

PENN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
PERRY COUNTY

102 Municipal Building Road
Duncannon, PA 17020

August 14, 2012

The Penn Township Municipal Authority (Authority) met on Tuesday, August 14, 2012 in the Penn Township Municipal Building. Chairman Sam Auxt called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m., The JOAC meeting originally scheduled for tonight was cancelled due to lack of an agenda.

Authority members present:

Sam Auxt, Chairman
Henry Holman, III, Vice Chairman
CeCe Novinger

Professional staff present:

Dennis Shatto, Esq. of Cleckner and Fearen, Solicitor
Ben Shull, of Wm. F. Hill, Engineer

Authority staff present:

Edward Chism, Plant Operator
Karen Rhinehart, Executive Secretary

Visitors:

Robert A. Reisinger, Glace Associates

Duncannon Borough Issues

Bob Reisinger, Glace Associates

Mr. Reisinger updated the status of the replacement of the Market street sewer line from manhole (MH) 146 to MH 147. He reported that the construction was completed and temporary paving was laid over the construction site. After the construction area settles for a few months, permanent paving will be laid. The total cost of construction was \$128,000. Partial payment, minus retainage, is \$84,235.55. Upon a Holman/Novinger motion, the Authority voted unanimously to pay its share of the project.

The comminator was removed from the Duncannon Borough WWTP on Friday, August 10th and is expected to be re-installed by August 17th.

Stone Mill Estates

At the July 11th meeting, that the developer's solicitor stated that, in order to go forward with private wells, the developer needs a letter from the Authority stating that it does not have enough capacity to provide water service to the development.

Chairman Auxt now offered his opinion that the Authority can provide the water services to the development but will need to make modifications to the Sunshine Hill water system, such as storage capacity and water treatment upgrades.

Upon the advice of the Solicitor, and the consensus of the members, the Authority entered into executive session at 6:45 p.m. to discuss real estate and potential litigation issues. The executive session ended at 7:20 p.m. and the meeting reconvened, with no action taken.

The Engineer will review the newest plan submission from Stone Mill Estates and update the Authority at the next meeting.

Chairman Auxt noted that there is a right-of-way (ROW) for the water line coming off of Sunshine Hill onto Butchershop Road. He noted that the developer wants to put a sewer line in the ROW and questioned if it is a utilities ROW, or just an access ROW, and how can the Authority find out. The Solicitor asked for a map showing the location of the ROW so that he could research it further.

Sewer Issues

Chairman Auxt reported that many of the low-pressure MHs have water in them and will need to be pumped out, and all the MH valves in the system will need to be exercised. He feels that he can pump out the manholes but is concerned about his ability to exercise all the valves, stating that some of them are really deep. He also noted that a number of the roadway MHs are allowing water to enter and that the use of “Chinese hats” could be helpful.

Sewer Certification Requirements Document

Chairman Auxt noted that there have been some unpleasant responses to the sewer certification requirements letter that the Authority mailed to all of its customers. This document specified what actions are needed to be taken by a homeowner whose property is connected to the sanitary sewer before the property can be sold.

Executive Secretary Karen Rhinhart has revised some of the wording on the document and passed out the revisions for review. The revisions add a clause that if a property has been inspected in the past “X” number of years, it would not need to be re-inspected. CeCe questioned why a property would need inspected if the owner is merely re-financing. Henry offered that it would be the same as if a new owner took over; the inspection would be done sooner, and any sewer delinquencies and tapping fee installment plans would be paid off sooner. CeCe offered that she understood Henry’s concern, but the requirement only adds to the cost of someone trying to refinance. Karen noted that when a bank refinances a loan, it requires all liens on the property to be paid off; the tapping fee would be paid off as well as the liens for the delinquencies.

Chairman Auxt offered that the re-finance wording could be removed because the liens would be paid off anyway. However, it was noted that the property would not be required to be pressure-tested or inspected for illegal connections with a re-finance.

Operator Ed Chism questioned the need to pressure-test the houses on Sunshine Hill when they are sold. Those residents also received a letter because there had been a concern that ground shift over the years could lead to cracks in the pipes. He offered that he had a problem requiring owners to re-test the lines because they built their lines to Authority specifications and the lines passed the test at that time. He questioned how the Authority can now make them pay hundreds of dollars for another test.

