

LOWER PAXTON TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Minutes of Board Meeting held March 10, 2009

A workshop meeting of the Board of Supervisors of Lower Paxton Township was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by Chairman William B. Hawk, on the above date in the Lower Paxton Township Municipal Center, 425 Prince Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

Supervisors present in addition to Mr. Hawk were: William C. Seeds, Sr., William L. Hornung, Gary A. Crissman, and David B. Blain.

Also in attendance were George Wolfe, Township Manager; Steve Stine, Township Solicitor; Sam Robbins, Director Public Works, Matt Miller, Public Works; William Weaver, Sewer Authority Director; and Jeff Wendle, CET Engineering, Inc.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Seeds led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

No public comment was provided.

A virtual Road Tour focusing on storm water issues

Mr. Robbins thanked the Board for allowing him and Mr. Miller to make the presentation. He explained that he is starting to see many aging facilities in the Township's storm water infrastructure, and he wanted to show the Board pictures of the failing structures.

Mr. Robbins explained that the stormwater infrastructure inventory includes 520,000 linear feet of piper or roughly 98 miles of storm pipe ranging from 8-inch pipe to 96-inch pipe. In addition, there are 4,800 inlets, 275 manholes, 152 end walls, and 851 end sections. He noted that there are several ways to identify that stormwater and aging infrastructure. He noted that the MS4, Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System, is a federal regulation that requires the Township to go out in the field to make inspections. He noted that the Authority's mini-basin rehab program is another instance where field inspections are made. He noted that when he does paving operations, he must review the drainage and make repairs prior to paving the roadway.

Mr. Robbins noted that there has been a change in the way he gathers historical data, noting as staff perceives problems, they are to list those problems to create a history of where

problems are occurring. He noted that peak storms provide a certain amount of information as well as resident's observations and staff observations from field work.

Mr. Robbins noted that the MS4 requires six minimum control measures: 1) public education and outreach; 2) public involvement and participation; 3) illicit discharge detection and elimination; 4) construction site storm water runoff control; 5) post construction storm water management; and 6) pollution prevention and good housekeeping. Mr. Robbins noted that pamphlets have been placed in the local grocery stores and post offices, and joint advertisements have been made in conjunction with Dauphin County. He noted that the new SALDO would significantly help with the post construction storm water management. He noted that the Township's fueling stations and wash bays must be maintained properly. He noted that the Federal government requires information on servicing vehicles based upon mileage or time used. He noted that there are Federal mandates for each of the six control measures.

Mr. Robbins noted that he visited numerous outfalls and entered data on a spreadsheet for each. In addition, he also took photos. He noted that many of the facilities have a useful life; however, corrugated metal pipe typically lasts from 20 to 25 years depending on how it was installed and the environment in which it was installed. He proceeded to show pictures of various outfalls that are failing in the Township. He noted that some pipes have failed after 15 years of installation. He noted that the majority of the pipes are in good shape except for the bottoms and eventually the bottoms develop sinkholes. He noted that, in many instances, the residents bring the structure failures to the Township's attention. He explained that in numerous cases, a crew must clear debris from the area in order to inspect the pipes.

Mr. Robbins noted that all storm water facilities must be inspected prior to a paving project, and noted that the work should be done, a year in advance of the paving job to allow for settlement and better restoration. He noted that the quantity and quality of storm water facilities can vary significantly from street to street.

Mr. Robbins showed several pictures of roads that have crossover of water and no E&S controls on the side of the road. He explained that during the winter, the water will freeze and put the motoring public at risk. He noted in many instances the pipes under the roads must be replaced prior to the repaving of the roads. He displayed a picture of the intersection of Conway Road and Lyters Lane where a new pipe had to be laid and an end wall was installed. Mr. Wolfe explained that Mr. Robbins replaced the corrugated metal pipe with plastic pipe. Mr. Robbins explained that plastic pipe, High Density Polyethylene, (HDP) should last for 50 to 60 years. He noted that it would have the same life span as the terracotta pipe that was installed years ago. He

noted if HDP is correctly installed it would last a long time. Mr. Seeds questioned what the cost was in relation to the galvanized pipe. Mr. Robbins answered that it is roughly 15% to 20% more in cost, noting that the costs are all over the place since it is a petroleum-based product. Mr. Miller noted that HDP is much easier to work with as two people can lift the pipe safely and work with it. He noted that the yellow sealant is a spray foam similar to what you would use at your home on your windows and doors. Mr. Robbins noted that he is experimenting with ways to pack it using a non-shrink grout.

Mr. Seeds questioned if the Township only maintains the Township roads, and PENNDOT maintains the State Roads. Mr. Wolfe answered that there has been some discussion with PENNDOT on that matter. He noted that PENNDOT would like the Township to be responsible for cross pipes as well. He noted that PENNDOT tried to get the Township to make the necessary replacements under the Essis and Sons Carpet Store. Mr. Robbins noted that PENNDOT would continue to play whatever game it can to get the Township to do more work.

Mr. Robbins noted that on Jonestown Road, the water that flows off the side has caused the road to fail, and when it is repaved, something must be done for drainage, such as a swale or another means to get the water off the edge of the road. Mr. Wolfe noted that the prior swale was not maintained and it filled in over time. Mr. Seeds questioned if a new swale would be installed. Mr. Robbins noted that water and pavement do not mix, and the water must be directed away from the road.

Mr. Robbins explained that the storm facilities that are directly impacted as a result of the sanitary sewer work are funded by the Authority. He noted, in most instances, there is no road left as the Sewer Department tends to do total replacement, therefore, the storm facilities are put in good working order before restoring the road. He noted that the facilities that are outside the sewer work, but are in the pavement section are funded by the Township. He noted that all other piping that is in the cartway, where the road reconstruction or pavement overlay would take place, must be completed.

Mr. Robbins noted the two problems created as a result of mini-basin rehab. The first is funding, noting that storm work should be planned at the same time each mini-basin project is designed. He noted that the Authority has a long-term funding strategy, but there is none for storm work. He explained that the second problem is the timing of projects. He noted that it is very difficult to coordinate with contractors for the timing of projects, and the ability to complete unanticipated storm work within annual budget amounts. He noted, if his personnel are not able to do the work at the same time, then an outside contractor could be hired to do the work. Mr.

Wolfe explained that when the Winfield Street mini-basin project was completed, he tried to obtain Community Development Block Grant funds for storm sewer replacement, in the amount of \$160,000 for materials, noting that the Township's share would be the in-kind services; however, the Township was denied the funding. He noted that the sanitary sewer upgrades were made, but not the storm sewer upgrades.

