

August 26, 2013 - Antrim Township Municipal Authority

ANTRIM TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

of the JOINT MEETING with the ANTRIM TOWNSHIP

BOARD of SUPERVISORS of AUGUST 26, 2013

The Antrim Township Municipal Authority met with the Antrim Township Board of Supervisors, Monday, August 26, 2013 at 7 p.m. in the Greencastle Senior Center, 10615 Antrim Church Road to discuss funding for Municipal Authority projects with the following Municipal Authority members in attendance: Rodney Eberly, Chad Murray, Rick Baer, Elwood Myers and Dale Hostetter. Also attending were Linus Fenicle, Solicitor; and Carl Rundquist, Public Works Director. Supervisors in attendance included: Fred Young III, Chairman; Pat Heraty, Vice Chairman; James Byers and Rick Baer, who also represents the Municipal Authority. John Alleman, Board member was absent from the meeting. Brad Graham, Township Administrator and John Lisko, Township Solicitor were in attendance. Audience members included Scott Mehok and Eric Hyne.

Chairman Eberly called the Authority meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

On a Murray/Baer motion passed 3-0 (Eberly and Myers abstained as they did not attend this meeting) the meeting minutes of June 24, 2013 were approved

On a Myers/Hostetter motion passed 3-0 (Murray and Baer abstained as they did not attend this meeting) the meeting minutes of July 26, 2013 were approved.

On a Baer/Murray motion passed 5-0 the Treasurer's Report for Water along with the payment of bills was approved.

On a Murray/Hostetter motion passed 5-0 bills for payment from the Repair and Improvement Fund were approved.

Rundquist reported that the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) has recently asked for an update on the Corrective Action Plan and a schedule for the improvements to be made for Shanks Church Road bypass sewer before the Township is allowed any future planning for sewage connections.

Chairman Young called the Antrim Township Board of Supervisors to order at 7:08 p.m.

Rundquist reported that the Authority is facing two major projects that must be completed according to the Consent Order and Corrective Action Plan. One is a sludge dewatering system in the form of a screw press at the wastewater treatment plant at a cost of an estimated \$1.2 million and the second is the Shanks Church Road sewer bypass at a cost of an estimated \$2.3 million. The Authority has already applied for a \$2.4 million Penn Works Grant/Loan, with awarding of the grants/loans to be announced September 17, 2013. Even if the Authority received the \$2.4 million grant/loan a matching \$816,000 would be required from the Authority. Along with the matching funds Rundquist would like to have at least \$250,000 in a capital improvement/project fund for any emergencies that might occur.

In the meantime, Rundquist was working with figures for the "worst case scenario," which would mean the Authority would have to fund these projects on a very limited budget showing a little more than \$1.2 million in the sewer fund money market account, which is to be utilized for capital improvement projects and a little more than \$900 thousand in the sewer budget. If there is no grant/loan received Rundquist said the Authority would have to borrow the entire amount to complete the projects. In addition to borrowing the money needed, Rundquist proposed a raise in sewer quarterly rates from

\$115.50 to \$130.50 to at least recoup the interest on the loan and add money to a capital improvement/project fund. Depending on the interest rates and the term of the loan rates and the amount of grant money received, it may be necessary to raise rates up to as much as \$135.00 per quarter.

Supervisor Byers asked if the screw press project could be put on hold to which Rundquist replied that the sludge process is extremely important to any treatment plant and that at this time, the one press is too small and can't keep up with the process and the other press doesn't work at all. Both presses have some age to them he added. He continued that this project is part of the schedule for DEP as part of the Township's Consent Order. Under the Corrective Action Plan, there are 75 new sewer connections permitted in a year.

Solicitor Lisko asked what money was available in sewer accounts and asked if there was any problem with putting the \$1,208,942.06 in the Money Market Account into a project fund and use this money for the screw press project. Administrator Graham explained that the Money Market Account was a rainy day fund for emergencies.

Mehok of Eckert Seamans, Bond Counsel for the Township, who drew up the lease agreement between the Township and the Municipal Authority, stated that it all depends on the comfort level of the amount of money needed for day to day operations. The Sewer Checking Account must be at least \$250,000 which is required in the lease. Rundquist said that he was comfortable with having \$250,000 as an operational amount.

Lisko said that he thought a Capital Improvement Fund should be set up and transfer \$950,000 from the Sewer Fund Money Market Account into the Capital Improvement Fund for the Authority's use in capital improvement projects. That would allow the Authority to proceed with the screw press project.

In the meantime, and prior to the Shanks Church Road project and depending on what grant monies are received, the Authority will have to consider borrowing money and hopefully may be borrowed from the Township at a fair interest rate.

Rundquist said that the design for the screw press is now underway and is scheduled for completion next year. The design for the Shanks Church Road project will begin in December with completion set for 2015.

