

MINUTES  
PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE  
SEPTEMBER 4, 2018

The Penn Township Public Works Committee convened on Tuesday, September 4, 2018 at 7:55 p.m. following the Finance Committee meeting. Present were Chairman Klunk and Commissioners Brown, Heiland, and Van de Castle. Also present were Township Manager Rodgers, Acting Police Chief Hettinger, Fire Chief Clouser, Engineer Bortner, WWTP Superintendent Mahone, Zoning Officer Smith, and Township Secretary Hallett. The following items were discussed:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The minutes of the August 6, 2018 Public Works Committee meeting were approved as submitted.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: Walt Marriott, 22 Amanda Avenue, was present and had concerns about the storm sewer system in his area. He explained that there is a sinkhole at the storm sewer. Someone from the Township came out and looked at it and Mr. Marriott was then informed that it was on private property and the Township couldn't repair it. He said all the pipe in the storm sewer system is deteriorating and water is running approximately one thousand yards across ground, as a result. He doesn't believe this is his responsibility to repair. Engineer Bortner pointed out that Penn Township has never accepted dedication of storm sewer system or detention ponds on private property. As far as he knows this is common practice throughout the state. The Penn Township Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance requires an easement be shown for that facility, but the Township has never accepted dedication of that facility on private property. Commissioner Klunk explained that, from a legal standpoint, we don't own the storm sewer and can't do anything with it. Mr. Marriott was told by a contractor that the Township required the storm sewer and it's a public system so he shouldn't be responsible for it. Commissioner Klunk said we'll check with the Township Solicitor and get back with him. Mr. Marriott said the storm sewer in the right of way is in very bad shape and another large rain will likely cause failure.

MS4 UPDATE: Engineer Bortner gave an update on the MS4 permit. He said the Township and Hanover Land Services have been working on adding BMP's to CS Datum. Manager Rodgers reported we have a phone extension for stormwater complaints and have received one call to date.

ROADBOTICS: Engineer Bortner reported on the Roadbotics report. He reviewed the map and pointed out the different areas of concern. Roadbotics breaks the roads into segments and assigns a level to each segment. Level one indicates a new road, level two indicates minor repairs such as crack sealing are needed, level three indicates the road is close to needing paved, level four indicates the road needs paved, and level five indicates total reconstruction is needed. There were no level five segments in the Township, but some of that may have to do with the way the segments are broken down. Engineer Bortner reviewed the report and said the information is useful for planning purposes.

IMPROVEMENT BONDS: Engineer Bortner reported on two improvement bonds. Final inspections have been completed on 20 and 22 Earl Street and he recommended the Hemler bond be reduced to \$0. The bond amount for 221 Woodside Ave can be set at \$28,325.55. The Committee recommended setting both bond amounts.

TRENCHLESS PIPE RESTORATION: Engineer Bortner reported on trenchless pipe restoration. Any metal pipe that has water flowing through it is rusted and repairs need to be performed. Melbourne Manor, Colonial Acres, Timberland 2, Northview Acres, and Grandview Heights are all in need of storm sewer repairs. Engineer Bortner, Manager Rodgers, and WWTP Superintendent Mahone met with a pipe vendor. They looked at a smooth pipe that's smaller in diameter and could be threaded through the existing metal pipe. It's a plastic HDPE pipe and because of the smoothness it carries more water. Engineer Bortner said it's easiest to insert the pipe from private property because they'd rather not excavate the right-of-way because of all the utilities. Manager Rodgers spoke with Solicitor Hovis about Melbourne Manor and he said there is a ten foot right-of-way around each property and we can do work in that area. The Committee instructed Engineer Bortner to order the necessary pipe as soon as the legal questions have been answered.

JOINT ZONING ORDINANCE: Engineer Bortner reported on the joint zoning ordinance. Engineer Bortner, Manager Rodgers, Zoning Officer Smith, and Commissioner Klunk met with EDP on August 30 to review the ordinance. They will begin having weekly conference calls this week.

REQUEST FROM GHI FOR 221 WOODSIDE AVENUE: The Committee received a letter dated August 1, 2018 from GHI Engineers and Surveyors requesting a waiver of preliminary plan for the 221 Woodside Avenue land development plan. He said the reason for a preliminary plan is to give the developer a chance to work without getting an improvement bond. The Planning Commission will make a recommendation at their meeting on September 6, 2018.

OTHER MATTERS: Engineer Bortner said there was some question about the Township process for accepting dedication of roads and sanitary sewer. He explained the Municipal Planning Code (MPC) sets the guidelines for dedication. We wouldn't be able to change the process but we could change the specifications. Several years ago we changed to requiring six inches of pavement and also required SDR-26 sanitary sewer main rather than SDR-35. He suggested we could revisit our construction specifications if there are concerns about quality.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela M. Hallett  
Township Secretary