

MINUTES  
HEALTH & SANITATION COMMITTEE  
NOVEMBER 2, 2021

The Penn Township Health and Sanitation Committee convened on Tuesday, November 2, 2021, at 7:06 p.m. following the Finance Committee meeting. Present were Chairman Elksnis, Commissioners Black, Brown, Cromer and Heiland. Also present were Township Manager Rodgers, WWTP Superintendent Mahone and Township Secretary Sweeney. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were none.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the October 5, 2021 Health and Sanitation Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: There were none.

OAK HILL HERSHEY HEIGHTS SEWER PROJECT: WWTP Superintendent Mahone reported GHD is finishing the plans and bid documents and is scheduling to advertise the bid on December 1, 2021. Bids will be opened January 11, 2022. After review and approval, the bids could be awarded on January 15, 2021, at the Board of Commissioners Meeting. There will be a pre-bid meeting for contractors to attend on December 9, 2021, at 10 a.m. in the Public Works building conference room. Commissioner Heiland asked, if we go to bid, how long until the project would begin. Superintendent Mahone stated acquiring all the contract documents, permits and the notice to proceed order would take approximately three months, then ordering of the material, would be approximately June of 2022 for the start of construction. Manager Rodgers stated that GHD has suggested starting with construction of Hershey Heights first, followed by Oak Hills. Paving would be completed all at once following construction of both areas.

JANET STREET AND BREEZEWOOD DRIVE SEWER PROJECTS: WWTP Superintendent Mahone reported the Township has two of the seven easements needed for the project. The manholes have been ordered and are scheduled to be built the middle of November. Once the remaining easements are received the project can begin.

PROPOSED FILL SITE BESIDE PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING: WWTP Superintendent Mahone reported GHD is working on flood plan analysis requested by DEP to determine which permit will be required for the site. Superintendent Mahone hopes to have some reasonable assurance from DEP on the permitting of the site in the next few weeks.

SHREDDING EVENT: WWTP Superintendent Mahone reported the event was held on October 23, 2021. There were 244 vehicles that dropped off 9,750 lbs. of material to be shredded. Seven vehicles were turned away because they were not Township residents. The spring shredding event is tentatively scheduled for April 23, 2022.

Superintendent Mahone asked the committee if they would like to hold the food drive at this event. The Committee agreed the food drive should be held, and requested Superintendent Mahone to make the arrangements. Manager Rodgers reported the Township is offered a limited amount of shredding at no cost during each shredding event. The Police department has been able to shred their documents at this time. As a result, the municipal office documents have been put on hold as the amount to be shredded is increasing. The Township may incur a fee at a future shredding event to have the documents shredded.

RADIO REPLACEMENT PROJECT: WWTP Superintendent Mahone reported that he met with Fire Chief Clousher, AJ Grim, from Hanover Borough, Scott Palermo and Nick Coby from B. Moyer Radio about what would be the best solution to increase the Township's and the Hanover Borough's radio coverage and what equipment can still be used or be replaced.

Two options were discussed.

Option #1: To build the infrastructure with repeater antennas and purchase new portable and/or mobile radios. The cost of the portables would be \$700 each, and the mobiles would be \$1,000 each.

Option #2: To use the York County infrastructure and purchase portable radios for \$2,000 each.

The current Township radios and the low band frequency has been phased out. The Township and the Borough are going to provide B. Moyer Radio with a count of portables and mobiles that would be needed to replace existing equipment. There was also discussion by A.J. Grim that if the Township and the Borough did this as a joint project, there may be a possibility a portion could be funded by a grant. Mr. Grim indicated he would speak with Representative Kate Klunk to see if there are any grant funds available. There was also discussion of the possibility of using funds from the American Rescue Act Plan. B. Moyer will be looking at potential antenna sites that would provide coverage for all of the Township and Hanover Borough. Possible sites that were mentioned were the Clover Lane Fire Station, Wirt Park Fire Station, South Western School District and West Manheim Elementary School. When B. Moyer Radio gets the equipment count from the Township and the Borough they will provide quotes for both options for evaluation. Superintendent Mahone reported the Township currently has forty mobile units in service at this time. Commissioner Cromer stated it would be more beneficial to have our own infrastructure with the Borough, as we would have more control over the system rather than going with York County's system. The Committee also discussed the benefits of mobile units over portable units. Commissioner Black suggested if there are cell towers within the Township and the Borough area they may be required to co-locate with local government under the federal law. Superintendent Mahone will research this option.

OTHER MATTERS: WWTP Superintendent Mahone reported the Township has gained 2,938 nitrogen credits, and 948 phosphorus credits available for sale. Hanover Foods is interested in purchasing 56 phosphorus credits. Superintendent Mahone will put the remaining credits on the market.

WWTP Superintendent Mahone reported while testing the sensors on the scissor lift at the sewer plant garage, when they elevated they discovered the rubber roof is loose and has ballooned, however, not leaking at this time. Donald B. Smith installed the roofing in 1997, for about \$20,000. The sludge building was installed at the same time. The roof is now twenty-four years old, and the twenty-year guaranty has expired. He is guessing it will be around \$40,000 to replace. Manager Rodgers will add to the budget under Sewer 510 Capital Outlay.

Commissioner Elksnis asked for an update on the back up that occurred last month at the pumping stations at Codorus. Superintendent Mahone stated that the cause was the very heavy rain event that occurred a few weeks prior to the incident. That rain event washed a large amount of rags into the wet well. From there they got clogged in the check valves of both pumps which caused an imbalance in the pumps and caused the mechanical seals to fail. To prevent future occurrences, the check valves will be inspected on a monthly basis.

Manager Rodgers reported she received information that we are part of a class action lawsuit against Kimberly-Clark, manufacturer of Cottonelle flushable wipes. The wipes are not flushable, and have clogged many sewer systems.

CITIZEN'S QUESTIONS TO THE COMMITTEE: Mr. Jack Corriere, 114 Oak Hill Drive, questioned if the Township goes to bid on the project, and if those bids are too high, does the Township have the option to rebid at a different time. Superintendent Mahone confirmed that the Township does have that option.

Mr. Corriere also questioned if any of the ARPA Funds have been spent. Commissioner Elksnis stated that the Township has not spent any of the funds, and regulations are continually changing on how to spend and report the use of the funds. Mr. Corriere requested that the funds go to infrastructure, specifically to help towards the Hershey Heights/Oak Hill sewer project. He also asked if the funds are a line item included in the budget, Manager Rodgers confirmed that it is located in the General Fund under Federal Shared Revenue and Entitlements.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Sweeney,  
Township Secretary