

MINUTES
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
JULY 7, 2009

The Penn Township Public Works Committee met in public session on Tuesday, July 7, 2009 at 7:33 following the Health and Sanitation meeting. Present were Chairman Goldsmith and Commissioners Prieber, Rewa, Heilman, and Felix. Also present were Manager Garvick, Administrative Assistant Rodgers, and Waste Water Superintendent Mahone.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the June 2, 2009 Public Works Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: None

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Township Engineer Bortner was not present but Manager Garvick reported that he did have his plans available for review. Manager Garvick reported that Westminster Avenue, Grandview Road and Fairview Drive would be closed due to construction. Frederick Street is also being overlaid at this time.

ANITA MILLER LAND DEVELOPMENT PLAN: Manager Garvick reported that Dawood Associates submitted a request dated June 18, 2008 for a waiver of the feasibility studies and the environmental impact studies for the Anita Miller plan. Manager Garvick reported that the property owner couldn't show they have street ROW on Lark Avenue and as a result, the lots will not be in accordance with the Township's Zoning and SD/LD Ordinance. The plan cannot be approved as submitted until the lots front a public street. The request will be put on hold until they have addressed these and other issues with the plan.

MIKE HARMON AUTO SALES: Manager Garvick discussed the approved land development plan for the Mike Harmon Auto Sales on Frederick Street. The plan will provide sidewalk and curb improvements but there is an adjoining parcel of land that is not owned by the Harmon's that will not have improvements. This small parcel, containing a billboard, fronts Frederick Street and South Blettner Avenue. The parcel will have no sidewalk from the termination of sidewalk on Mr. Harmon's property on Frederick St. down S. Blettner Ave. to the parcel on S. Blettner owned by the Miller's. Mr. Harmon has indicated his interest in acquiring this adjoining parcel. It was suggested that the improvements be extended to the Miller property.

411 PARK HEIGHTS BLVD.: Manager Garvick reported that Public Works has taken down some shrubs, growth and a tree stump at 391 Park Heights Boulevard that may help alleviate the sight distance problem at 411 Park Heights. Embarq was contacted about possibly removing the tree, since it is located under their overhead wires. They stated that the tree is not a problem for them.

SALT STORAGE FACILITY: Manager Garvick reported on the proposed salt storage facility at the public works facility. The intent was to utilize the precast walls of the soon-to-be-abandoned nitrification towers at the WWTP. After reviewing the architect's report, it would certainly seem that a new building would be less expensive than relocating the tower walls.

Manager Garvick provided the committee with a picture of a similar facility. The facility is basically a pole building without doors. There was some discussion about the effects of corrosion. The facility at Spring Garden Street was used for over twenty years and was in good condition when the facility was sold. South Western School District has a facility similar to the one we would be interested in. Conduit has already been run for the electricity. Funds for the facility would be taken from a building reserve account. The project will need to be publicly bid.

CENTER STREET UPGRADE: Manager Garvick reviewed the Center Street Supplemental Reimbursement Agreement with PennDOT, which has increased the local share an additional \$310,000 over the amount in the original agreement. If the Township withdraws from the agreement then we would be responsible for the engineering services on the project. The project is on a stand still until an agreement is reached. The Township would need about \$663,000 for the project.

PRICE OF BITUMINOUS: Manager Garvick reported that black top is within the estimates of the budget and is lower than last year.

BUDGET PREPARATION: In preparation from the 2010 budget, the Committee discussed changing the type of heating and air conditioning within the Township buildings to help conserve money and energy. They are looking at some type of geo-thermal system. There may be grant money available for this type of upgrade. Staff will investigate.

GRASS BLOWING: Commissioner Felix would like something put in the newsletter about the mowing and blowing of grass into Township streets. Residents have expressed several concerns to him about safety and the blocking of stormwater drains. It was also suggested that an article reminding folks not to blow snow into the street be included in the winter newsletter.

COMMUNITY PARK: Administrative Assistant Rodgers requested that a child sand play box be installed at the Community Park, preferably near one of the pavilions. The Committee recommended submitting a proposal for their review.

HANDICAPPED ACCESS FOR KINGDOM: Commissioner Goldsmith inquired if anything has been decided about the installation of a handicapped ramp at the Kingdom. Manager Garvick stated that the Public Works Department is reviewing the situation.

RECYCLING BINS: Commissioner Goldsmith reported that the large recycling containers are no longer at the Community Park. WWTP Mahone will look into where they have been moved.

CITIZENS QUESTIONS TO THE COMMITTEE REGARDING DISCUSSION ITEMS:
None.

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Jeffrey R. Garvick, Manager