Mr. Weaver noted that he has been conducting public meetings for the mini-basin projects, and the last one he had, there were over 200 people in attendance, and for the most part, the people do not have issues with sewer backups, however, in some cases, they came to complain about storm sewer issues and not sanitary sewer problems. Mr. Robbins noted that everyone wants a drain in front of their home, and in many instances, people live on a non-curb street with no drainage.

Mr. Robbins noted that, in the area of Curvin Drive, most of the grates would be lifted when the new roadway is placed. He noted that for some of the drains the frame may need to be replaced as well. He explained that in some instances, when the road was paved and made wider, the storm sewers did not work well. He explained that along Carolyn Street, standing water was allowed to stand along the side of the road, causing deterioration to the side of the road. He noted that he would pave a partial part of the side of the road, and make an unimproved shoulder. He noted in some instances, the homeowners paved the area in front of their home, to provide for additional parking. He noted that he might replace it with stone in order to protect the new roadway, but he would not leave the roadway as it is. He noted that, in some instances, he would have to replace not only the cross pipe but the end box as well.

Mr. Robbins noted that a peak storm for the Public Works Department would reap havoc on the system and create a long list of storm water projects. He noted on Timberline Court, the water runs down the slope and creates a waterfall, and eventually creates sinkholes and causes the road to wash out. He noted that the section of roadway in this area is wet all the times and causes roadway failure, and he would try to correct these issues.

Mr. Robbins noted that when Paxton Towne Centre was built, there was a huge culvert that took the drainage from the Colonial Commons area, under the Paxton Towne Centre. He noted that the screen for the culvert is eight feet high and is littered with trash, and the water is carried down into the Township's facilities and into the stream banks. He noted that this section blew out a pipe on Devonshire Heights Road in 2005. Mr. Wolfe noted that it is part of the huge detention pond located in the Paxton Towne Centre.

Mr. Robbins noted that there is a 30-inch culvert on Goose Valley Road that conveys a lot of water, and downstream it could cause a lot of damage. He noted that there is a section of road along Goose Valley Road that has accelerated stream bank erosion which is causing the road to fail along the side. He explained that he requested permission from DEP to install gabion baskets to stabilize the banks. He noted that it would cost roughly \$35,000 to \$45,000 to repair, however, a concrete wall would cost between \$75,000 to \$100,000 to fix the damage caused by a peak storm. Mr. Seeds noted that it is disturbing that there is a lot of debris in the streams. Mr. Robbins noted that during peak storms that is very common. He noted that this issue needs to be addressed very soon as it is a safety issue.

Mr. Robbins explained that a peak storm shows where there are undersized, deteriorated or failing pipes. He noted that undersized pipes present themselves with topping of an upstream facility or cross pipe, and deteriorating pipes present themselves with the formation of sink holes. He noted that storm events create accelerated erosion and damage to stream banks, roadways, and bridges.

Mr. Robbins noted that he depends on the motoring public to provide information on various parts of the infrastructure, and many times these are found in the legal right-of-way, but sometimes they are outside the right-of-way, within easements or on private property. He noted that residents are a good source of information as to how the failures occurred.

Mr. Robbins noted on Bethlynn Drive, he had to replace a pipe that was ten feet deep, and one of things that he discovered was that the site where the home was located was the last home to be built as it was used as a dumping ground for construction materials.

Mr. Robbins noted that the pipe needs to be replaced under Jonestown Road across from the Feed Store on the south side of the road. He stated that the pipe is probably a 24" x 32" pipe that runs across the road and into the area where the ducks are located at the Feed Store.

Mr. Robbins noted another area of concern is Rosewall Court in Forest Hills where sediment is coming from the pipe as the bottom of the pipe is completely gone. He noted that a sinkhole is forming near the property owner's tree. He explained that he would have to replace one of the two boxes, noting that it would cost between \$15,000 to \$20,000 to repair. Mr. Wolfe noted various sinkholes have been repaired several time over the past four years. He noted that a similar occurrence is happening on Toftree Drive. Mr. Seeds questioned if a plastic pipe could be inserted inside a deteriorated pipe. Mr. Robbins answered that he would not do that for this situation as you have to catch the pipe before it gets to the point where the bottom is gone. Mr. Miller explained that as the plastic pipe is inserted, it would snag on the deteriorate pipe. He

noted that the key is to do this before the integrity of the bottom of the pipe is gone, so the new pipe would glide across the bottom. He noted that inserting one pipe inside another could cause a loss of capacity, and sometimes, it is less expensive to dig up the pipe and install a new one. Mr. Wolfe noted that it is an open area with no structures and the Township owns the right-of-way. Mr. Robbins noted that when you are dealing with pipe that is larger than 24 inches in diameter, you must evaluate if it is a proper lining candidate. Mr. Seeds questioned if the water could be dammed, and if there was a solvent material that could adhere to what was left of the bottom of the pipe. Mr. Robbins noted that there is a company, out of Georgia, that does that kind of work, however, when you weigh the lost of replacement against lining, and the grouting, you end up paying far more. He noted that it would make sense if you were replacing a pipe under a historic area, house or sidewalk, but out in the open, it would be better to replace the pipe.

Mr. Robbins noted that on Chestnut Street, behind the Zimmerman Auer Funeral home, water flows down the street and is undermining the road. He noted that the road is in good condition and it must be repaired to prevent losing the roadway. He noted that down over the hill, a section of pipe has completely fallen off the end. He noted that it would not be an easy job to make this repair using conventional equipment as there is not much room to place a piece of digging equipment. He noted that he would have to rent an excavator as he does not have the equipment to do the work.

Mr. Robbins noted, on Hunters Run Road, there is an erosion issue, where the water flows down the side of the road, crosses the crown of the road and is 18 inches from eroding the road. He noted that it could be repaired by installing a Gabion basket to stabilize the side of the road. He noted that there is a potential for permitting issues that could delay the project.

Mr. Robbins noted, on Timberline Court, where he showed the waterfall affect from a peak storm on an earlier slide, the water lays in the street, noting that the leaves catch the water, and it just sits on the roadway. He noted that you can find water on this road in July, and he would need to install a manhole and set two drains to fix this problem. Mr. Miller noted that the drains would be installed behind the curb to keep the water off the road.

Mr. Robbins noted that there is an older drain off of Devonshire Heights Road made of block and mortar that was built over a metal pipe. He noted that the entire box area is deteriorating and would have to be replaced.