Eberly said that the Authority is responsible for Capital Improvement Projects and gives approval for them to be done but must recommend that these projects be done to the Board of Supervisors for their approval and their instruction to staff to complete these projects. He said that the Authority needs to have control of the Capital Improvement Fund.

Lisko responded that the money is supposed to be in the Capital Improvement Fund for the ATMA's use, according to the lease agreement, but the money was never placed in that fund.

Lisko, along with Young assured the Authority that once that money (\$950,000) is in the fund the Authority would have control of its use, to which the other Supervisors in attendance agreed.

Rundquist agreed to let everyone involved know of what monies are received through the PennWorks Grant/Loan so that decisions may be made in a timely manner on how to finance the other projects, if necessary.

Byers asked about the results of videoing/inspecting the Hykes Road sewer lines prior to road construction. Rundquist said that project had been completed with four minor leaks found which would require about a weeks worth of work to repair. Otherwise, everything seemed to be in good shape and was adequately sized and felt that nothing else had to be done before road paving could begin.

The Board of Supervisors thanked the Municipal Authority members for all they do.

A Heraty/Byers motion passed 4-0 (Alleman was not in attendance) to adjourn the Board of Supervisors at 8:17 p.m. with the Authority continuing with their agenda.

Eric Hyne of Maryland Line Road was in attendance to ask about options he would have for his property which has a single family dwelling connected to public sewer and a studio to the rear of his property which is also connected to public sewer. Hyne was considering turning the studio into a rental property, and wondered if he would have to pay an additional equivalent dwelling unit (EDU) if the property is rented. He also asked if he would have to run a separate line if he would choose to subdivide the studio from the single family dwelling.

Hyne was told that if the studio was to be used as a rental unit, another EDU would be assessed. If he chooses to subdivide the property an additional sewer line would need to be run for the studio with a deed to reflect that there is a right of way agreement for access to the sewer line; a repair and improvement charge would be assessed prior to approval of the subdivision plan; and a tap fee would be charged for a new line.

Rundquist reported that there was a forcemain break discovered August 16th at lift station #13 on Scar Hill Road with sewage solids entering a dry intermittent stream bed. The repair was made August 17th and a non-compliance report was filed with PA DEP. To get to the repair, brush in the area of the forcemain had to be cleared to gain access. An outside contractor was hired for the forcemain repairs. This brought up the discussion again of using the Township's road crew for these purposes rather than an outside contractor which would result in a savings. Rundquist said he has requested their help previously but in this case, the road crew had already finished at 3 p.m. Friday and the leak was not discovered until 4 p.m. Authority members requested a fee schedule for equipment and work performed by the Township from Administrator Graham.

Rundquist reported that influent lines at pump stations 3, 8, 14 and 9 were televised to see why they were clogging. A severe belly was found at lift station 3 and clogged screens are causing the issue at lift stations 8, 14 and 19.

A contractor installing a gas main on Armada Drive, drilled through a sewer line and Rundquist reported that they have repaired the sewer line at their cost. Rundquist continued that the line had been marked by Township personnel in accordance with PA One Call.

Gary Ambrose of Rabbit Road North requested to have a grinder pump installed at his property as there are three houses in that area connected to one pump at this time. Ambrose would like to have one pump to service his house that he would own and operate. There was no action taken on this request as Rundquist wants to obtain more information.

Rundquist informed the Authority of a Digester Improvement Proposal presented at a cost of \$1,446 which consists of a mixture of chemicals and micro organisms for use at the wastewater treatment plant and asked if they were interested in the proposal. If the product does not show any improvement at the plant, ½ of the original cost would be refunded, but if the product shows improvement in the digester, cost would be \$48.20 per week/or \$2,506.40 per year. Eberly said that it was an operational expenditure and that the proposal should go to the Board of Supervisors for approval. Rundquist thought that this mixture would improve the operation of the digester.

Authority members received a proposed project design proposal for the Shanks Church Road Project from Buchart Horn Inc. The design cost of the proposed \$2.2 million project is \$156,000.

Plans for the Greencastle Senior Center to connect to Antrim Township's sewer system have been received and are under review. When approved, the project will go out for bid.

Rundquist reported that three new watertight manhole covers have been installed in the Coseytown collection area in conjunction with the Corrective Action Plan. The previous manholes were allowing surface water to enter into the collection system.

Water Treatment Plant operations are going well with Rundquist noting that PA DEP will not allow old filters to be used at the plant. Some of the old electronics at the plant will be recycled. Rundquist stated that we are in the beginning stages of filter removal.

Rundquist said that the Greencastle Area Franklin County Water Authority meeting with the Municipal Authority was held August 19 to discuss the forthcoming water systems study to determine the feasibility of a joint water authority. These meetings will continue the third Monday of each month.

With all agenda items being addressed, on a Murray/Myers motion passed 5-0 the meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m. The next meeting of the Antrim Township Municipal Authority will be Monday, September 30, 2013 at 7 p.m. in the Greencastle Senior Center, Antrim Church Road.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce A. Nowell

Recording Secretary