

NORTH HUNTINGDON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY  
 Work Session, March 2, 2011, 5:30 P.M.  
 Youghiogheny Sewage Treatment Plant  
 4222 Turner Valley Road, North Huntingdon, PA 15642

**Roll Call:**

Andrew Blenko	- Present	Kate Petrosky, Manager	- Present
Edward P. Shields	- Present	Donald J. Snyder, Jr., Solicitor	- Absent
Drew Polczynski	- Absent	Daniel J. Hewitt, Solicitor	- Present
Timothy J. Hondal	- Present	Chuck Gilbert, System Superintendent	- Present
Joseph M. Korenic, Jr.	- Present	David A. Coldren, KLH Engineers	- Present
		Michael L. Branthoover	- Present

The Work Session of the North Huntingdon Township Municipal Authority was called to order at 5:58 P.M.

**Citizen's Input**

No citizens were present.

**Manager's Report**

The draft budget will be ready before the April meeting. The first budget work session will follow the April 6 regular meeting. There will still be enough time for another work session if the Board needs it. The budget will then be adopted at the May meeting. The current Trust Indenture requires that the budget be adopted by the last day in April, but it is routinely done at the May meeting. As part of the bond issue, the language is being changed in the Trust Indenture to adjust those dates.

Engineer Coldren prepared an inventory of the force mains. The Board discussed if and how the Authority monitors the condition of the force mains. Mr. Hondal believes that there needs to be some mechanism put in place where potentials are identified and prioritized since it is known that there are issues with the force mains. This will allow for planning and budgeting. Going forward, there needs to be a plan where replacement is due to criteria and not just history. The Country Hills project was based on internal TV inspections. The Authority knew the age of the lines and that they were made of terra cotta. The Authority is also using SCADA which shows infiltration.

Mr. Gilbert explained the difficulties associated with inspecting the force mains. Because they are under pressure, with no manholes, normal inspection methods are not possible. Shutting down a station in order to televise creates the potential for a bypass. Re-routing the flow, and televising, will not necessarily reveal internal problems, since the majority of force-main failures are due to faulty construction methods, such as placement of rocks under or over the line.

Mr. Hondal also recommended that the Authority being a program of right-of-way walking. With the current problems in Country Hills and the potential for future problems with encroachments, walking rights-of-way is a very important part of maintenance. It is constantly adding unknown costs to the Authority. Mr. Hondal recommended that as encroachments are identified, the offending property owner be put on notice in the event the encroachment must be removed for future maintenance. It would be the owner's responsibility to remove the encroachment. The Board and Authority need to come up with a plan and schedule for maintenance because Asset Management is just as important as Capital Improvements. The Board also weighed the options of flow being monitored by an outside company versus training staff.

The Authority will be soliciting bids for a contractor for emergency repairs. A scope of work is being prepared for the bids based on specs from other authorities.

Mrs. Petrosky advised the Board that Mrs. Powell may be attending the April meeting. Her lateral needs repaired but she doesn't have the money so she would like to speak with the Board about it.

Mrs. Petrosky passed out information on benchmarking through the end of 2010. The number of credit card payments is starting to pick up. There have been 70 or more payments over the last month. The Board questioned if the payments are mostly from delinquent accounts.

Mrs. Petrosky is working on a draft newsletter that the Board may consider sending out maybe once a year.

There was a backup last week on Richard Road. There had been a history of problems there. The insurance company may be covering the damages. The homeowner had owned the home for about just 48 hours, and the seller is helping with the cleanup. Roots were found in the line.

The Authority would like to advertise for two summer helpers. They are kept busy cutting grass, painting and doing maintenance.

### **Solicitor's Report**

Attorney Hewitt reported the SWAP is continuing. There is a Resolution on the Agenda that reaffirms the Resolution done in 2005. There is a pre-closing meeting in Pittsburgh on March 31 with the sale of the bonds to take place in early April.

Attorney Hewitt received a draft of the sanitary sewer easement for the Dankovich property on the corner in the Chestnut Hill plan. The line extends beyond the actual easement. During the final inspection, a buried manhole was found on that parcel. When the contractor raised the manhole, they realized the line ended. The contractor's attorney initiated the easement to correct the mistake. It was recommended to take action to authorize the execution.

### **Engineer's Report**

The low bidder for the CBDG Laterals, Phase 3 was Border Patrol. They have cleaned up their paperwork for their registration with the State. The County is paying for the project. It will be a pass-through to the County. The County has reviewed the paperwork from Border Patrol and is satisfied with the information. Approximately 35 laterals will be replaced. It will be recommended that Border Patrol be awarded the bid.

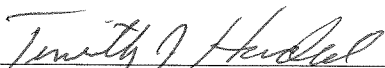
Engineer Coldren presented a quote from the Costars program for the pole building. Clark Contracting has the State contract to build these metal garage buildings. The cost without a floor and without pipe bollards would be \$55,000, and to add the floor and bollards it would be \$72,000. The Board requested more information about the cost of man hours and material for site preparation and maintenance.

Engineer Coldren gave an update on the Parkside Pump Station survey. The surveyor has located six of the seven property corners. There is a lot going on with the parcel. Keith Staso's driveway crosses property owned by Dr. Ditoppa, the Township and the Authority. Dr. Ditoppa's fence is on the Authority's parcel. The location of the storm sewers is being televised. The survey should be done by the next meeting, and then Authority can then get an appraisal.

Engineer Coldren reported the two existing Wallace Tiernan gas chlorinators need to be replaced. The cost to replace the existing system would be about \$25,000. A decision has to be made because the chlorine system is going to fail. Approximately \$6,000 is spent per year in chlorine gas. A second option would be to buy liquid bleach (sodium hypochlorite) in bulk. The chemical would have to be trucked in once a month. The capital cost for the bulk tanks, day tank and metering tank would be about \$50,000. Chemical costs would be about double what they are now. The on-site generation is the newer technology, especially to the sewer industry. The capital cost on that is \$300,000 plus and then add chemical costs. The Board requested more information on the sodium hypochlorite bulk system for the April meeting.

### **Adjournment**

The Work Session adjourned at 7:00 PM.



Edward P. Shields, Secretary

Timothy J. Hondal, Asst. Sec./Treas.