Mr. Robbins noted that the box culvert located on Crums Mill Road near the newly developed Harrisburg Foot and Ankle office building, was much narrower when it was first built. He noted that when the road was widened a piece of RCP pipe was stuck against the inlet box,

however, one of the walls from the culvert buckled and folded inward. He noted that the plan showed a 48-inch round pipe but it was not accurate, and he was able to have the developer replace the pipe. He noted that there are several other problems like this one in the Township. Mr. Wolfe noted that the box culvert looks much better now, and suggested that a peak storm event would have caused that type of failure.

Mr. Robbins showed another slide from the Forest Hills area where the metal pipe had ten inches of void space under the pipe. He explained that extreme velocities occur in this area, which caused the metal to be scarred away, noting that approximately 2,000 feet of pipe needs to be replaced. He noted that the pavement section above that pipe has collapsed.

Mr. Robbins noted a slide that showed a pipe that was removed from Johnson and Walnut Streets that had most of the bottom missing.

Mr. Robbins displayed a block-type inlet box on Forest Hills Drive that had significant void areas, noting that a pre-cast section was placed on top of a brick box. He noted that the inlet box is 11 to 12 feet deep with a 48-inch pipe that crosses the roadway, noting that it is located in the main thoroughfare for Forest Hills, and would be a huge project to repair. Mr. Crissman questioned if all the problems occurring in Forest Hills are due to the force of the water as opposed to age, especially since Forest Hills is a relatively new development. Mr. Robbins noted that the development is 15 to 20 years old. Mr. Wolfe suggested that the development is really 20 to 25 years old, and the storm water system is large and very deep into the ground. He noted that the Township typically does not install storm sewers facilities that deep. Mr. Robbins explained that he would design several key intersections to raise the level of the sewers, noting that he did not understand why they were built as deep as they were. He explained that he would do his best to minimize the engineering costs. He explained that there is no issue with water draining down a 13% slope.

Mr. Miller noted that in many of the older developments, no storm drainage was installed as the water just flowed off the road. He noted that the Clermont and Devon Manor Developments are now 40 years old, and this is when the proliferation of installing storm drainage would occur. He noted that the storm sewers are starting to show wear and tear, and sinkholes are appearing.

Mr. Robbins noted that staff has completed hundreds of storm water projects over the last ten years, and since 2001, the Public Works Department has replaced 12,000 linear feet of pipe equivalent to 2.3 miles and 120 inlets. He noted that the total amount of piping is 98 miles of pipe and 6,000 inlets.

Mr. Robbins suggested that a solution to the problem would be to establish a pipe crew within the Public Works Department, dedicated to doing storm work year round. He explained that he could not take these people from his current workforce and sustain the current workload. He noted that this is a service the Township could provide at a very low cost. He noted that another option would be to establish a storm water maintenance contract for emergency work, cleaning and televising and lining projects. He explained, if a pipe is full, first you would empty it out to determine the integrity of the pipe. He noted, if the pipe could be lined, then it would prevent further deterioration. He noted that another option would be to establish a storm water infrastructure improvement plan and bid the work.

Mr. Robbins noted that he has a list of projects to be completed, but the Public Works Department cannot tackle the jobs alone. He suggested prioritizing a list and bidding work to a contractor to take up the slack. He suggested that it would be good to identify the pipes that could be lined, and have liners installed.

Mr. Seeds questioned what the costs would be to repair or replace every faulty storm sewer or pipe in the Township. Mr. Robbins noted that he could only identify what he knows has failed, and to replace everything from a pipe standpoint, it would cost between \$25 million to \$30 million. He noted that the inlets and end walls would cost another \$7 million to \$10 million. Mr. Seeds noted that this is where the stimulus money should be going.

Mr. Wolfe noted that the Board has been looking at these items on road tour, and noted that Mr. Robbins wanted to make a good presentation to the Board members on this topic. Mr. Seeds noted that it was a very good presentation.

Mr. Hornung explained that he was frustrated in that if he would have seen the same presentation two or three years ago, the Board might have made a different choice in the number of police officers that were hired. He explained that there is only so much money to spend, and if he had been aware of these problems, he would have made a different choice. He would have hired less police officers and hired more staff for the Public Works Department. He noted that the Board's decisions are subject to the amount of revenues it receives, and the funds that could be spent, to determine the best utilization of those funds. He noted that he must figure how to undo the extra hiring for the Police Department and transfer those funds into hiring for the Public Works Department. He noted that Mr. Robbins discussed the need for a pavement management program, and now is discussing additional needs for massive repairs to the storm sewer system. He noted that a third project that Mr. Robbins discussed was the tree trimming maintenance. He

noted that all three projects would add up to a lot of money. He noted that the problem is how to come up with the money to complete the projects.

Mr. Seeds noted that money needs to be put away each year for infrastructure work, even if federal funds are available. Mr. Hornung suggested that, based on what the Public Works Department has done over the past seven years of redoing three tenths of a mile per year, it would take 300 years for the Township to replace all its sewer lines. Mr. Wolfe noted that this is the same place the Township was ten years ago when it started to look at the sanitary sewer system and realized that the rate of repair that the Township was applying to the system, the job would not get done. He noted that portions of the storm sewer system have reached their useful life, and the Township would have to invest in those portions. He noted that it would not be to the same magnitude as the sanitary sewer; however, there would be a significant cost over what has been experienced in the past. Mr. Seeds suggested planning a 20-year schedule that may need to be funded with a bond. Mr. Blain agreed that it should be tackled in the same manner as the sewer projects realizing that it would be an ongoing process.

Mr. Miller noted that once the new Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance (SALDO) is adopted, and the pipe is replaced with plastic pipe, there should be a longer wear life. He noted that Derry Township recently signed a contract for \$300,000 to undertake a comprehensive review of their storm sewer system, to locate and grade all sewer lines, to begin the process of working into a long-term replacement schedule. He noted that there is an upfront cost to find out what needs to be done.

Mr. Robbins noted a section of Forest Hills Development and the Willow Street area would be rebuilt this year. Mr. Seeds questioned if it was included in the 2009 budget. Mr. Robbins answered that it was. Mr. Wolfe noted that anything that Mr. Weaver digs up as part of a mini-basin project would be funded by the Authority.

Mr. Seeds questioned if a plan could be developed to spend \$500,000 each year to identify the areas that need to be done. Mr. Robbins noted that he could come up with a plan. He noted that a project could be a high priority item, but a peak storm could change all that. He noted that Clermont is another development where the drainage flows between homes, using large pipes. He noted that he would like to determine what facilities could be saved before they would need to be replaced. Mr. Seeds suggested that Mr. Robbins and Mr. Miller have a good knowledge of what needs to be done. He noted that by hiring extra people and doing the work in-house the Township could save a lot of money.