Henry offered that the Authority is more interested in the testing of the newest section that was connected, rather than the earlier sections. Chairman Auxt asked if the Authority could require more from one section than another. CeCe asked if pressure tests were conducted when Perdix went on-line. Chairman Auxt replied “yes and no”. A pressure test was conducted on the line from the grinder pump to the point of connection with the house sewer, but not necessarily on the line from the house to the grinder pump. However, half-way through the project it was discovered that a lot of infiltration was entering the Cove WWTP. At that point, the entire line between the house and the grinder pump was pressure-tested.

Henry asked if just those properties suspected of having infiltration could be tested. Engineer Ben Shull stated that some authorities are now televising gravity laterals when they televise the mains, and are requiring any broken laterals be replaced. However, the Authority’s grinder pumps would block this

type of televising. Henry suggested that possibly a bore scope could be inserted at the property's cleanout valve.

Chairman Auxt suggested that the office staff could look at all the connection permits and cross reference them with addresses to find which are gravity and which are low-pressure. Henry suggested that only those properties connected after 2006 be cross-referenced.

Upon a Novinger/Holman motion, the Authority voted unanimously to table further discussion until the September 5th meeting. Office staff will be instructed to notify any callers that enforcement of the requirements are on hold.

Sunshine Hill Water Leak

Ed reported that the water leak on Sunshine Hill has finally been insolated and repaired. The well has been pumping 36,000 gallons per day since November and is now pumping 16,000 gallons per day. He offered that that increased the water supply capabilities.

He offered that the leak was found only a short distance from a customer's basement but no evidence of leakage was ever found anywhere in the vicinity.

Odor Control Building

Chairman Auxt presented a bill from Tim Beitzel for the electrical work he performed at the odor control building on Schoolhouse Road. Upon a Holman/Auxt motion, the Authority voted unanimously to pay Tim Beitzel \$806.05, as per his estimate.

Penn Township Newsletter

The Authority had received an email draft of an article to be submitted to the Township for its fall newsletter. Upon review, it was decided to remove any mention of the sewer certification requirements, since they are on hold. Revisions were also made to the section about the latest Market Street sewer line replacement.

Dino's Restaurant

Chairman Auxt reported that Dusin Bratic, the owner of Dino's Restaurant and the former Citgo property was in the office. Mr. Bratic was told that the tapping fee had been paid for the Citgo property and that he has been paying the monthly sewer fee. Regarding Dino's, there is a duplex wet well and the grinder pumps have been removed. Chairman Auxt stated that he does not think a tapping fee has been paid and asked Karen to research if Mr. Bratic has purchased Reservation of Capacity.

Resignation of Scott Smart

Chairman Auxt reported that on August 1st, Scott Smart left him a message on his cell phone stating that he was resigning from the Authority, effective immediately. Chairman Auxt later asked Mr. Smart to submit a written resignation, but to date Mr. Smart has not done so. Upon consensus, the Authority accepted Mr. Smart's verbal resignation. Karen will notify the Township in writing of the resignation.

Executive Session

At 8:05 p.m. the Authority entered into Executive Session to discuss legal matters. At 8:15 p.m. the meeting reconvened, with no action taken.

Porta-Potty Issues

The Solicitor stated that he did not have time to research the issue of the Porta-Potty at Eagle's Nest Car Sales. Chairman Auxt offered that Road Hawk might have been issued a permit for a Porta-Potty when it was located on State Road, and assumed that it could be used for the new location on Main

Street. The Solicitor offered his opinion that a business can't have a Porta-Potty in lieu of connecting to the sanitary sewer; it is not a permanent solution. He will confer with the Township's solicitor and further discuss the issue.

Chairman Auxt asked if the Authority could require a business to install a bathroom. The Solicitor did not feel that it could; however, he felt a business could be told it was not allowed to have a Porta-Potty.

CeCe repeated her past concern over the new mandated MS-4 requirement that all run-off water from storm sewers must be treated. She questioned Eagle's Nest washing cars with the cleaning solution going into the ground and the storm sewers. This triggered a discussion about all the car lots in the Township. The Solicitor's opinion was that this was a Township issue, and not an issue for the Authority.

Regarding Road Hawg and the beer distributor, Chairman Auxt noted that it has a septic system and is in an isolated pocket. To connect to the sanitary sewer, Road Hawg and the beer distributor would have to go under SR11/15 and connect at the MH on Main Street, or go under Market Street and connect at the MH near Noye Park. Henry suggested that a wet well could be installed in their parking lot, run the line coming down from Business Campus One into the wet well, and pump it across the bridge into the next MH.

Adjournment

With all business completed, a Novinger/Auxt motion for adjournment was made at 8:35 p.m. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Karen Rhinehart
Recording Secretary