

MINUTES

JOINT MEETING BOARD OF SUPERVISORS & S.M.T.M.A. FEBRUARY 19, 2009

PRESENT: Bryan Gembusia, Tom Faley, Jim Baker, Ron Reeder, Rick Reighard, Barbara Wilson; Jarrett Sweeney; Brian O'Neill, Sandy Quickel; - South Middleton Township; Bob Kissinger, Terry Rickert, Ron Hamilton, Randy Watts, Gerald Christopher, Doug Glass, Craig Wilson – SMTMA; Mary Zeigler, Richard Zeigler, Rodney Wagner, Kevin Mellott.

Chairman Gembusia called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Both Boards & staff members introduced themselves.

Chairman Gembusia introduced Rodney Wagner. Mr. Wagner stated that he is a candidate for Magisterial District Judge. He spoke of his background information & credentials. The Board thanked him for introducing himself & wished him luck.

WALKING TRAIL CHURCHTOWN TO B.S. – Use of R-O-W from SMTMA:

Bob Kissinger stated that in 2006, Vern Graham approached the Authority with this issue. Mr. Graham was told that the Authority would cooperate with the plan, but not with the r-o-w. It would be easier to move the location of the trail so that the trail does not abut any of the water lines. Terry said that approximately 20% of the land they need is in the Township's jurisdiction. Several Board members attended a meeting on this issue, & that the committee is not sure of where the trail should be located. It was decided to send a letter to Monroe Township stating the Township position & interest in this issue.

BOILING SPRINGS LAKE DISCUSSION:

Terry Rickert discussed the possibility of transferring ownership of the Children's Lake to the Township. He pointed out that the lake has a good aquifer recharge, is an asset to the Township, & he doesn't want to lose it. He has heard that 2 other organizations may be interested in taking ownership of the lake from the Fish & Boat Commission. He is in favor of preserving the lake & feels that liability is not an issue for concern. Mr. Rickert would like the Board of Supervisors to take an interest in ownership or having the Municipal Authority get involved with this issue. He said that the Municipal Authority, Supervisors & residents have put in a lot of work around the lake. Rick Reighard stated that the Fish & Boat Commission approached the Central PA. Conservancy (CPC) about taking ownership of the lake. The CPC thought the ownership agreement only included the race, not the entire lake & area. Their Board will not agree to own all of the land. Tom Faley stated that there will be public outcry if the lake is filled in. He feels the state should meet their responsibilities, including financial aspects, of ownership of the lake. Bryan Gembusia stated that both boards should work on a plan to preserve it.

FURNACE PARK UPGRADES:

Bob Kissinger stated that the Municipal Authority was approached by Trout Unlimited about doing some improvements at the furnace park. He noted that the Township performs maintenance work, such as mowing, at this area. An agreement & an Operations & Maintenance (O&M) plan would be required. There is grant funding available for this type of project. Brian

O'Neill stated porous paving could be used in order for better stormwater drainage. Brian will contact Trout Unlimited to ask them to prepare an O&M plan.

ACT 537 UPDATE:

Bob Kissinger explained the pilot study. He stated that DEP approved the pilot study. The 5 year permit period for Phase 1 has expired. Phase 2 permits have not been issued. Barb stated that the Township may need to do an interim map to update the proposed areas for sewer under Act 537. Mr. Kissinger feels that the Authority needs to coordinate plans with Monroe Township since they are working on their Act 537 plan. Monroe Township owns 27% capacity of the Authority's plant. Randy Watts feels we should determine areas for future sewer lines because zoning districts will change in 10-15 years. Terry Rickert said that the comprehensive plan needs to be incorporated when planning future areas for public sewer. Barb said that the comprehensive plan was recently approved & hopefully will be good for about 10 years. There are already 3,500 approved building lots not built upon. Terry Rickert suggested discussing this issue again with Township Officials.

UPCOMING ORDINANCES:

The Pretreatment Ordinance was approved at the last meeting. Bryan Gembusia expressed concern that if a developer builds near a wellhead area, if there is sufficient information given to a potential landowner about precautions that should be taken in the wellhead area. Terry Rickert said that pesticides need to be limited. He asked if this issue is monitored. Brian O'Neill replied that no homes have been built in the area as yet. Notification of this issue is placed in the deeds, an informational packet is given at the offer of sale, & is in the Homeowner Association document.

WATER AND/OR SEWER SERVICE AREAS – Request to extend:

Monroe & Dickinson Townships have both requested extension of the Municipal Authority's water/sewer lines into their townships. A decision needs to be made whether to stop the water/sewer lines at the Township boundaries, or whether to pursue a regional concept. Per agreement with Monroe Township, they receive a capacity of 200,000 gpd. The Municipal Plant is currently at a capacity of 750,000 gpd, but can expand to 1.5M gpd. **(Jim Baker arrived at this time)**. A recent request from Dickinson Township was received wanting to reserve capacity at the Carlisle treatment plant. Ron Reeder asked if the members want him to leave this discussion since he is the Township Manager at Dickinson. He was told no. Rick Reighard's opinion is that the 3 municipalities take care of our own needs or else a regionalization is needed. SMT's Board members all agreed not to extend sewer lines into the Agricultural zones. Jim Baker also included not extending into the Woodland Conservation zones. Bryan Gembusia feels that the Township can look at neighboring municipalities' needs, but impact on SMT residents must be protected. Ron Reeder stated that there are 3 developments planning on building at the SMT/Dickinson boundary line.

UPDATE ON CHESAPEAKE BAY INITIATIVE & TMDL's:

Bob Kissinger stated that the EPA is setting limits for contaminants. Brian O'Neill said that if these limits don't work out, new limits will be set.

DISCUSSION REGARDING WATER & SEWER RATE STRUCTURE:

Bob Kissinger discussed the increase in water & sewer tap-in connection fees in 2009. The rates have not been increased since 1991. The sewer tap-in fee increased from \$3,971.00 to \$4,233.00. The water tap-in fee increased from \$1,226 to \$1,318. It was felt that this increase will be good for 10 years. The increase in cost will help with painting water tanks, building new ones, etc. The biggest cost involved relate to larger water tanks for EMS use at the warehouses.

ACTION ITEMS:

Rick Reighard suggested holding another meeting in 6 months.

QUESTIONS/OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Terry Rickert would like the Supervisors to let the Municipal Board members help to choose a new member when there is a vacant seat on their board. He wants to keep a good balance on the board & that they know the strengths & weaknesses of the members.

Terry Rickert discussed the request from Land O'Lakes plant. The plant wants the Municipal Authority to accept their wastewater to the treatment plant. Their plant currently handles 400,000 – 500,000 gpd. He feels this should be done for them. This would be an expensive endeavor for them to treat it themselves. Rick Reighard said that they never know how much milk they will be processing on any given day. Bryan Gembusia suggested seeing if Land O'Lakes will pay for the treatment of the wastewater, & to make sure there is no impact on SMT ratepayers. Randy Watts said it would cost them between \$7-10 million to treat the wastewater. Consensus was given to proceed with the treatment process as requested.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

ATTEST:

Sandra A. Quickel, Secretary

SOUTH MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Bryan A. Gembusia, Chairman

Walter G. Reighard, Vice Chairman

James N. Baker, Member

Ronald L. Reeder, Member

Thomas E. Faley, Member