

MINUTES
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
JUNE 4, 2013

The Penn Township Public Works Committee met in public session on Tuesday, June 4, 2013 at 7:00 PM. Present were Chairman Goldsmith and Commissioners Felix, Prieber, Klunk, and Heilman. Also present were Manager Garvick, Township Engineer Bortner, WWTP Supt. Mahone, Highway Foreman Mahan and Administrative Assistant Rodgers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Commissioner Goldsmith announced an executive session was held following the finance committee meeting on June 3, 2013 to discuss personnel issues.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the May 7, 2013 public works committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: None.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Engineer Bortner stated that he received a call from Group Hanover on behalf of Burkentine & Sons to work on a design for Breezewood Drive for the Pine Brooke land development plan. The final land development plan for the Breezewood Drive Project was submitted at the end of last year. Both plans have preliminary plan approval and both include improvements to Breezewood drive. The improvements to Breezewood Drive will require the relocation of one of the utility poles. The developers are planning on constructing the projects this summer. The Breezewood Drive improvements will be a joint project between both developers and the Township. Engineer Bortner is also concerned about Wexcon closing Breezewood Drive and York Street at the same time as Breezewood Drive and Hufnagle Drive are closed. This will have to be taken under consideration when the time comes.

Engineer Bortner is planning on constructing the wearing course on the roads in Northview Acres as time permits. The Hanover Trolley Trail has all the project approvals and Engineer Bortner will be scheduling the work throughout the summer. The Blettner Avenue bridge is on the scour critical list. C.S. Davidson received a permit for the work, which will be scheduled accordingly. The engineer will be trying to get Baer Avenue completed this year but not until after the completion of the Columbia Gas project. Whispering Run II grading has begun and Engineer Bortner anticipates the project will be completed as the economy allows. Engineer Bortner has met with the adjacent landowners about the project regarding connecting to the public water system. He believes that J.A. Myers will be dedicating the streets of Whispering Run phase one prior to year-end. PennDOT will be having a pre construction conference next week for the York Street project and Engineer Bortner plans on attending. The summer help in the engineering department will start on June 10, 2013. There was some discussion about the design of Breezewood Drive and how adjacent property owners are affected.

CENTER STREET UPGRADE: Manager Garvick reported that we have not heard back from the railroad and there is still one utility relocation approval to secure. There has been no information on the progress of the eminent domain for the Center Street condominiums, which has been turned over to the Township Solicitor.

CLOVER LANE SIGNAL UPDATE: Manager Garvick stated that we open the bids for the Baltimore St/Clover Lane traffic signal equipment on June 12.

SKATE BOARD PARK REQUEST: The Committee received a request from Dean Maxey for the Township to install a skate park. The Township Manager will inform him that we are unable to install one at this time.

FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL PURCHASE PLAN: The Committee reviewed the 5-year plans for the public works and recreation departments. Engineer Bortner stated his top priorities for the five-year plan are infrastructure and personnel. Engineer Bortner stated that he would have personnel concerns regardless of the number of employees he has. He would always have more work than he has personnel or funds to complete. Engineer Bortner stated that the current fleet is designed for a public works department of fourteen employees. If the Township does not go back to this number Engineer Bortner stated that he could reduce the fleet. It was suggested that the Manager and the Engineer prepare a report that shows what it would cost to add a crew dedicated to sewer work.

WWTP Superintendent Mahone stated he has two sets of sewer specifications from CET for sewer repairs and replacements and for pipe lining. These are set up as a maintenance contract once they are bid. The initial work for each year is bid and then they agree to do emergency repairs as part of the contract. There was some discussion about purchasing equipment versus bidding projects that would not require the Township purchasing equipment or hiring personnel. Township Engineer Bortner stated that bidding snow plowing in the past was not successful but bidding the paving projects went well. There was some discussion about the recreation five-year plan. It was suggested that additional playground equipment be purchased for Youngs Woods and consideration be given to improvements at the Community Park.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS FOR THE COMMITTEE: None

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted
Kristina J. Rodgers, Township Secretary