

EAST GOSHEN TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES
May 11, 2020

The East Goshen Township Municipal Authority held their regular meeting on Monday, May 11, 2020 at 7:00 pm. Due to restrictions caused by the COVID-19 virus, the meeting was held via electronic conferencing Zoom. Members in attendance were: Chairman Phil Mayer, Kevin Cummings, Jack Yahraes, and Walter Wujcik. Also in attendance were: Jon Altshul (Township Asst. Manager), Mark Miller (Director of Public Works), Mike Ellis (Pennoni), Robert Jefferson (Gawthrop), Scott Towler (Plant Operator) and Michael Lynch (Township Supervisor).

COMMON ACRONYMS:

<i>BFES – Big Fish Environmental Services</i>	<i>MA- Municipal Authority</i>
<i>BOS – Board of Supervisors</i>	<i>NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System</i>
<i>CB – Conservancy Board</i>	<i>PC – Planning Commission</i>
<i>DEP – Department of Environmental Protection</i>	<i>PM – Prevention Maintenance</i>
<i>EPA – Environmental protection Agency</i>	<i>PR – Park & Recreation Board</i>
<i>HC – Historical Commission</i>	<i>RCSTP – Ridley Creek Sewer Treatment Plant</i>
<i>I&I – Inflow & Infiltration</i>	<i>SBR – Sequencing Batch Reactor</i>
<i>LCSTP – Lockwood Chase Sewer Treatment Plant</i>	<i>SSO – Sanitary System Overflow</i>
	<i>WAS – Waste Activated Sludge</i>

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

Phil called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. There was a moment of silence to remember our medical and healthcare staffs, troops, veterans and first responders.

Phil asked if anyone would be recording the meeting. There was no response.

Chairman’s Report

1. West Goshen - Phil reported that he attended West Goshen’s meeting via conferencing. The digester replacement is almost complete. They have another estimate for Westtown Way Pump Station which is \$3,157,000.00. He spoke about the expenses and a government grant for infrastructure improvements. They continue to work on designs and permits. Phil feels both townships should apply together. Jon feels there may be things that can decrease the cost. Robert spoke with Patrick McKenna today. The 1977 original agreement has 8 amendments that they will check out and get back to the MA. Mark mentioned that they went to an on-site meeting a while ago and the cost keeps going up. He would like to get the details to see what the big items are. He thought it was going to be a rebuild. Are they building a whole new facility? He will call them for a meeting.

Sewer Reports

1. Director of Public Works, Mark Miller’s report for April 2020:

Monthly Flows: The average daily flow to West Goshen was 802,000 gal/day.

Meters: The meters were read on a daily basis, as well as portable meters. The portable meters that are in Bowtree will be removed at the end of the month. Before being reinstalled, they will need to be sent out for calibration.

C.C. Collection: The weather kept us very busy this month between the rain and the high winds which knocked out power to the pump stations. We are also checking the pump stations and the muffin monsters on a daily basis for wipes and gloves. To date, we have not

experienced any problems with foreign objects at the pump stations. As I mentioned, we had several power outages during the month of April due to high winds. At one point all stations were on emergency power. Hershey Mill Pump Station was on emergency power for 3 days before switching back.

We located some INI during routine maintenance on the Chester Creek Collection System. We took care of that last week. We were notified of a lateral blockage on Margo Lane that we cleared.

R.C. Collection: The stations were visited each day.

Ridley Creek Plant:

Alarms: We responded to 47 alarms in April.

PA One Calls: We responded to over 136 PA One Calls for the month of April.

Rainfall: 7.43 inches for April.

Lateral Caps: We replaced 8 lateral caps.

2. Pennoni Engineer's Report for April dated May 6, 2020

Invoices – Invoices with summaries were provided under separate cover.

Ridley Creek Sewage Treatment Plant (RCSTP)

Generator Replacement – The design of the concrete generator pad has been completed and the construction plan was submitted to the Township for construction by the PW Dept. This was a redesign of the original intent, which was to re-use and expand the existing pad, because the anchor bolts for the generator would be located in close proximity to the joint between the new and existing pad. The existing pad is now proposed to be completely demolished with a completely new pad installed.

Tallmadge Drive Sewer Main Replacement

The 2-year maintenance bond period ends March 21, 2021.

I&I Support and Reporting

No activity by Pennoni since our last report.

Hershey's Mill Pump Station Generator Replacement

No activity by Pennoni since our last report.

Chapter 94 Reports

DEP has directed that hard copy reports will now be accepted via mail. They had previously directed that the reports be held until they determined a submission procedure. We are assembling hard copies for submission.

