

HEALTH & SANITATION COMMITTEE
DECEMBER 1, 2009

The Penn Township Health & Sanitation Committee met in public session on Tuesday, December 1, 2009 at 7:10 PM following the Public Works Committee. Present were Chairman Rewa and Commissioners Prieber, Heilman, Goldsmith and Felix. Also present were Manager Garvick, Township Engineer Bortner, Administrative Assistant Rodgers, and Highway Foreman Mahan. The following items were discussed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: Minutes from the November 3, 2009 meeting were approved as presented.

CITIZENS REMARKS: David Rambol, 23 Ivy Circle, expressed concern about the cost of the sewer plant upgrade and inquired if the Commissioners met with our elected State and Federal representatives. He was concerned about the sewer rate increase and the minimum gallons per quarter that has been established. He stated that the minimum billing amount is 7,000 gallons of water usage per quarter. He uses about 3,000 gallons a quarter and feels that the minimum rate should be lower and that everyone should be charged for only the amount they actually use. This would mean that those families that are higher users would pay more just like with the refuse units. Commissioner Prieber and Manager Garvick explained that all the state and federal elected officials were contacted but the response received by the Township was that there is no money available to assist with the upgrade. The Township was told to apply for grants but received only \$900,000 instead of the \$9,000,000 that was allowed to be requested. Commissioner Heilman stated that he did receive a response from Representative Tallman and that he will keep us informed about any upcoming grants for the project. There was some frustration about the lack of stimulus funds available to be spent on infrastructure projects such as upgrading sewer plants. Commissioner Heilman is willing to review the sewer rate format following the awarding of the bids for the projects because at this time we do not know what the projects will actually cost. The engineering cost estimates we have may be high, low or absolutely correct but with the current economy it is hard to predict. At this point in time the Township has to be concerned about covering the cost of the initial bond issue.

TOWER MEDIA RECYCLING PROJECT: Manager Garvick reported that Blue Bird Recovery, Frederick MD, is willing to remove the 435,000 lbs. of plastic media from the biological nitrification towers at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The value of the plastic is about \$60,900 of which about \$26,100 will be the Township's share. This is definitely a benefit since we would have had to pay for the removal of the material during the plant upgrade as part of the tower demolition process.

FINAL DESIGN AND COST ESTIMATES: Manager Garvick reported that CET Engineering is working on the final design and cost estimates for the sewer project and has offered to meet with the commissioners and make a presentation at the next meeting. The Committee agreed that CET should make a presentation at their meeting scheduled for January 5, 2010.

SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS OF BOND FUNDS: Manager Garvick requested that he be authorized to prepare an RFP for investment of short-term funds from the bond issue. It is expected that all the funds will be expended within eighteen months to two

years of settlement. He would like to present it to the local banks but the engineer will need to prepare a construction fund draw down schedule. The committee agreed with the stipulation that the funds must be collateralized prior to investing.

YORK STREET INTERCEPTOR: Manager Garvick reported that the York Street Interceptor agreement is prepared and Solicitor Tilley has reviewed and included his comments. West Manheim will be approving the agreement at their next meeting. As soon as the agreement is executed the Township will receive a bond from each party (developer) but the Township will not be able to collect on the EDU's until the state releases them. The committee agreed to authorize execution of the Agreement on December 21st.

RECYCLING NEWSLETTER: Manager Garvick reported that the newsletter should be at the post office and out to the residents by the end of this week or the beginning of next week.

RECYCLING MATERIALS: Manager Garvick reported that the market is starting to slightly improve as far as prices for recycling materials such as corrugated cardboard, newsprint and magazines. He reported that the volume of recycling materials brought to the drop-off center has decreased since 2008 but the refuse tonnage has not increased. Manager Garvick feels that some of the materials we used to get are going to other vendors. It was noted that the economy might have something to do with the decrease of newspapers and magazines. The concern was to make sure that these items were not being placed in the trash.

CITIZENS QUESTIONS TO THE COMMITTEE REGARDING DISCUSSION ITEMS:
None.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey R. Garvick, Manager