

WALLACE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
MAY 10, 2011

The Wallace Township Municipal Authority meeting of Tuesday, May 10, 2011, was called to order at 7:02 PM in the Municipal Building by the Chairman.

Members present: Barbara D'Angelo, Chairman
 Steve DePedro, Vice Chairman
 Roger Irey
 Tom McClung

Also in attendance: Steve Riley, Entech Engineering
 Matthew Boggs, Entech Engineering
 J. Keath Fetter, Esquire
 Residents of Indiantown Road
 Jack Burk, Septic Services

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following residents attended the meeting regarding the force main extension project on Indiantown Road: Ron Dankanich, Doris Bair, Martha Roeder, Tom McElroy, and Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Matlack. Serving as spokesman for the group, Mr. Dankanich thanked the Authority for allowing the residents to connect to the public sewer system and for allowing them to use the E-One grinder pump. He mentioned the total engineering and construction costs for the project is approximately \$103,000 or about \$20,600 per each of the five participating residents. Therefore, he requested some consideration in waiving the tapping fee to help ease their financial burden. Mr. Fetter advised the Tapping Fee Resolution of 2005 contains a provision giving the Authority the ability to waive all or any portion of the tapping fee in instances where someone other than the Authority pays for the facilities being constructed. The amount of the tapping fee was based upon calculations performed by the previous Authority Engineer which took into consideration various components, including conveyance, treatment, capital projects, and debt service payments. Mr. Fetter also mentioned that he, Mr. Riley, and Mrs. Bednarchik discussed whether the grant of a waiver of the tapping fee in this instance might also entitle some developer to a waiver in the future. However, it was concluded there are factual differences in this situation that distinguish it from a typical developer's situation which are sufficient to avoid setting a precedent; namely, the hardship faced by the existing homeowners with failing on-lot septic systems and no alternate means of disposal versus a developer who has the option to either build individual on-lot systems or some type of package plant or simply choose not to buy a particular piece of property. Mr. Fetter explained the intent of the tapping fee is to reimburse the Authority for the capital costs of constructing the system. Operation and maintenance costs cannot be included in the tapping fee because those costs are included in the user fee. In this instance, the construction costs are being incurred by the homeowners; however, the Authority did incur costs to construct the treatment portion of the system. The Authority debated whether to waive the tapping fee in its entirety or to waive only the conveyance portion of the fee. After lengthy discussion, Mr. Irey moved to waive the tapping fee in its entirety for the five residents participating in the Indiantown Road extension project on the basis of hardship. Mrs. D'Angelo seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. In the event the sixth homeowner decides to connect at a later date, the Authority will collect a full tapping fee and distribute some or all of that fee to the original participants to help defray their costs. In addition, it was

determined that individual applications for connection will not be required for this project. The subject of an escrow account for construction and inspections was also discussed. Mr. Fetter suggested there be a short form agreement between the residents and the contractor to specify that construction must be in conformity with the Authority's specifications and to specify the items that must be inspected. Mr. Riley confirmed he has reviewed and found the plans prepared by Joe Boldaz to be acceptable, and there are notes on the plan for the contractor to follow, including a note that the construction and materials must conform to the Authority's standard specifications. Mr. Riley requested a construction schedule from the contractor and will attempt to keep inspections to a minimum once he is satisfied that the project is going smoothly. Lastly, Mr. Fetter mentioned the Authority will be adopting a revised resolution regarding ownership and maintenance of the grinder pump and lateral. Upon completion of construction and certification by the engineer that the work has been satisfactorily completed, the Authority will own and maintain the extension of the force main and the lateral onto the property up to the discharge nipple on the street side of the tank, and the property owners will own and maintain the gravity lateral from the house up to and including the grinder pump and the tank. The spare E-One grinder pump to be provided by Site Specific Design, Inc., will be kept at the treatment plant for use by the Operator in the event of an emergency.

Mr. Fetter suggested the calculation of the tapping fee should be revisited and brought up-to-date since the debt service portion has been satisfied while the capital costs have probably increased. This will be done in conjunction with the outcome of the asset management plan.

MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. DePedro, second by Mr. Irely, the minutes of the April meeting were unanimously approved as written.

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Clean Water, Inc., dated 5/09/11, re: Operator's monthly report for Glen Moore.
2. Clean Water, Inc., dated 5/09/11, re: Operator's monthly report for Highspire.
3. J. Keath Fetter, Esq., dated 5/07/11, re: Solicitor's monthly report.
4. Entech Engineering, Inc., dated 5/06/11, re: Engineer's monthly report.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The following bills were presented for consideration:

- a. Verizon - **\$174.34** for phone @ operations bldgs. (Glen Moore & Highspire)
- b. Clean Water, Inc. - **\$2,485.00** for operator services @ Glen Moore & Highspire (April)
- c. Jan Bednarchik - **\$627.00** for secretarial services (April)
- d. PECO - **\$1,902.86** for electric @ main pump station & Devereux (\$1,103.13) and Highspire WWTP and pump station (\$799.73)

- e. Analytical Laboratory - **\$853.15** for lab testing (Glen Moore & Highspire)
- f. Entech Engineering - **\$3,249.89** for engineering services (3/26 – 4/29/11)
- g. Swartz Campbell - **\$750.00** for legal services (March)
- h. Ink's Disposal Service - **\$200.00** for cleaning main pump station
- i. PreDOC - **\$4,360.00** for rebuilding grinder stations @ 1980 & 2010 Creek Road
- j. Eagle Hardware - **\$21.98** for trash bags at Highspire WWTP
- k. G. Bauer Pest Control - **\$93.50** for mosquito treatment @ lagoons
- m. Wallace Township - **\$47.76** for mowing at treatment plant

TOTAL: \$14,765.48

Mr. DePedro moved to approve invoices “a” through “m” above for the month of May, as presented. Mr. Ireys seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

OPERATOR'S REPORT

Glen Moore WWTP

There were no violations of permit conditions in April.

