had violated because they were only sharing flow data twice a year. Both items are due to excessive solids retention in their detention tanks. Superintendent Lank suggested that they clean out their tanks and requested monthly flow reports. They are in the process of testing their tanks in preparation for pumping them out.

He reported there have been issues with UTZ sending flow heavy in solids, so they are also going to pump their tanks down to check for solids.

There are issues with Snyder's (Campbell's). On July 26th when Township employees arrived to pick up the composite sample, there was a frothy type of sludge in the sampling manhole, but the sample was clear in the jug. This started an internal investigation at Snyder's because Superintendent Lank informed them that the Township does not accept that type of discharge and if someone was tampering with the sample the Township would turn them over to the authorities (DEP/EPA). Assistant Superintendent Kline and Superintendent Lank met with two managers on site to discuss the issue at hand and how serious the Township was taking the matter. Our facility was having some process issues at about the same time, which had a similar looking debris on top of our tanks that looked like the Snyders discharge. We have been monitoring them daily since the event and made sure they are aware that we are more closely monitoring them.

Commissioner Heiland asked the Committee if they had the chance to review the newsletter as it is going to print. The committee had no issues.

CITIZEN'S QUESTIONS TO THE COMMITTEE REGARDING DISCUSSION ITEMS: Mr. Lenoard Rice, 125 Hirtland Avenue, had questions regarding the trash program, and asked the board to consider a hybrid system of bags and cans. Superintendent Lank reported that he had inquired recently about that type of system, he was informed that it is very labor intensive, and the price would increase.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Sweeney,
Township Secretary