New Connections

We evaluated alternatives for potential connection of an existing house at 222 Westtown Way to the public sewer system in coordination with Mark Miller.

Act 537 Planning – Grant Opportunity

There is an open grant through PA DCED's Sewage Facilities Program for Act 537 Planning. The possibility of a revisit/update of the Township-wide Act 537 Plan has been discussed at recent MA meetings. The purpose of this program is to fund such plans. It was also the grant that was used for the Act 537 Planning associated with the Reservoir Road Pump Station a few years ago. The MA may want to consider if an application should be pursued. Applications are due May 31. There would need to be a DEP-approved Task/Activity Report (TAR) in place to submit with the application. A TAR is a scope of work and detailed cost estimate. It may not be possible to obtain that TAR approval by May 31, but we could contact DEP to see if it could be done, if there is interest by the township and MA in pursuing the grant. We have other municipal clients that do not yet have a TAR approval either but are aggressively pursuing with DEP to be able to apply for the grant.

A 50% match is required, and a resolution has to be included in the application. Costs for Township-wide planning vary dramatically depending on the scope and extent of alternatives, evaluations and public involvement, generally between \$25-70K. I would expect this to be on the lower end since most of the Township is already sewered, and the primary alternative to evaluate would be sewer extensions to areas with on-lot systems and to determine updated build-out flow projections for the RCSTP and Chester Creek systems. Those projections were last estimated about 15 years ago, and led to RCSTP upgrade, Lockwood Chase STP closure, and various sewer diversions. An updated projection would allow for an assessment of the future need/timeframe of the Reservoir Road Pump Station, evaluation of flows in the West Goshen system vs intermunicipal agreement capacity, and need for use of the 4th SBR tank and ultimate capacity at the RCSTP, amongst other things.

Discussion: Mike Lynch mentioned that he lives in Goshen Downs which is all onsite systems. People are replacing their existing systems. There hasn't been calls from residents to be hooked up to the public system. He doesn't feel this is urgent. Mark commented that since there is no funding in the 2020 budget for this we should wait. The MA members agreed to wait on this.

3. Big Fish Environmental Services –

The Ridley Creek sewage treatment plant outfall 001 achieved compliance with the permit discharge limitations for the month of March 2020. Discharge to the Applebrook irrigation lagoon remained off line. Chemical usage utilized for pH and total alkalinity remained consistent with previous months. No significant mechanical or operational issues were observed during operation of sludge dewatering equipment or SBR treatment process. On April 10th the treatment plant received heating oil mixed within the influent wastewater. Operations were adjusted to prevent loss of the biomass, lessen impact on the disc filters and compliance with the NPDES permit. A copy of the letter sent to PADEP is included with this report and outlines the corrective actions employed.

Scott reported that the plant achieved compliance during March. There were two major rainstorms. He will try to stagger filter replacement every 6 months. He explained the process which is labor intensive. The Flow Meter in the field measures the flow into the plant. It has been inconsistent. Mark suggested a mag meter on the pipe to the wet well and move the portable flow meter into the sampling manhole. Scott will do this. Scott is still working on finding a new lab.

Approval of Minutes

Walter moved to approve the April 13, 2020 minutes as amended. Kevin seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Invoices

1. Pennoni - Kevin moved to approve payment of the following Pennoni invoices:

Pennoni Invoice #1022333	\$ 1,069.25
Pennoni Invoice #1022332	\$ 468.75
Pennoni Invoice #1022334	\$ 1,017.75

Walter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Jack moved to approve payment of the Gawthrop Invoice #223910 in the amount of \$500.00.

Walter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Jack moved to approve the Maillie invoice #1000097986 in the amount of \$9,300.00. Walter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Liaison Reports

1. Board of Supervisors – Mike Lynch thanked the Township staff for all they are doing during this difficult time. They received the arbitration for the police department. Jon mentioned that the budget cuts will be presented to the BOS next week. The Earned Income Tax is a concern.
2. Conservancy Board – Walter mentioned that they have a meeting this week.

Financial Reports

Jon Altshul provided the following written report:

In April, the Municipal Authority recorded \$174,861 in revenues (primarily via a transfer from Sewer Capital Reserve of \$171,208 for the generators) and \$176,014 in expenses (again, primarily for the generators), for a negative variance of \$1,153. As of April 30th, the fund balance was \$4,200.

Goals

Goals for 2020 were discussed.

New Business

None

Adjournment

There being no further business Kevin moved to adjourn the meeting. Jack seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm. The next regular meeting will be held on Monday, June 8, 2020 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Kiefer
Recording Secretary