Mr. Miller noted that most of the pipes have a deposit of sediment, possibly eight to twelve inches in depth, and there needs to be funding to pay to clear out the pipes before he could perform an accurate assessment for each pipe. He noted that the Township does not have the flushing technology to do this, and it would have to be a contracted service. Mr. Seeds suggested that this money could be used to replace pipes, and suggested that looking at the end of a pipe you would be able to determine if the pipe needs to be replaced. Mr. Miller noted that there needs to be a means to determine the remedy, either by replacement or relining the pipe.

Mr. Crissman questioned if Derry Township's assessment would be similar to what was proposed for the pavement management program. He questioned if it would be necessary to do a complete study or does the Township have a data base built with some of the information. Mr. Robbins answered that he does not have a full data base built, but receives information from the MS4 and abatement program. He explained that he does not provide enough manpower and information to canvas the neighborhoods. Mr. Crissman suggested that the current system is a band-aid program trying to tackle each problem as it surfaces, only to discover that it has become a domino affect.

Mr. Seeds questioned if the Township needs to pay a consultant \$300,000 to perform a study, or could the funds be put into actual repairs. Mr. Miller suggested that the Public Works Department could come up with some semblance of costs and data to formulate a working plan, for in-house work and contracting to clean lines. Mr. Robbins stated that he did not think that the costs would be to the same extent of Derry Township's, however, he felt that there would be some upfront costs to begin to assemble the data the Township needs.

Mr. Wolfe noted that Mr. Robbins and Mr. Miller have already identified the problem in Forest Hills. He noted that the project should be designed and not inventoried. Mr. Robbins noted that certain sections would not need to be designed. Mr. Crissman noted that without an assessment there would be no way to know what needed to be done.

Mr. Hornung noted that the Township could pay \$300,000 to know more, but he suggested that this would be a good time to bid work since some bid pricing has been 25% to 30% less than normal, and if that is true, and there are projects that the Public Works Department could not handle, he suggested bidding a large amount of work lumped together. He questioned if it was better to float a bond for \$2 or \$3 million to get the most for the buck since the prices are good, spreading it out over time, noting that taxes would have to be raised to cover the project. He noted that the other option would be to hire a crew and have them do the work over time. He noted that these are the options that should be investigated at this time.

Mr. Seeds suggested that the Board needs a recommendation from Mr. Robbins and Mr. Miller. Mr. Robbins noted that there is enough identified work to be done, and the Township should start to do it since the residents would continue to call to complain, especially when the water problems occur in their yards. He noted that it is not cost effective to band-aid the repairs since there is no pipe left to put together, and suggested that those projects should be funded and completed as soon as possible. He noted that a large percent of those projects could be done in-house if he had the manpower. He explained, when April comes around he has to expend much of his manpower to maintain the parks, and he would not have enough manpower to take on extra work. He noted, to do stormwater work consistently and to be productive, the Township needs a pipe crew that can work from April through December, and through the winter months. He noted that some work could be done year round since the pipes are only buried two to four feet deep. He noted that he could start to gather the data for the long term projects; however, he is not sure that he and Mr. Miller could gather sufficient data to catch some of the problem pipes. He noted that it might be good to have the Township engineer evaluate other areas other than Forest Hills or Clermont, to find additional areas that are failing.

Mr. Seeds questioned if this was Mr. Robbins' recommendation. He noted, if the bond market is right, it might be good to float a bond to get this work done. Mr. Robbins noted that he could do whatever needs to be done to help the Board make a decision. He noted that he would need some time to pull some numbers together to gather data. He noted that it would help to know which way the Board was leaning to accomplish the work. Mr. Hawk noted that Mr. Robbins has already identified a significant amount of work that needs to be done. He suggested that he should do the work that has been identified now, instead of going out to look for additional work. Mr. Robbins noted that the Public Works Department is chasing its tail as it is not able to accomplish what it needs to do with the current manpower.

Mr. Weaver noted that he investigated hiring a sanitary sewer crew to do some of his work, and it worked well for the smaller projects, but when he looked to hire out for the bigger projects, there were more capital expenditures, and it required a certain skill level to accomplish those projects. He noted that his Department did not have enough time to get the work done since it would take some time for his personnel to build up efficiencies to perform the work. Mr. Stine noted that Mr. Weaver was under a consent decree.

Mr. Wolfe noted that there are three things that staff needs to do prior to the road tour; create a list of immediate projects, to include length of materials, and type of pipe; provide a schematic estimate of what would be replaced; also, develop an estimate for a pipe crew, and

what additional equipment would be needed to make the crew productive; and identify projects that a pipe crew could complete over a course of three years. He suggested if he had that information available for the Board in four to six weeks, it would provide the Board with enough information to determine how to fund it. Mr. Crissman suggested that there should be an additional thought to have the Township engineer identify areas that need to be addressed for the next large group of projects that need to be completed. Mr. Robbins explained that if he could find, in 2010, the pipe that needs to be lined in 2011, it would save him a lot of time and effort. Mr. Seeds suggested that Mr. Robbins may want to vendor out some of the more difficult repairs and replacements. Mr. Robbins suggested that some of the work in stream banks may be an option, especially since they may not have the equipment to do the work. He noted that his crew can do track excavation work, but he needs the personnel to do it, and he needs to prioritize what needs to be done.

Mr. Wendle noted that he has a 20-year schedule for the sewer replacement project for Paxton Creek, noting that some major projects have been completed. Mr. Robbins noted that in some of those areas there were major storm water problems, but they do not exist anymore since the projects have been completed. He suggested that some of the storm water work could be completed in conjunction with the sewer replacement projects to save some money. He suggested that CET could determine what the storm water replacement needs would be in conjunction with the upcoming sanitary sewer projects in order to make a decision to do the work before hand or as part of the overall project.

Mr. Wolfe noted that Mr. Robbins would prepare an answer for the Board of Supervisors for the road tour.

Mr. Hornung suggested that dedicating a staff person to review what work is coming up with the Sewer Department and other areas of concern would be good since he would be more familiar with the Township and its problems, and provide a more efficient service. Mr. Hornung noted if the work was bid out for so much pipe work at a certain depth for a year, then the contractor could be told to find the work since the more they find the more work they would have.

Mr. Weaver noted that he has done that for the Authority, but the contractors must be carefully monitored. Mr. Hornung noted that the Township would have the final say in what work would be completed.

Discussion regarding initiating fees for dumping of material at the compost facility

Mr. Robbins explained that he wanted to discuss charging fees for the Compost facility and collecting tipping fees for users at the Compost facility. He explained that since the Township owns a grinder, it is able to produce relatively high quality leaf compost which is a product in demand by residents and wholesale contractors. He noted that it is good for many things, especially as a supplement for amending soils, and he questioned if there was an interest in trying to market the product. He explained that staff expounds a tremendous level of time and effort to make the product. He noted that the goal for the Compost facility is to have what comes in equal to what goes out. He explained that the woody waste is being sold to the Zeigler Brothers for \$100 per truckload.

