

WALLACE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
JULY 10, 2012

The Wallace Township Municipal Authority meeting of Tuesday, July 10, 2012, was called to order at 7:00 PM in the Municipal Building by the Chairman.

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

Also in attendance: Matt Boggs, Entech Engineering

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

MINUTES

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

CORRESPONDENCE

1. Clean Water, Inc., dated 7/08/12, re: Operator's monthly report for Glen Moore.
2. Clean Water, Inc., dated 7/08/12, re: Operator's monthly report for Highspire.
3. J. Keath Fetter, Esq., dated 7/09/12, re: Solicitor's monthly report.
4. Entech Engineering, Inc., dated 7/06/12, re: Engineer's monthly report.
5. Entech Engineering, Inc., to Stan-Roch Plumbing, dated 6/29/12, re: bid award.
6. PMAA Government Relations Newsletter, dated 6/30/12.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The following bills were presented for consideration:

- a. Verizon - **\$172.46** for phone @ operations bldgs. (Glen Moore & Highspire)
- b. Clean Water, Inc. - **\$2,365.00** for operator services @ Glen Moore & Highspire
- c. Jan Bednarchik - **\$1,023.00** for secretarial services (June)
- d. PECO - **\$1,435.68** for electric @ main pump station & Devereux (\$692.90) and Highspire WWTP and pump station (\$742.78)
- e. Analytical Laboratory - **\$587.65** for lab testing (Glen Moore & Highspire)
- f. Entech Engineering - **\$6,511.89** for engineering services (5/26/12 – 6/29/12)
- g. Wetzel Gagliardi & Fetter LLC - **\$2,235.00** for legal services (June)
- h. Ink's Disposal Service - **\$1,113.00** for cleaning main and Devereux pump stations
- i. PreDOC - **\$675.00** for service calls @ 1941 & 1800 Creek Road
- j. G. Bauer Pest Control - **\$93.50** for mosquito treatment @ lagoons
- k. Eagle Hardware - **\$21.98** for bug spray for Highspire WWTP
- l. Commonwealth of PA (DEP) - **\$130.00** for annual service fee (Available Operator Reports for Glen Moore and Highspire Estates WWTP)

- m. Postmaster - **\$179.00** for annual PO Box Rent and stamps
- n. Daily Local News - **\$91.37** for legal notice re: work session 6/18/12 and special meeting on 6/26/12

TOTAL: \$16,634.53

Mr. DePedro moved to approve invoices “a” through “n” above for the month of July, as presented. Mr. Irey 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 June: 430 Fairview Road (clogged pump), 3 Ashlea Drive (pump tripped), 1870 Creek Road (stuck float), and 130 Indiantown Road (pump tripped). PreDOC was also called to pull a clogged pump at 1800 Creek Road. The chain had completely corroded off. The clog was cleared and the chain was replaced. Deckman’s Electric still has the 3hp pumps for evaluation.

The spray field has been cut and harvested. A broken riser in the spray field will be repaired. The lagoons were treated for mosquitoes.

The generator worked well during the recent power outage.

Highspire Estates WWTP

Ink’s Disposal has been scheduled to haul sludge.

The generator worked well during the recent power outage. Martindale Propane will be called to fill the tanks.

G. Bauer Pest Control will spray weed killer to the stoned yard area.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT

The following customers remain delinquent for the 2nd quarter: David Bright, John Hammond, David Larkins, Bryan McDonough, Nancy McDonough, and James Trego. Municipal claims will be filed in August against those accounts that remain delinquent. The amounts due on the Nancy McDonough and James Trego accounts and their persistent refusal to pay leave the Authority with no alternative but to pursue sheriff’s sale proceedings against those properties. The Solicitor will move forward promptly with all necessary steps to execute on the Authority’s liens and list the properties for sale.

Steve Riley participated in a meeting on 6/27/12 with John Maczonis and Gia Raffaelli, Esq., of Heritage, and Craig Kologie and Mike Crotty, Esq., for the Township to discuss Heritage's plans for completing the remaining work at Highspire Estates. As anticipated, Heritage reported that its bank will not advance further funds beyond what remains in the existing construction escrows. Steve is confident that sufficient funds remain in the Authority's escrow to complete the remaining punch list items for the sewer system, but Heritage will not be able to purchase the required maintenance bond. It is likely the Authority will want to join in any agreement reached between Heritage and the Township. Mrs. D'Angelo added that the Township has asked Heritage to obtain current bids to complete the remaining roadwork, and try to obtain guarantees from the contractor(s) for their work. The contractor(s) will be paid directly from the escrow. Any remaining balance in the escrow will be given to the Township as maintenance security.

It is believed the Supervisors would support the Authority obtaining a loan of \$300,000 to finance replacement of up to approximately sixty grinder pumps at the present time, with the Authority retaining responsibility for maintenance, repair and replacement of all pumps, new and old. Tim O'Neill, the Authority's bond counsel, is awaiting confirmation from the bank that financing in that amount is available. Mrs. D'Angelo reported that the Board of Supervisors was receptive to the additional information and borrowing options presented by Mr. McClung and Mr. Irely at the July 5th meeting, and confirmed the Board is amenable to supporting the \$300,000 loan.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Purchase of E-One Grinder Pumps – Additional reference checks were made for the low bidder, and a recommendation letter was prepared for Stan-Roch Plumbing. Mr. Boggs contacted Stan-Roch and received written confirmation to extend the bid for a reduced number of pump units to be rehabbed. Site Specific has also agreed to hold their price of the E-One pump. The grinder pump survey was reviewed to identify the number of pumps needing replacement in 2012. In addition to the regularly scheduled Authority meeting in June, the Engineer also attended the Township Board of Supervisors' meeting, the Authority work session, and the public meeting with the customers.