There were four emergency visits in April: 571 Fairview Road (bad float), 159 Indiantown Road (clogged pump), 2050 Creek Road (bad contactor, and 2010 Creek Road (clogged pump). PreDOC performed an unscheduled rehab at 2010 Creek Road because the pump junction box was in poor condition and a new shut-off valve was needed in the tank. PreDOC also completed the previously scheduled rehab at 1981 Creek Road.

Spraying has been limited due to the wet weather. G. Bauer Pest Control has begun the monthly treatment for mosquitoes at the lagoons.

The curb wrench used for opening valves in the street was stolen from outside the operations building. The Operator had been keeping it outdoors for use in the event of an emergency. He will purchase a replacement and store it indoors.

The valve box at Devereux has water leaking into it because the ground water is so high. The Operator thinks water is leaking through the seam between the two sections and suggested having Pikeland Construction investigate the leak to see if grouting the seam would correct this condition. Mr. Riley will contact the Operator for clarification. Pikeland will be authorized to take remedial action, if warranted.

Highspire WWTP

There were no operational problems to report.

A. J. Blosenski discontinued the trash service due to concerns about their workers handling the bagged screenings. The Operator will make alternate arrangements for disposal.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Fetter attended the meeting to give the Solicitor's report as follows:

Municipal claims will be filed shortly against Baum, Clements, N. McDonough, and J.E. Trego for nonpayment of user fees for the first quarter of 2011. In addition, Heritage-Highspire is delinquent in the reimbursement of engineering and legal invoices related to that development. Contact has been made with Heritage's attorney about these delinquent invoices.

A revised resolution was prepared stating that the Authority will accept ownership of and have maintenance responsibility for the Indiantown Road force main extension and for the laterals from the force main to the discharge pipe nipple at the tank, and that the property owner will own and have responsibility for maintaining the pump/tank itself and the gravity lateral from the house to the pump/tank. The resolution incorporates a drawing prepared by Entech Engineering which delineates the division of ownership and responsibility between the Authority and the property owner.

A separate resolution was prepared to specify the interest rate to be charged on municipal claims filed by the Authority at ten percent (10%) per year. This confirms and continues the established practice of the Authority in the form of a resolution pursuant to a recent court decision.

The topic of defining the limits of ownership and maintenance responsibility between the home owners and the Authority was discussed at great length. A decision was made to adopt a two-fold policy for the Indiantown Road extension and existing homes in the Glen Moore system whereby the property owners involved in the Indiantown Road extension project will own and maintain all facilities located between the property line and the house, including the curb box and valve, the pressure sewer lateral from the property line to the grinder pump/tank, the grinder pump/tank itself, and the gravity sewer lateral from the house to the grinder pump/tank, and the Authority will own and maintain the force main extension and the sewer lateral between the force main and the property line. This policy will also apply to all new construction going forward. For the existing homes in the Glen Moore system, the Authority discussed transferring ownership and maintenance responsibilities for the grinder pump/tank itself to the home owners at such time as each grinder station has been completely refurbished with a new pump, floats, and control panel, with the Authority retaining ownership and maintenance responsibilities for the sewer laterals from the force main to the grinder pump/tank up to and including the discharge pipe nipple at the tank. Further discussion on changing the protocol for the existing homes was deferred until after the asset management study is completed.

Mrs. D'Angelo moved to rescind the approval at last month's meeting of Resolution No. 11-1, which delineated the limits of responsibility regarding ownership and maintenance of the force main extension, grinder pumps and laterals for the Indiantown Road project, and to authorize the Solicitor to prepare a revised resolution based on the discussion at tonight's meeting for formal adoption at the next Authority meeting. Mr. DePedro seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Mr. Riley will prepare a revised construction detail to be attached and incorporated as part of the resolution. He will also contact Joe Boldaz about the Authority's change in position so he can notify his clients.

Mrs. D'Angelo moved to adopt Resolution No. 11-2, a resolution establishing and confirming the rate of interest at 10% per annum to be assessed and collected on municipal claims and liens. Mr. DePedro seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Dankanich – The Indiantown Road extension project was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Asset Management Plan – A meeting was held with Phil Tiewater on 4/27/11 to review the spreadsheet and discuss the results. Questions were posed to him on how some of the formulas were working and the validity of the resulting data. Mr. Tiewater went back through the spreadsheet and made another round of revisions, and was originally scheduled to present the spreadsheet at tonight's meeting. Mr. Riley shared some concerns and uncertainties that he and the Secretary have about the process and the resulting data. One of the main concerns is that the spreadsheet assumes the replacement cost for the various assets to be the same at the end of their life expectancy as today's cost. Mr. Tiewater took on another job over and above his consultant work after being retained by the Authority, and that may have interfered with his ability to devote time to this project.

E-One Grinder Pumps – As a follow-up to the presentation from representatives of E-One pumps at the April meeting, Entech has done further research on the pumps and reviewed with Brian Norris the concept of using them for the Indiantown Road project. The pumps themselves are known within the industry as being another alternative to Little Giant and Hydromatic. Entech's review determined these pumps are satisfactory and will work for the intended use. Brian did not have a problem with having to keep a spare pump in his inventory and was amenable to their use in the WTMA system. Entech recommended the Authority allow the E-One pumps to be used as part of the Indiantown Road project, but as a test case before making any changes to the Authority's standards on which pumps are to be utilized for other installations.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

Robert Bezgin is expected to begin the annual audit shortly.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM. The next meeting is Tuesday, June 14, 2011,

Respectfully submitted,

Jan C. Bednarchik
Secretary