Mr. Robbins explained that the leaf waste compost is a high quality product and the residents have been taking it as fast as his staff can produce it. He questioned if the Board is interested in establishing a fee for this service. He noted that staff produces between 4,000 to 6,000 cubic yards yearly which is a significant amount of material. He noted that the Township uses the screened compost to supplement the athletic fields. He reported that Zeigler Brothers charges \$14 per yard for what the Township gives away to the residents at no cost; however, the Township must be careful not to compete with the local businesses, such as Nyes Nursery. He noted that there is a potential to raise between \$30,000 to \$50,000 in revenues.

Mr. Wolfe noted that there are two issues being discussed, noting that Mr. Robbins was discussing the sale of compost, the product produced at the facility. Mr. Wolfe noted, as per his memorandum, he surveyed compost facilities in Central Pennsylvania, and very few charge for services, with the exception of Manheim Township who charges people to dump yard waste. Mr. Crissman questioned if it would matter if the delivery is to a residence or a commercial use. Mr. Wolfe noted that Manheim Township charges everyone and the fee is based upon volume. He noted that a commercial hauler who dumps a large volume would be charged more than a citizen who may dump a bag. He noted that the fee for a bag is fifty cents. Mr. Robbins explained that Manheim Township has scales that they use for the commercial users.

Mr. Robbins explained that Swatara Township is looking at charging commercial haulers \$10 per pickup truck, or \$50 per dump truck. Mr. Wolfe noted that he and Mr. Robbins agreed that the Township should charge commercial users to dump materials at the facility. Mr. Crissman noted that the haulers are making money and dumping free at the Township's expense, however, he would not want to charge the citizens to dump yard waste. Mr. Blain noted that he

would not want to charge the residents, and Mr. Hawk and Mr. Seeds agreed. He noted that they are not charged for the curbside service as it is included in the trash contract.

Mr. Crissman questioned how hard it would be for staff to distinguish the commercial dumpers from the residential dumpers. Mr. Wolfe suggested that staff would have to develop a permit system for commercial users who would pay for the use of the facility in advance, and staff monitoring the compost facility would grant or refuse permission for users to dump, or record the amount of materials dumped and then bill the user. He noted, if the Board agrees to charge commercial users, then staff would develop a program. Mr. Crissman noted that he had no problem with that. Mr. Blain agreed. Mr. Miller suggested an annual subscription for the vehicle. He noted that one municipality charges \$200 per sticker per year for unlimited use. He noted that staff would only have to look for the sticker when the trucks come on site to dump their materials. Mr. Hawk noted that staff would need to establish what qualifies as commercial, as opposed to big or small. Mr. Miller noted that it could include a small landscaper as opposed to an Asplundh truck. Mr. Wolfe stated that he would bring back a plan to the Board.

Mr. Wolfe questioned if the Township wanted to charge residents for compost. He noted that Lower Allen Township charges residents for compost; however, several municipalities do not charge a fee, but provide a fee for delivery or for a bag. He questioned if the Township could legally sell compost. He explained that he was told that the Township would have to secure permission from the United States Department of Agriculture on the product; therefore, the product would have to be tested and submit to a permitting type process. Mr. Seeds suggested that the Township should look into purchasing its own screen and selling the good compost. Mr. Wolfe noted that none of the municipalities make enough money to buy a screen. Mr. Seeds suggested that the good compost could be sold wholesale to a business. Mr. Hornung noted, if you call the product compost, then it would need to have an analysis and certified against bugs and other things. He noted that someone may require certification before they would purchase it. He noted that the Township would be disposing waste and it may have to be reported to a State agency. He noted that there is too much paperwork, and that is why no one is selling the materials.

Mr. Seeds questioned why the Township rents the screener. Mr. Wolfe explained that the Township does not rent the screener; it shares it with Swatara Township. Mr. Seeds questioned why staff would screen the good material if it is just given away. Mr. Robbins answered that it is a means to get the materials out of the facility, noting that the people won't take the material if it is not screened. Mr. Miller explained that the amount of leaf waste collected in the fall is huge,

so staff must get rid of the material, and the only way to get rid of it is to turn it into a product that people want. Mr. Seeds questioned what the material is that is located at Koons Park. Mr. Miller answered that it is woody waste, single ground chips. He noted that the public doesn't want that material as much since it is not finely processed. He noted that the grinder is capable of making the best mulch on the market; however, staff does not feed it through the machine three times. Mr. Miller noted that the screening is a very easy process, but it takes staff four months to compost the product until it gets to the final product. He noted that it is used as a top dressing for the sports fields. Mr. Hawk suggested that it should remain as is, with no fee for residents who pick it up at the facility. Mr. Miller noted that the compost is turned weekly using a tractor and a turner, and it is very easy to make. He questioned if there would be a mechanism to recoup some of the funds spent to create the product. Mr. Hawk answered, if the Township would have to go through all the Federal regulations to certify the product, it would not be worth it. Mr. Stine questioned if the Township would have to adhere to those regulations if it was sold to a contractor, who would then sell it to someone else. Mr. Hornung noted, in that instance, it would probably be the contractor's responsibility to certify the product. Mr. Hornung noted that there may even be someone who would be willing to take the leaf waste in the fall.

Mr. Robbins suggested having the Township's product tested, noting that leaf waste is only leaf waste, but they would have to check for contaminants, moisture and insects. He suggested if the Township could wholesale the product and make \$50,000, it would be a savings for the Township. Mr. Hawk noted that he would pursue the testing to see if it was doable.

Mr. Weaver noted that Swatara Township made a presentation to the Authority regarding their sewage sludge that would be marketable. He noted that they claimed that landscapers want this product in the area. Mr. Wolfe noted that Class A sludge would sell very fast.

Mr. Seeds noted that a pick-up truck load of mulch from a local landscaper costs over \$30, and it looks just like what the Township has. He suggested that landscapers would pay at least a third of that cost to the Township.

