

NORTH HUNTINGDON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY  
 WORK SESSION, JULY 8, 2015, 5:30 P.M.  
 YOUGHIOGHENY WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLANT  
 4222 TURNER VALLEY ROAD, NORTH HUNTINGDON, PA 15642

**Roll Call:**

Jeffrey Fisher	- Present	Michael Branthoover, General Manager	- Present
Todd M. Fry	- Present	Charles J. Gilbert, System Supt.	- Present
Timothy J. Hondal	- Absent	Christy J. Raspotnik, Finance Director	- Present
Joseph M. Korenic, Jr.	- Present	Christopher Sanner, Asst. System Supt.	- Present
William H. Miller	- Present	Daniel J. Hewitt, Solicitor	- Present
		David A. Coldren, KLH Engineers	- Present

**Citizen's Input**

Ron Palarino Sr. and Ron Palarino Jr. – 10560 Route 30 – Palarino's Car Wash

Ron Palarino Sr. asked the Board to consider the evaluation of the amount of city water that actually flows into the sanitary sewers versus running off on the road and discharging in the air. They've listed the ways the water flows into the sanitary sewers and their cost breakdown. They also have pictures to show the different ways all the water is not going into the sewers. They presented statistics with the number of cars washed in 2013, 2014 and 2015. They used those numbers to determine the percentage of water that is dissipating in the air and carried out of the car wash. They also used the water statements and sewage statements to coincide with everything. They had three different companies determine the amount of water that dissipates in the air. That was paid for by the International Car Wash Association. Some of the water is left in truck beds. They have a three million BTU furnace. Anytime a car runs through, the car is totally dry. It takes 4.5 seconds to evaporate one gallon of water. The summary shows the amount of gallons that are not going into the sewer. Right now it's 31,000 and it's based on a monthly basis. All the numbers are based on three things: the water statement bill, the sewage statement bill and the reference sheet.

Attorney Hewitt said he can believe the math but the only way we can say yes, you're taking in less than what you're taking in water, is if we have a reading of that, not a calculation of what it might be. The one way that protects you and protects and the Authority it's other customers, is if you have a meter that says what's going into the NHTMA line.

Mr. Coldren said when they spoke before it would require some type of manhole or meter vault with some type of ultrasonic meter. That was the sticking point because of the cost. It was going to be about \$15,000 to get the meter installed.

Ron Palarino Sr. said their estimated cost savings is about \$500 a month.

Mr. Korenic stated right now we have a policy in place that does not allow for this so what you're asking for is a policy change. We don't take policy changes lightly. The policy that we're under right now written before any of the board members were here. For us to even consider changing a policy, it would have to be hard numbers and not on estimates. Hard numbers would mean a meter.

Mr. Branthoover suggested getting in touch with a company that does flow studies who could put a meter in for a month to test their theory.

Attorney Hewitt said they would still need to be metered.

Ron Palarino Jr. asked if there would be anyway to avoid the up-front cost.

Mr. Branthoover said it may be worth it for them to try a study and come back with some hard numbers. Changing policy at this point would be very difficult but it's not off the table.

Ron Palarino Jr. asked them to discuss if they could do something.

Mr. Coldren asked if they have a percentage in mind.

Ron Palarino Sr. said their calculation comes out to be 24% and they doesn't include the truck beds.

Ron Palarino Jr. also said additionally they have to clean the pits out and they get shipped out of state. He asked for any discount they can get, even if it's small.

### **Manager's Report**

Mr. Muchler was the remaining party to grant an easement for the cemetery to extend the sewer line on Bridge Street. He has verbally agreed but was not ready to sign until there were written documents for him explaining the right-of-way through his property. It required a twenty foot permanent easement.

The audit was completed last week by Maher Duessel. This was Christy's first audit. There was nothing but questions and comments and it seems that it will be a good audit.

The WWMA Ardara Pump Station is estimated to be about \$50,000 to bring it up to our standards.

Penn's Woods II is about 60% complete only two months into their contract. They are well ahead of schedule. Two roads are done and there is one more road to do.

Effective June 9 we started a new procedure when doing a final dye test on new home we are televising the lateral in conjunction with the dye test. Through some of the WWMA managers and the I&I discussions they found that pipes actually separate during backfill and that is not caught through a dye test.

Further investigation shows that the Barnes Lake property was not a cost effective proposition to extend the sewers and would be a huge liability. The homeowner who inquired was informed.

The new hires are doing fantastic and have turned out to be great new hires. They have been working well and catching on very fast. They have been out with the jet truck, on pump station rounds, going over the equipment and lab stuff. Some of the other guys commented they seem to be working out well.

A letter was received regarding a lady who is a resident of the township. Her name is Patricia Glasser, she is an elderly resident who is now residing in a personal care facility in Greensburg. Mr. Branthoover has had several conversations with her about discontinuation of service. Mr. Branthoover also spoke with her brother, Donald Pfal and he didn't understand why we couldn't discontinue billing because the water is off. The disconnect and billing procedures were explained. They were also to Patricia Glasser several times. The address is 11410 Brook Street. She is 84 years old and is in a personal care facility right now. The letter states the water was turned off in January 2012. She couldn't understand why she kept getting sewer bills when the water was off. For personal reasons, the owner does not want anyone in the house to do the disconnection of the sinks and toilets that is necessary to stop the billing. The brother said he would sign an affidavit saying the water was turned off and further requests that there be no disconnection from the township sewer system outside of the home. This is a common problem and it's been the Board's policy to not grant any type of discount. If this is still the case, Mr. Branthoover will issue a response the Board stands fast and does not offer discounts until they do discontinuation of billing procedures. He will also send a copy of the disconnect procedures.

Three bids were received on the sale of the 2001 vactor/jet vacuum unit. The high bid was \$47,000 by Miller Pipe Tech. The approval of the sale will be requested at the regular meeting. The value was estimated to be around \$75,000 but we were expecting around \$50,000.

WEFTEC early bird discount if July 15 for anyone who wants to register. It's in Chicago from September 26 through 30.

**Solicitor's Report**

All items were reviewed in Executive Session.

**Engineer's Report**

Abec submitted Change Order #3 under contract 2014-4 for \$5,250. It was to add circuit breakers and relays at each of the five stations. This will SCADA to allow individual pump failures.

**Finance Director's Report**

There were no items to report.

**System Superintendent's Report**

Chuck didn't have anything to report. He wanted to thank everybody for 45 years he's had with the Authority and would do it all over again. He has no gripes and feels he's been treated fairly even when he was in the union before he became management. He enjoys working with everyone and hopes to see them in the future.

**Assistant System Superintendent's Report**

During the weekend of the 13<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup> when we had almost four inches of rain the Long Run and Stewartsville Pump Station did bypass. DEP was contacted as soon as we knew it occurred. Katey Boon, our regional representative prepared the incident report and submitted those individually and with our monthly DMR. With all the clear water that's why we're trying to do the Penn's Woods area because it did bypass. Hopefully with the work we're doing it will help to eliminate a good portion of that.

**Adjournment**

The Work Session adjourned at 7:30 PM.

  
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William H. Miller, Secretary