

MINUTES

**SOUTH MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP
520 PARK DRIVE
BOILING SPRINGS, PA 17007**

JOINT MEETING BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, SMTMA, MONROE TOWNSHIP, & MONROE TOWNSHIP AUTHORITY

JULY 24, 2012

PRESENT: Bryan Gembusia, Ron Hamilton, Rick Reighard, Tom Faley, Barbara Wilson, Cory Adams, Jarrett Sweeney, Sandy Quickel, Solicitor Richard Mislitsky – SMT, Robert Kissinger, William Brown, Doug Engle, Craig Wilson, Donald Baker – SMT Municipal Authority, Bill Castle, Sam Simmons, Phil Kehoe – Monroe Township, Suzanne Sunday, Doug Stouffer – Monroe Township Municipal Authority, Monroe Township Solicitor Michael Pykosh, Max Stoner – Glace Associates, Mark Bruening & Danielle Farrell – Remington Vernick & Beach.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Supervisor Ron Hamilton who welcomed everyone & explained the reason for the meeting. Assistant Manager, Cory Adams, acted as the mediator for the meeting. On behalf of Monroe Township, Supervisors Phil Kehoe thanked South Middleton for hosting the meeting & looks forward to working with all parties on this issue. Cory turned the discussion over to Max Stoner.

I. Brief description of Authority Sewage Treatment Plant upgrade/expansion project:

Mr. Stoner gave an update of the proposed project that began in 2008 with the Chesapeake Bay Initiative. One criteria is to meet new discharge limitations to the Yellow Breeches Creek. The current SMTMA plant was constructed in the mid-seventies. The SMTMA selected the most cost effective plan for the upgrade as possible. A tank was installed in the mid-nineties to utilize more capacity. This allowed for up to an additional 750,000 gallon capacity based on the projected flows. The NPDES permit has been received, & the SMTMA plans to advertise for bids next Tuesday (July 31). All permits and approvals have been received except for the construction permit and one permit dealing with floodplains. The SMTMA applied for a Special Exception through the Zoning Hearing Board at Monroe Township who recommended approval for the construction in the Agricultural Zone. There will be two more buildings & an upgrade to the existing plant, and upgrade to the electrical system. No additional employees will be added. Cory asked for comments from Monroe. Bryan asked if the plant expansion is due to DEP requirements or due to the Chesapeake Bay Initiative. Max stated that the current plant could not handle high flows from both municipalities. Phil asked if the plant is being doubled because of that issue, & is not the Chesapeake Bay Initiative. Max replied that is correct. Mark Bruening

stated that the design plan was not reviewed by Monroe. Bryan asked Monroe if they feel the plan is over-designed. They answered yes. Don Baker explained the justification for the plant increase – if one pump or grid goes down, there is a backup, & during construction one-half of the plant will be down for a period of time. Mark suggested a group meet with the engineers to discuss this issue. Bryan added that it is smarter to do a larger design for more capacity, & that the costs of products increase every year. Sam Simmons said Monroe has not seen any information on the equalization tanks. Max stated that the 2011 flows from both townships were the highest ever. Barbara Wilson asked if fines are imposed if a plant is over capacity. Max stated that the SMTMA reports information each month regarding the flow levels. Craig Wilson said fines are typically not imposed during a state of emergency. Barb asked what the fine amounts are. Max said that it varies. He said one client's fine was \$5,000.

Cory asked for Monroe's top three concerns. They listed: 1) money; 2) size of the project; & 3) cost sharing (compliance vs. expansion).

II. Breakdown of estimated costs for the Sewage Treatment Plant upgrade/expansion project:

There were questions about an issue with the garage. Max said that each item is separate in the bid package. There was discussion whether the additional equalization tank is needed. Rick added that a more detailed intermunicipal agreement between the two municipalities is needed. Bob added that their Act 537 plans calls for an expansion. The only area in Monroe Township that is seeking additional capacity is Allenberry. They want an additional 30,000 gallons. Bob stated that if Monroe wants to purchase the additional 30,000 gallons, the request must be in writing. He stated that Allenberry has contacted the Authority, but were told the request has to be from Monroe Township.

III. Time schedule for construction project and mandated compliance schedule:

Cory asked for South Middleton's top three concerns. They listed: 1) compliance schedule. Bob stated that a 2-year extension has already been granted to the Municipal Authority. The tentative bid award date is September 30, 2012. 2) to ensure the facility is constructed to benefit the customers. 3) Monroe's 200,000 gallons of capacity & how it relates to the intermunicipal agreement. It was noted that for numerous months, Monroe's capacity has exceeded this amount. Bob said the flow meter pegs at 1.5 million gallons, & that they have had manual readings in excess of 3 million on several occasions. It was noted that last year was the wettest year to date. Doug said that if the system overflows, it will not be favorable for either municipality. It should be assumed that DEP will have stricter requirements & that flows will continue to rise. Bryan feels it will be cheaper to borrow the funds now, than to spend more money later on. It was felt that the bid packet could have addenda to break down specific items. The pre-bid meeting will be scheduled for September 10, 2012. The bid opening will be

September 24, 2012. The Authority will have 120 days to award the bid, with a January ground-breaking. It was decided to form a Task Force.

(BREAK)

Cory asked for volunteers for the Task Force.

SMT – Rick & Ron (alternate)

Monroe Sam & Phil (alternate)

SMTMA – Bob K. & Craig & another member to be determined

Monroe M.A. – Kevin Miller & Doug Stouffer - Sue Sunday (alternate)

Engineers – Max Stoner & Mark Bruening

IV. Structure and schedule of payment(s) from Monroe Township for upgrade/expansion project:

Ron stated that the Municipal Authority has paid the entire bill for design work which has totaled \$904,000 to date. Monroe has not paid any towards this payment. Sam stated that Monroe waived all permit related fees for SMTMA which were a little over \$100,000.

The Task Force will meet on July 31 at 6:00 at the SMTMA plant.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

ATTEST:

**SOUTH MIDDLETON TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

Sandra A. Quickel, Township Secretary

Thomas E. Faley, Chairman

Bryan A. Gembusia, Vice Chairman

Walter G. Reighard

Ronald P. Hamilton

R. Duff Manweiler