

Orwigsburg Municipal Authority
Meeting Minutes
October 16, 2017

The Orwigsburg Municipal Authority met on Monday, October 16, 2017 in Council Chambers. Chairman Rod Schaeffer called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

In attendance were: Chairman Rod Schaeffer; Vice Chairman John Boyer. Members: Matt Baran, Rick Bubeck, Bill Bandholz.

Visitors: Bryon Killian and Natalie O'Connor of Entech Engineering; Utility Supervisor Dave Teter.

A motion to approve the September 11, 2017 minutes as presented was made by Matt Baran, second by John Boyer. Unanimous.

Public Comment

None

Engineers Report

Bryon & Natalie reviewed the revised Capital Improvement Plan, following is a summary of the revisions:

Executive Summary

- Added SSO (Sanitary Sewer Overflow) history
- Percentage of Sewer System exceeding life span
- Major issues if no action is taken
- Change from 20 year to 50 year planning projection
- Advantages of a Regional Authority
- Financing Options

Added impact the Interceptor Project had on the sewer system and the overflows that were not affected – Manholes #65 and #153 in Drainage area #5.

Background

Replacing VCP pipe (majority installed in 1964) with PVC pipe for a 100+ lifespan

Previous Completed Projects

2004 – Sanitary Sewer System Inflow Identification – Smoke Testing Program
2005 – Cleaning and Televising Inspection Project
2005 – Root Removal Project
2006 – Grouting Project
2008 – Chapter 94 Report
2008/2009 – Manhole Inspection Program / GIS Mapping
2010 – Ridgeview MH and Lateral Rehabilitation Project
2010 – MH Rehabilitation Project
2011 – Sewer Main Point Repair Rehabilitation Project
2012 – Emergency Sectional Dig and Replace Project
2015 – Interceptor Realignment Project
2016 – Sewer Flow Redirection
2016 – On-line Asset Database

WWTP Flows – lists several significant flows and plant capacity going back to 2004

Wastewater Collection and Conveyance System – System and Drainage areas 1 thru 5 overview

Rehabilitation / Replacement Alternatives – Associated costs per Basins 1 thru 5 for complete collection system replacement

Bryon will add a time frame to the projects

Priority area – Manholes #65 & #153 – probable cost: \$550,000.00

User Rates / Tapping Fees

Current rates: \$95.00 minimum per quarter
\$2.50 additional 1,000 gallons
\$108.00 Flat rate
\$1,691.57 Tapping fee

Report shows a rate comparison between Schuylkill County municipalities

Recommendations for Financial Assistance

- PennVest
- Rural Utilities Service (RUS)
 - Grants
 - Municipal Bonds
 - Sewer Revenue Funds
 - Private Bank Loan

Recommended Alternative

Recommends completion of high priority project at \$550,000.00 which will potentially eliminate the reoccurring SSOs at manholes #65 and #153. Impact on quarterly user rate would be \$6 to \$8 per EDU to cover the debt service cost for the project. Recommends Municipal Bonds or Bank Loan for this project.

- Complete total replacement in one project - \$12,000,000. One 40 year loan. User rate \$210.00 per EDU (\$90.00 increase to current average quarterly bill).
- Complete replacement in two projects – Two 30 year loans borrowed consecutively
 - 1st project - \$6,000,000 in 2019 – user rate \$162.00 per EDU
 - 2nd project - \$11,000,000 in 2049 based on 2% annual inflation rate – user rate \$238.00 per EDU
- Complete replacement in three projects – 20 year loans
 - 1st project - \$4,000,000 in 2019 - \$159.00
 - 2nd project - \$6,000,000 in 2039 based on 2% annual inflation rate – user rate \$217.00 per EDU
 - 3rd project - \$9,000,000 in 2059 based on 2% annual inflation rate – user rate \$304.00 per EDU

After the revision review the following items were discussed:

- Factor in additional costs for brakes and issues in between projects
- Due to the digging time throughout the year only borrow what's need for each project like a home equity loan. Not paying interest on whole loan and increase rates incrementally
- With a new 100 year system start building a capital improvement fund
- As replacements are done in phases – structure a plan for replacements in the future so were not at this point again
- Plan for new developments
- Incorporate road improvement with each project
- Improvements/developments on Rt 61
- WWTP does have ample capacity for growth but the issues is getting it through the deteriorating pipes
- Identify manholes that are within 2, 4, 6 inches of overflowing
- Add another appendix showing the picture of raw sewage inches from overflowing the manhole
- Find a way to incrementally do this in one project would have the best cost effect on the rate payer – possibly take a project like this and do it with a large organization
- Next step will be to present plan to Council in January
- Bryon will put together a cover letter showing 3 different options to accompany the Capital Improvement Plan with project recommendations
- Consensus of the Authority is to recommend Option 1 total replacement at \$12,000,000.00
- Bryon suggested to start moving on the \$550,000.00 project (MH #53 & #165) at least to try and minimize the SSOs.

Bills List

A motion to approve payment to Republican Herald in the amount of \$72.98 for advertising was made by John Boyer, second by Rick Bubeck. Unanimous.

A motion to approve payment to Entech Engineering for Invoice #57080 in the amount of \$5,313.75 for Capital Improvement Plan was made by John Boyer, second by Rick Bubeck. Unanimous.

A motion to approve payment to Entech Engineering for Invoice #57079 in the amount of \$320.00 for meeting attendance was made by Bill Bandholz, second by Matt Baran. Unanimous.

Old Business - none

New Business - none

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 2:10 pm on a motion made by John Boyer, second by Rick Bubeck. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted

Sherry M. Edwards
Borough Secretary