Mr. Stine questioned if Zeigler Brothers grinds the woody waste into mulch. Mr. Robbins noted that they double grind the material. He explained that no one has ever questioned his product; however, he would not want to put the Township into a legal situation. Mr. Robbins suggested that he would have 5,000 cubic yards of finished product. Mr. Hornung questioned what it could be sold for. Mr. Robbins answered if Zeigler Brothers is selling it wholesale for \$14.00 per yard; someone may be willing to pay \$7 or \$8 a yard. Mr. Wolfe noted that it would have to be bid. Mr. Hornung noted if it was done this way, then the Township would not have to

worry about the analysis. Mr. Robbins noted he could provide an analysis to the vendor. Mr. Hornung suggested that an analysis would have to be done for each load. Mr. Robbins noted that he would have the product tested, and then come back to the Board with the results. Mr. Miller suggested contacting the Department of Agriculture to inquire what the requirements are.

Mr. Robbins questioned, if staff was able to wholesale the compost, would the Board want to keep a portion for the residents. Mr. Seeds answered no, stating that the residents could be provided with the double cut material, but not the leaf waste mulch. Mr. Miller noted that the Township would get phone calls if they did this. Mr. Robbins noted that he could provide a certain amount weekly for residents.

Mr. Seeds questioned what the costs of the operations are. He questioned if it was more than \$100,000. Mr. Wolfe suggested that it would cost more than that. Mr. Hawk agreed that a portion should be provided for residents. Mr. Robbins noted that it is a labor intensive job. Mr. Wolfe noted that staff does the vacuum leaf collection, waste management curbside collection, processing of the material on site, oversees the resident's drop off site, and allows residents to pick up on site. He noted that it has grown into a big time service.

Mr. Blain noted that Mr. Robbins would investigate the permitting for supplying the material to a wholesaler. He agreed that the Township should try to recoup some funds for this work to attempt to secure revenues to pay for the costs. He noted that there is staff time spent at the compost facility that could be used to replace storm sewer pipes.

Mr. Hornung questioned when the facility would open for the year. Mr. Wolfe answered that it would be open on Tuesday, April 1st.

Mr. Hawk instructed Mr. Robbins to get the material tested, and charge for commercial sales.

Review of the appropriate location of a sanitary sewer line to service the
proposed Bishop McDevitt High School

Mr. Weaver noted that Mr. Wendle provided an alternative means for sanitary sewer to the proposed Bishop McDevitt High School. He noted, at the previous Authority meeting, an overview of the subdivision plan was reviewed where the applicant had proposed a private sewer at that time. He questioned if it would be appropriate to have the Diocese of Harrisburg run a gravity sewer line, and staff reviewed the potential development in the area, noting that he spoke with George Zimmerman and the Swatara Township Authority, to receive feedback. He explained that there were no current plans to provide sanitary sewer for any of the areas adjacent in Swatara Township. Mr. Seeds questioned if Swatara Township felt the gravity sewer line was

a good idea. Mr. Weaver noted that they made comments in regards to the Knupp Farm being located on both sides of the development, and that they stated that they would never sell. He noted that there is no anticipation for additional service in the next five years.

Mr. Hornung questioned if the existing concept was a pressure sewer. Mr. Wendle answered that it was a private sewer that would be located higher on their property. He noted that the Diocese proposed two private laterals that would flow down to connect into a private sewer extension that would tie into the manhole on Pine Hill Road. He suggested if the Diocese is installing that length of a sewer; it would make sense to require that the area be sewered to serve the future. He noted that the Diocese could tie into manhole 2456 at the corner of Galion Street and Spring Creek Road, and make four manhole runs up their property and stop. He noted that that length of sewer would be roughly the same length as the one on the side of the hill. He explained that the design for the top of the hill would not be an easy run either due to the slope. He stated, assuming that both lengths are similar, then the Diocese would need to add an extra private lateral to access the sewer line, estimated at a cost of \$30,000. He noted that the section of Township between the Bishop McDevitt High School property and the chunk of land to the east is roughly 40 acres of R-1; therefore, many homes could be built in that area. He noted if the Diocese chose to develop some of the land to help defray their costs, they would have access to sanitary sewer. He stated that he would recommend receiving a right-of-way to be able to extend the service across their property, and the Township could offer to negotiate a reimbursement fee for anyone who may use the service in the future, such as the Knupp farm to the south and Swatara Township.

Mr. Weaver explained that Ms. Wissler suggested that public sewer may be needed for a lot the Diocese is providing to the Knupp farm for access to Spring Creek Road. Mr. Seeds agreed with Mr. Wendle's suggestion. Mr. Weaver noted that it makes perfect sense to require the Diocese to do this.

Discussion regarding the acceptance of certain sanitary sewer
lines in the Wilshire development

Mr. Weaver noted that he needs some guidance for the Wilshire Estates subdivision. He noted that staff met with the surveyor for the developer and it was determined that the drawings do not comply with the Township's requirement for minimum slope. He noted that there are six different sections under question, and the developer resurveyed the area, and their result was that

the design was in compliance. He noted that Dale Roberts Associates is the survey that CET contracts to do work, and he found that they were not in compliance.

Mr. Hornung questioned if the surveyor's accuracy is that good for a long distance. Mr. Wendle answered that he rounds off the results to the nearest tenth of a percent. He noted if the surveyor is shooting good levels, he should be able to get very close. He noted that the Township has a .5% requirement because it usually has issues with developments. He noted that the developer did not meet the Township's requirement of .5%, however, they met the minimum requirement set by the State of .4% or above. He suggested that it would not be a maintenance problem as they used plastic pipe and it flows very well at .4%. Mr. Wendle noted that the inspector is responsible for putting in lasers to set up the proper slope, and the Township specifies a .1-foot drop across the manholes. Mr. Weaver questioned how the Township inspectors would be able to measure this. Mr. Wendle noted that they would need to take a level to see if there is a slope. Mr. Weaver questioned how they would determine the percentage of slope and what the CET inspectors do in this situation.

Mr. Wolfe noted that there is a problem in that the sanitary sewer line does not meet the Township's specification. Mr. Weaver stated that the Township would require a maintenance bond. Mr. Wendle noted that since the line is installed it would be onerous to rip the pipe out of the ground. He noted that the manhole channels are already in concrete and the pipe is laid. He suggested that solids would build up in the manhole channels every once in a while. He explained that there would be no I&I in new sewer system, and the pipes are designed for ultimate peak flow, and at ultimate peak flow there would be some scarrowing velocity, but at minimum slope with no I&I, there will be problems. He noted that the Township would have to flush the system at least once a year. Mr. Wendle noted that in the past, staff has determined the costs for staff to flush the system every year for the next 20 years, adding inflation, and have the developer provide a bond or the cash up front. Mr. Hornung noted if the developer does not agree, then the Township would not accept the sanitary sewer lines. Mr. Weaver noted that the Township could chose not to accept the lines. Mr. Wendle noted that the contractor is responsible to build what is on the plans. Mr. Seeds noted that they do not meet the specifications since they don't have the proper drop. Mr. Hornung questioned what would happen if the Township did not accept the sewer lines. Mr. Wolfe noted that they would not be maintained and residents would have sewer backup into their homes and the Township would ultimately be responsible anyway.

