

EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES
JULY 2, 2009

The East Goshen Township Municipal Authority held a special meeting on Thursday July 2, 2009 at 7:30 AM at the East Goshen Township building. Members in attendance were: Fran Beck, Dana Pizarro, Mike Steinberger, Jack Yahraes and Joe McCawley. Also in attendance were: Township Manager Rick Smith, Director of Public Works Mark Miller, Jeff Beach & Fred Papiernik from Worth Associates, Fred Ciufu and Matt McAloon from Pennoni Associates, Scott Towler and Dave Evans from Brickhouse Associates, and Mary Ann Stoltzfus from Dutchland.

COMMON ACRONYMS:

MA – Municipal Authority

HC – Historical Commission

PC – Planning Commission

CB – Conservancy Board

PR – Park & Recreation Board

BOS – Board of Supervisors

I&I – Inflow & Infiltration

RCSTP – Ridley Creek Sewer Treatment Plant

LCSTP – Lockwood Chase Sewer Treatment Plant

DEP – Department of Environmental Protection

EPA – Environmental Protection Agency

PHMC – Pennsylvania Historical Museum Commission

NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Fran Beck called the meeting to order at 7:30 AM and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. Those in attendance introduced themselves.

2. RIDLEY CREEK SEWER TREATMENT PLANT

Jeff Beach thanked the Authority for scheduling the meeting and introduced Mary Ann Stoltzfus of Dutchland.

Mary Ann noted that she is aware of the Authority's concerns about the SBR Tank Wall and that her presentation is designed to address these concerns.

In response to the questions of "why are their cracks?" she noted that the panels flex slightly under load. Concrete is strong in compressions and weak in tension while the re-bar is just the opposite.

With regards to the question of whether or not Dutchland provided the specified product Mary Ann distributed a copy of a June 30, 2009 letter from Steven Close, and his resume, noting that he is a recognized expert in the field and sits on the American Concrete (ACI) 350 Committee. In his letter Steven Close "opines" that "Dutchland's tank design and reinforcing bar detailing for the Ridley Creek" is in conformance with ACI 350-06 Code.

Mary Ann also noted that she was aware of the other concerns that the Authority had with the SBR Tank.

1. With regards to the SBR Tank location she noted that the tanks were staked out by Worth.
2. As for the water stop, she stated that Dutchland pulled the tape from the wrong location. However, this problem has been corrected.

3. She noted that the steps and hoist sockets were noted on the plans, however, drilling them after the fact is acceptable, and this will be done at Dutchland's expense.
4. As for the corbels or shims Dutchland missed them during construction and will install them.

She suggested a remediation plan that would consist of Dutchland sealing the cracks, drilling and installing the anchors for the stairs and hoists, and installing the shims. Mary Ann also distributed a Tank Warranty/Inspection agreement dated July 1, 2009 which would address what would occur during the 10-year warranty period. She then asked for questions or comments from the Authority.

Joe McCawley noted the Authority had a lot of issues with this project which caused it to hire a Project Manager.

Dana Pizarro questioned "when did the cracks occur?" He commented that it was reported that Dutchland's engineer had stated that it may have been a result of handling. Mary Ann noted that this was a casual off the cuff remark made during the initial part of the investigation.

Joe McCawley asked if it would be possible to install piers to strengthen the wall and Mary Ann advised that they would not be needed.

Fred Papiernik asked about the tank the Dutchland had constructed for a similar project last year, which apparently had significantly more steel in it. Mary Ann stated that tank was next to an active quarry and the design criteria were different.

In response to a statement from Mark Miller that the liquid levels in the tank will vary during the treatment process, which may cause the wall to flex, and the crack to open and close. Mary Ann stated that the sealer would address this issue.

Dana Pizarro asked about the warranty and Mary Ann suggested that there would be a separate warranty for the flexural cracks in the walls.

Mike Steinberger questioned the amount of time it was taking to resolve this problem. Mary Ann stated that Dutchland had responded to Pennoni's requests for information within 24 hours. Pennoni then had to review the information, which naturally took longer, but she felt both engineers were trying to resolve the matter as quickly as possible.

Rick Smith questioned if Dutchland had provided Pennoni with all of the information that it had given to Steven Close. Mary Ann was not sure, but said she would do so.

Rick Smith suggested the following course of action.

1. Dutchland will forward to Perry Schram, Pennoni's Structural Engineer, the information that was sent to Steve Close of Jorgensen & Close Associates, so everyone has the same data.
2. Pennoni's Structural Engineer will meet with Dutchland's in house structural engineer next week and review the calculations face to face.

3. If Pennoni's Structural Engineer concludes, based upon new information, that the SBR tank walls comply with ACI 350, then the tank will be deemed acceptable to the Authority.
4. If Pennoni's Structural Engineers does not change his original conclusion, a third party engineering firm (mutually agreed upon by Dutchland and Pennoni) will review the aforementioned data and verify if the design meets ACI 350 standards.
5. Dutchland can begin making repairs to the cracks in the SBR tank walls, at their own risk.

Mary Ann stated Dutchland would be willing to travel to Pennoni's State College office if required, and will make Steve Close available by phone if need be.

In response to questions from Joe McCawley about the SBR tank location and the relocation of the screen building, Jeff Beach stated that Worth would pick up any additional electrical costs, which were caused by moving the screen building. He noted that the screen building was relocated because of its proximity to the EQ tank and unsuitable soil. Doing this eliminated the need for shoring. The Authority would get a credit for this and for the reduction in excavation that resulted in shifting the SBR tank to the west eight feet.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT – *none*

4. ADJOURNMENT

Joe McCawley moved to adjourn. Jack Yahraes seconded the motion. No further discussion or public comment was made. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted by: _____
Louis F. Smith, Jr. Township Manager