



TOWNSHIP OF SPRING

BERKS COUNTY, PA

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Township of Spring Infrastructure Committee Meeting Minutes – May 7, 2024

Chairperson Sarah Ehrlich called the regularly scheduled public meeting of the Township of Spring Infrastructure Committee to order at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 7, 2024, in the Township of Spring Administration Building, located at 2850 Windmill Road, Spring Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania. The following committee members were present: Sarah Ehrlich, Leroy Schannauer, Paul Darrah, and Alan Kreider. Mike Kocher was absent. Also in attendance were Dean Murray, Jim Moll, Jason Reichert, Mary L Rossi, Jen Bensinger, Dan Becker, Esquire, and Matt Boggs, Entech Engineering.

AMENDMENT TO THE AGENDA – None

MINUTES:

Motion to approve the minutes from February 20 and March 19 was made by Mr. Schannauer and seconded by Mr. Kreider. After roll call, all Committee Members present voted affirmatively, with Mr. Darrah abstaining from voting on approval of the February 20 minutes.

MOTION CARRIED

OPEN TO THE FLOOR: No public comment.

ENTECH ENGINEERING REPORT:

- a) Engineering Work Orders—Mr. Boggs stated that the work order requests are extensions of previously approved and signed work orders.
 - 1) Screw Press- Mr. Boggs explained the expanded scope for the Screw Press Design and Permitting as outlined in Engineering Work Order (EWO), 4644-EWO-230319.200. Mr. Boggs confirmed for Mr. Moll that there would be additional engineering costs, but the Township did receive grant money for the project. Mr. Boggs explained that he is trying to minimize the maintenance and operations for the manhole.
 - 2) Reading Avenue- 4644-EWO-11534.100. Mr. Boggs stated the Reading Avenue Dig & Replace Project was designed, surveyed, and ready to bid. Mr. Boggs said that grants had become available, and a grant application was submitted in 2022 for the H2O Grant Program through the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). Since there were more issues, the grant application included sections of Highland Avenue, Morwood Avenue, Park Road, Intervilla Avenue, and Noble Street in addition to Reading Avenue. The Township was awarded \$250,000.00 for the project.

ENTECH ENGINEERING REPORT: (Continued)

a. Engineering Work Orders *(Continued)*

2) Reading Avenue- 4644-EWO-11534.100. *(Continued)*

Mr. Boggs noted that since he put the exhibit together and submitted the grant, one (1) additional section was added to the project, a portion of the gravity sewers located along Garfield Avenue, which has been identified as needing replacement.

Mr. Darrah confirmed he ordered the Screw Press.

Motion to recommend approval of Work Order-4644 EWO-11534.100; Reading Avenue Dig and Replace Project with Additional Services to Include Dig and Replace for Sections of Sewer on Highland Avenue; Morwood Avenue; Park Road; Intervilla Avenue; Noble Street; and Garfield Avenue, was made by Mr. Schannauer and seconded by Mr. Kreider. Upon roll call, All Committee members present voted affirmatively. MOTION CARRIED

Motion to recommend approval of Work Order-4644-EWO-230319.200; Screw Press Design, Permitting, and Bidding additional tasks were made by Mr. Schannauer and seconded by Mr. Kreider. Upon roll call, All Committee Members present voted affirmatively. MOTION CARRIED.

3) Lateral Definition

Mr. Boggs reported that he has been working on low-pressure details. Mr. Boggs stated during a meeting with staff he discovered that in the Township's ordinances, the demarcation point for ownership between the Township and the homeowner is the curb line. Mr. Boggs explained his preference for a low-pressure lateral, which extends from the pump to the main, with a check valve and an isolation valve in between. Mr. Boggs said the check valve prevents the flow from the low-pressure lateral from going to a homeowner's grinder pump; instead, the discharge will be sent to the manhole. The check valve needs to be in the area between the pump and the main. Mr. Boggs stated that the isolation valve is for the Township to have the ability to shut the valve off if needed. Mr. Boggs stated that he prefers that the isolation valve is owned by the Township and the check valve owned by the homeowner. Mr. Boggs said he would like the demarcation point between the two (2) valves and the valve along the right of way and not in the road. Mr. Boggs stated that he would like to revise the definition in the Ordinance, which is a definition of a lateral. (located under the building sewer)

Mr. Boggs stated that he would like the language to state the following:

Lateral- That part of the sewer system extending from a sewer to the curb line or, if there shall be no curb line or in the instance of a low-pressure lateral that includes a pump on the homeowner's property, to the right-of-way/property line, or if no such lateral shall be provided, then "lateral" shall mean that portion of, or place in, a sewer which is provided for connection of any building sewer.

The Committee discussed check valves and isolation valves, possible language for specs, requirements, and the function of check valves. It also recommended that operation be the owner's responsibility and routine maintenance be added as a requirement.

ENTECH ENGINEERING REPORT: (Continued)

3) Lateral Definition (Continued)

Motion to recommend revising the language in the Township's Ordinance for the definition of a lateral as the following: That part of the sewer system extending from a sewer to the curb line or, if there shall be no curb line or in the instance of a low-pressure lateral that includes a pump on the homeowner's property, to the right-of-way/property line, or if no such lateral shall be provided, then "lateral" shall mean that portion of, or place in, a sewer which is provided for connection of any building sewer was made by Mr. Kreider and seconded by Mr. Schannauer. Upon roll call, All Committee Members present voted affirmatively. MOTION CARRIED

Staff will need to review if specifications for low-pressure systems updates are done by resolution. Mr. Boggs stated that he would revise the details so that you have the isolation valve at the right of way and then include in the specs that a robust check valve will be used in the pit.

4) Wyomissing Interceptor Project- Mr. Boggs said the project starts this week.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR/WWTP SUPERINTENDENT

Mr. Darrah reported that the Department's biggest hurdle is an employee shortage due to injuries and illness, noting four (4) employees are currently out. Mr. Darrah said that Scott Anderson did get the 2024 Road Work bid out last week. There is a Pre-Bid Construction Meeting On Monday, May 13, and the bid opening will be on Monday, May 28.

ACTIVE DEVELOPMENTS

Mr. Moll stated that the Township received plans to separate the Hofmann Industries Plant from the office building, noting that the plant is being utilized as a warehouse. Mr. Moll stated that the building's bathroom waste was going to Sinking Spring's sewer (from the plant), while the industrial processed waste was coming to the Township. Mr. Moll said that the office building has a cesspool and noted that the Township is not receiving any flow from the location. Mr. Schannauer said that the gas and water come from the plant.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The next scheduled meeting is Tuesday, May 21, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT: *With no further business to discuss, Ms. Ehrlich adjourned the meeting at 9:09 a.m.*

Respectfully submitted,



Mary L Rossi
Township Secretary