Mr. Seeds questioned if the Township could collect on the bond each time it flushes the system. Mr. Weaver answered that there would be a cash escrow account and funds could be drawn from that account every time the system is flushed. Mr. Hawk stated that he liked that idea, the concept of having cash to pay for Township services.

Mr. Weaver noted that the developer has worked well with the Township. He noted that there is a dry sewer in the area, and the only way for this to happen is to have the developer install a temporary pump station to connect to the sewer, and they were very cooperative. Mr. Seeds questioned if there was a problem that there was not enough slope to accommodate the sewer. Mr. Weaver answered that the Authority Inspector went to CET and said that he was worried that the sewer would not work since it was really flat. He noted that there are some limitations to the site, and the developer tried to save money on fill. Mr. Wendle noted that some of the slopes that the developer had available were the Township's minimum of .5%, but when their engineer drew the plans, starting at point A to the other end of the line, it provided a tenth of a fall across the plan. Mr. Weaver noted that the plan complies with the State guidelines; they will work, but because they are tight and built for peak capacity, in the first ten years there may be problems. Mr. Weaver noted that the agreement could be presented at the next Authority meeting.

Continued discussion regarding the purchase of capacity in the Swatara Waste
Water Treatment Plant from West Hanover Township

Mr. Wendle noted that Mr. Hawk requested him to list pros and cons for purchasing the West Hanover Township capacity. Mr. Weaver noted that Mr. John Yost spoke to him during the Swatara Township Authority meeting, and questioned if the Township was interested in purchasing the capacity. He responded to him that the Township has discussed this for many years.

Mr. Hawk explained that he spoke with Mr. Yost, noting that, several years ago, he thought the two Townships had a deal. At that point, the offer for the capacity was between \$500,000 and \$625,000.

Mr. Hawk noted that now, Mr. Yost was not willing to commit to a purchase price. He noted that if West Hanover Township gave up the capacity they would still have some obligations that would cost them close to \$3 million. Mr. Yost informed Mr. Hawk that West Hanover Township must pay the Swatara Township Authority \$1.6 million for their share of the upgrades.

Mr. Wendle noted that West Hanover Township bought the capacity for \$589,823 in 1985. He estimates that the current value of West Hanover Township's purchase of its 414,000 average day capacity is approximately \$1,250,000 and that West Hanover Township's share of the current upgrade is approximately \$1,650,000, with a total estimated value of \$2,900,000. Mr. Hawk noted that the Township could offer West Hanover Township the \$1,650,000 to cover the upgrades for a capacity that they can't use, since they do not have joint interceptor use.

Mr. Wolfe questioned why the Township should begin negotiations. Mr. Crissman suggested that West Hanover Township doesn't understand the situation, and the Township needs to talk to the right person to explain how much money it would cost them, but if they give the capacity to the Township, then they would not have to be burdened with the upgrade costs. Mr. Hornung noted that West Hanover Township would be selling something for free that they already paid over \$500,000 for. Mr. Wendle questioned, if there could be some conversation to get to a reasonable price. He suggested that they will hold on to the capacity rather than give it away. He noted that it would cost West Hanover Township \$1,650,000 in upgrade costs.

Mr. Wendle noted that he pulled the Act 537 plan for West Hanover Township, noting that there was an article in The Paxton Herald stating that the West Hanover Township Supervisors bought a pig in a poke and now they can't barbecue it. He noted that West Hanover Township is paying \$585,000 for the capacity and they can't use it. He noted that purchasing the capacity would be to the benefit of Lower Paxton Township, but the one disadvantage is that West Hanover Township would have paid for something. He noted that if Lower Paxton Township purchases the capacity, it would save operating costs for the Wet Weather Treatment Plant because the Township would never have to operate it for an entire month, only using it for peak flows. He noted if the Township did not purchase the capacity it could cause the loss of some flexibility in the future, if South Hanover Township's appeals would prevail.

Mr. Wolfe noted if negotiations were held with West Hanover Township, then the Township could end up paying something, but he was thinking in the \$200,000 to \$400,000 range. He suggested that it would not be good for Lower Paxton Township to open the door with West Hanover Township to start negotiations. Mr. Hawk suggested if Mr. Yost is looking for an offer from the Township, it means that West Hanover Township is looking to do something.

Mr. Weaver noted that minutes are being taken of the meeting and discussion is being held for possible negotiations.

Mr. Seeds agreed with Mr. Wolfe that he did not think that anything needed to be done at this time.

Mr. Weaver noted if the Board waits and the plant is denied and the Township can't build it, then everyone would know that the Township needs the capacity, then the value would go up for West Hanover Township.

Mr. Hawk noted that Mr. Yost is not the right person to talk to.

Mr. Hornung suggested that the Township should let West Hanover Township pay the \$1.65 million for the upgrades, and then the Township could buy the capacity from them for \$1.7 million, and everyone would look good. Mr. Blain noted that it would be worth paying an extra \$500,000 to have the capacity.

Mr. Weaver noted that there is a great advantage for the Authority to secure the extra capacity. He questioned what value the capacity was for West Hanover Township since they do not have interceptor capabilities.

Mr. Hawk suggested that either the Township should not respond to the phone calls and let West Hanover Township come to the Township, or the Township is talking to the wrong guy.

Mr. Hornung noted that he is still holding out for the Actiflow Treatment Plant. Mr. Wendle noted that the Township would need the capacity if it goes with the Actiflow Treatment Plant. Mr. Seeds questioned if the Actiflow would run more than the Wet Weather Treatment Plant. Mr. Hornung answered no. Mr. Wendle noted that part of the reason for the biological treatment plant, aside from DEP's requirements, is that the Township does not have enough capacity for a maximum month basis at the Swatara Authority Plant. He noted that the Township's projected maximum month flow is 6.2mgd per day as compared to the daily flow rate of 3.695mgd. He noted that the Wet Weather Treatment Plant is designed to handle a one or two month period where the flows are up around 6.2mpg. Mr. Weaver noted that the Actiflow Plant would have had to run just as long, but if the Township would purchase West Hanover Township's capacity and the peaks are a lot less, the Actiflow makes more sense since it would be used for short durations. Mr. Hornung noted that the Actiflow Treatment Plan costs are around \$2 million. Mr. Weaver noted that the scientists and manufacturers are experimenting with Actiflow Plants to add biological to it. Mr. Hawk noted that the Department of Environmental Protection has a new director and he may be more sensible.