Highspire Estates WWTP – Mr. Boggs and Mr. Riley attended a meeting to discuss dedication of the roads and treatment plant with Township representatives and the Developer. The escrow balance was reviewed and discussions were held with the Authority Solicitor. There was also discussion with the Authority regarding cleaning of manholes.

Grinder Pump @ 1941 Creek Road – As discussed at the last meeting, a site visit was held with PreDOC to video the lateral to try to identify the cause of a backup onto the neighbor's yard. The video was inconclusive due to heavy debris in the line. Further work is recommended, including cleaning the line with a jet header, followed by video. The Engineer is awaiting a cost estimate from PreDOC for this work. Since the work is to be performed within the lateral, the work should be paid for by the property owner.

OLD BUSINESS

Approximately twenty customers attended the special meeting on Tuesday, June 26, to hear the presentation on the proposed grinder pump replacement project and the impact on user fees. A follow-up letter was composed to let homeowners know the Authority will continue to maintain the entire sewage collection system, including repair and replacement of the grinder pumps. The mailing will include an updated fact sheet and cost estimates for the various project options, along with a copy of the Authority's "Do's and Don'ts" guide for proper use of the grinder pump system. The fact sheet from Site Specific with operating procedures and maintenance information on the E-One pump will not be distributed to the homeowners until their grinder pump is scheduled for replacement. One issue discussed at the meeting was the need to strictly enforce the Authority policy of billing homeowners for repairs resulting from user neglect and abuse. Mr. McClung suggested the Operator include more detailed information in his monthly report on emergency service calls, especially those related to clogged pumps, in order to better determine whether the call is billable to the homeowner. Mr. DePedro pointed out that some calls for clogged pumps should not be billable if the grinding mechanism is worn down from age. The Authority may excuse the older pumps from being billed for service calls related to clogs, except in obvious cases of clogs due to plastic or other prohibited materials, and enforce the policy going forward on the new pumps. Mr. Irely will also contact Anthony DiRouso at Site Specific to see what their protocol is for handling and reporting service calls.

Mr. Boggs has identified fifty-five grinder stations to be rehabbed based on the recent survey completed by the Operator. He will verify this list with Brian Norris, and the Secretary will also review the maintenance log to determine the history of service calls on each pump. It was suggested the Operator should be entering detailed information on each service call directly into a computer program for improved recordkeeping and to easily track chronic problems at specific addresses. A computer was supposed to have been provided by Heritage Building Group a few years ago for the Operator's use. Receipt of the computer will be verified, and internet access will need to be established.

At the Engineer's suggestion, it was decided to continue using PreDOC to service the existing pumps. This will ensure that grinder stations are not prematurely recommended for rehab, and will help stay within the budgeted limit of twelve additional rehabs per year.

In addition to the fifty-five rehabs, the Authority also discussed moving forward with stabilizing the banks of the lagoons with rip-rap and purchasing a spare spray pump. Mr. DePedro suggested moving forward with the lagoon stabilization now while the ground is dry. Mrs. Bednarchik noted that the lagoon levels also need to be very low, and this usually doesn't occur until late fall when the lagoons are prepared for winter storage. Mr. Boggs will specify the type and amount of stone to be used, and will obtain a ballpark price to determine whether the project will need to be bid. The specifications will be prepared now so the project is ready to go as soon as the conditions are right. Mr. Boggs will also obtain a quote on the 30hp spray field pump and estimates on replacing the fence.

The Secretary will contact Mike Wolf and/or Tim O'Neill to inquire whether they have received confirmation from DNB that it will fund a loan amount of \$300,000, and whether there are any changes in the terms. If DNB is agreeable to the new loan amount, then revised documents will need to be prepared for the Board of Supervisors to sign. If DNB declines, then Mike Wolf will need to secure another bank. Mrs. D'Angelo reported that the Supervisors received favorable feedback from some of the customers who attended the special meeting, and they were pleased with the Authority's revised plan. Mr. Boggs will provide the Supervisors with a list of the grinder pumps chosen to be rehabbed. The next Township meeting is Thursday, July 19.

Mr. DePedro moved to approve the borrowing of \$300,000 for replacement of approximately fifty-five grinder pumps and other capital improvement projects, as discussed, and to authorize the Engineer to issue the Notice to Proceed to Stan-Roch Plumbing upon receipt of the loan commitment from the bank, without having to wait until the August meeting. Mr. Irey seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved. Mr. Boggs will notify Stan-Roch of the status of the project and will begin working out the details on how to notify the customers and coordinate the work.

Mr. McClung mentioned that one of the Supervisors suggested raising the user fee higher than currently projected for the first year and then forgoing the smaller increases in subsequent years. This suggestion was dismissed in favor of keeping the user fee more affordable for the users with modest increases in the future.

Mrs. D'Angelo announced that the Board of Supervisors established a new rate for mowing and other maintenance assistance to the Authority at \$40/hour. Therefore, the invoice for the month of April was reduced from \$1,300 to \$800.

NEW BUSINESS

The annual Available Operator Reports for the Glen Moore and Highspire Estates facilities were updated for submission to DEP. The forms were signed by the Chairman and will be returned to DEP along with the Chapter 302 Annual Service Fee of \$65 per facility.

The PMAA Annual Conference is scheduled for August 26-29 at Hershey Lodge & Convention Center.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM. The next regular meeting is Tuesday, August 14, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan C. Bednarchik
Secretary