

MINUTES  
HEALTH & SANITATION COMMITTEE  
JANUARY 2, 2024

The Penn Township Health and Sanitation Committee convened on Tuesday, January 2, 2024, at 6:45 p.m., following the Finance Committee Meeting. Present Chairman Berlingo, Commissioners Baile, Brown, Elksnis and Heiland. Also present were Township Manager Ledley, Police Chief Hettinger, Fire Chief Clouser, Township Engineer Bortner, WWTP Superintendent Lank, Zoning Officer Smith and Township Secretary Sweeney. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were none.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the December 5, 2023, Health and Sanitation Committee Meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: There were none.

OAK HILL HERSHEY HEIGHTS PROJECT: WWTP Superintendent Lank provided an update, work has slowed, but there are still some residents being tied in. GHD is still working to complete the close out documentation for both Conewago and PSI.

JANET STREET AND BREEZEWOOD DRIVE SEWER PROJECTS: WWTP Superintendent Lank provided an update, stating that there is currently no activity at Janet Street. The demolition work is still pending completion.

The crew has resumed work on the Breezewood project and has installed a substantial amount of line and manholes up to the pump station location. However, work came to a halt during the holidays. Completing the new line requires careful coordination, particularly in extending the current gravity line through the wet well. This involves tasks such as coordinating power shutdown, implementing bypass pumping for the station, removing pumps, and dismantling the wet well up to the point of connection with the existing gravity line. The team anticipates resuming work on this phase within the next couple of weeks.

CODORUS PUMP STATION: WWTP Superintendent Lank provided an update, reporting that the new pump has been successfully installed, and a company representative was present during the startup procedures. In less than a week the new pump started to leak and had to be shut off. Efforts are underway to have the representative return and provide guidance on addressing the issue. Scheduling a visit has proven difficult due to the holiday period.

TRASH BAG BID: WWTP Superintendent Lank provided an update, stating that the invitation to bid was printed on December 26, 2023, in the Hanover Evening Sun, and again on January 2, 2024. He has already received inquiries from a couple of interested parties. Specifications have been sent to six businesses, and there have been follow-up questions from some of them. The deadline for submitting bids is set for 1 p.m. on January 15th, with bids expected to be delivered to the Township office.

OTHER MATTERS: WWTP Superintendent Lank provided an update regarding the Snyder's untreated discharge that occurred at our facility in November. He is currently collaborating with GHD to determine the most suitable fine and is considering the possibility of imposing additional testing at Snyder's cost.

He reported that all industrial inspections for the year have been completed. Snyder's is actively working on a plan to improve their treatment process and is in the process of installing a discharge meter just before the sampling location. Following our inspection of ESAB, they encountered a pH violation attributed to faulty equipment and operator error. In response, we extended assistance by cross-checking their metering equipment with our lab equipment to ensure accuracy, and they provided samples to our facility. Due to this incident, they also incurred a copper violation, and I am awaiting the remainder of their lab results before issuing a notice of violation. All other industries have shown no outstanding issues.

He reported that the Merchandiser is in the process of being sold, and they have already ceased printing. Our utilization of their services for newsletter distribution and printing copies will be affected. Informal polls indicate that the majority of people do not read the Merchandiser, and consequently, they do not access our newsletter there. He proposed that we continue the practice of making copies available at the recycle center, main office, police department, and on the website. This adjustment could result in significant cost savings, potentially exceeding \$1,500 per year, depending on the quantity of copies for distribution. We have until the end of February to make any decisions; this information is provided for consideration at this point. Commissioner Heiland requested the subject be placed on the agenda for the next committee meeting.

CITIZEN'S QUESTIONS TO THE COMMITTEE REGARDING DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Michael Hoover, residing on Hershey Heights Road, informed the committee that the school districts of South Western, Hanover Public, and Conewago Valley also utilize the Merchandizer to publish information.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Sweeney  
Township Secretary