Mr. Blain noted that sooner or later the bill will come due for the \$1.65 million to West Hanover Township, so he agrees that it would be a wise decision to sit and wait. Mr. Wolfe explained that the payment is due within 60 days. Mr. Hawk explained that Mr. Yost would be calling him in the near future and he would tell him that the Township is not interested in the capacity at this time.

Mr. Wendle questioned what if Mr. Hawk called Mr. Yost and informed West Hanover Township that they could be released from their payment to the Swatara Township Authority since they don't have a means to get the capacity from West Hanover Township, noting that they would be paying a bill of \$1.65 million or more, if there are change orders, and realizing that they will not get anything for what they are spending. He noted that West Hanover Township could decide to get out of the \$1.65 million payment and possibly provide a counter offer to the Township. Mr. Hornung noted that West Hanover Township could pay the \$1.65 million bill, and then the Township would pay West Hanover Township \$1.7 million. Mr. Weaver questioned if they would have to borrow money to make the payment. Mr. Hornung suggested that West Hanover Township may not have to borrow the money if they know the Township is buying the capacity. He noted that it would be easier for the Sewer Authority to borrow \$1.65 million than it is for the Township Supervisors to sell it for nothing. Mr. Stine noted if West Hanover Township has not started the process to borrow the money, he did not know how they could do it within 60 days. Mr. Hawk noted that he will take the capacity off their hands, and to pay for the upgrades to the Swatara Township Treatment Plant. Mr. Hawk noted that he would call Mr. Yost and talk to him.

Review of a request for the Township's participation in the Pennsylvania
Smoke-free Community Challenge

Mr. Wolfe noted that this is a request from the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DH) for a new program, the Smoke-free Community, and they would like the Township to support, sponsor, and host smoke-free community events, asking the residents to pledge to be smoke free in their homes and in their vehicles. He noted that it is a good concept, and the Township could participate by putting articles in The Newsletter, on the website, and in The Program Guide. He noted that DH is asking the Township to do more, but there is no requirement to do so. He noted that the DH would like the Township to host community forums, and appoint a committee. He suggested that the Township could participate by doing the basics, but he does not want another committee to report to or another night out. Mr. Seeds noted that he did not want to do anything with this. Mr. Crissman assumed that they would be doing something through the Department of Education as well. Mr. Wolfe noted that the booklet that he was provided with looks like something that would be circulated within the schools.

Mr. Seeds questioned if there was a smoking policy for Township parks. Mr. Wolfe explained that the DH requested the Township to create an ordinance to prohibit smoking in parks. He suggested that smoking is permitted in the parks at this time. He questioned if the

Board wanted to adopt such an ordinance. Mr. Crissman questioned how it would be enforced, as it was very hard to do this when it was instituted at Landis Field. He noted that it took over four years to get the fans to cooperate with the policy. Mr. Crissman questioned if the Parks and Recreation Board should be tasked to consider a no smoking policy for the parks. Mr. Wolfe noted that he would ask them to make a recommendation, and he would include an article in The Township Newsletter. Mr. Blain noted that there is too much to deal with at this time and he did not think the Board should ask the Parks and Recreation Board to create more regulations for the parks. He noted that it is very different from a controlled football field. Mr. Hornung noted that it has not been proven that second-hand smoke causes lung cancer. Mr. Stine noted that there are studies that state that second-hand smoke is worse since the smoke is not filtered. Mr. Crissman suggested that studies have been completed to prove the dangers of second-hand smoke. Mr. Blain noted, that at this time, an article will suffice.

“Otta Know” Presentation: Township participation in the Municipal Utility Alliance operated by the PA League of Cities and Municipalities

Mr. Wolfe noted that the Township has been a participant in the Pennsylvania League of Cities and Municipalities (PLCM) Municipality Utility Alliance (MUA) since it was formed in 1998. He noted that the Township used to purchase electricity in the Alliance at a time the electric markets were going haywire. He noted that when the electric market stabilized in 2001 and 2002, most of the participants went back to their local suppliers. He noted, with the rate caps coming off next year for the electricity providers, the MUA is getting up to speed, and they have started the process to bid electricity for participating municipalities. He explained that he already indicated the willingness of the Township to participate.

Mr. Wolfe noted that rate caps come off January 1, 2010 and it expects to see costs increase 30% to 35%. He noted that MUA expects to be able to reduce that increase to roughly 20% to 25% through a competitive bid on a multi-municipal basis. He noted for the Board to participate, the Township would have to adopt a new inter-municipal agreement with MUA. He noted that he already sent the MUA a copy of the electric bills, and granted permission for them to shop for electricity on the Township’s behalf. He noted that he has reviewed the bid specifications and found them to be acceptable. He noted that it is not an upfront commitment at this time, and he questioned if the Board wanted to participate in the MUA. He noted that they would bid the rates, and the Township would have an opportunity to accept or reject bids at that

time. He explained, if the Township accepted the bid, the Township would enter into an agreement with the provider for one, two-year agreement or three, one-year agreement.

Mr. Seeds questioned if this MUA was just for governments. Mr. Wolfe answered yes, noting that it was only for bulk purchase of electricity. Mr. Seeds questioned if there was an annual fee to be paid. Mr. Wolfe answered yes. Mr. Seeds questioned if the Capital Area Region Council of Governments was involved in this. Mr. Wolfe answered that they are now investigating a program to duplicate services. Mr. Seeds questioned why they would want to duplicate services. Mr. Wolfe noted that they serve municipalities that are smaller in scale, and the MUA would service municipalities in the PPL territory composed of cities, boroughs and townships comprised of populations of 20,000 and above.

Mr. Wolfe noted that the Township has over 70 accounts to include traffic signals, street lights, and various municipal buildings. He noted that each traffic signal has its own account, street lights are billed on two accounts, and each building had its own account, as well as the sanitary sewer pump stations that have their own accounts. Mr. Seeds questioned what each traffic light would use monthly. Mr. Wolfe answered that it was roughly 130 kilowatt per month, around \$30 to \$40 per month. He noted that the costs have been lowered since the lights were converted to LED.

Mr. Crissman noted that the Township should continue with the MUA for now.

Mr. Ted Robertson, Stray Winds Area Neighbors, noted that there was something he saw on the news where a device was installed on the building side of the electric meter to help lower the costs. He noted that he did not know what it was called, and suggested that it may be good to use for the pumping stations. Mr. Stine noted that the device is to save between 20% and 30% on electric bills.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Mr. Blain made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Crissman seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by,

Maureen Heberle
Recording Secretary

Gary A. Crissman
Township Secretary