



PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

January 8, 2014

7:30 p.m.

Meeting Minutes

1. **Call to order:** Chairperson Conners called the meeting to order.

2. **Attendance:**

- **Committee members present:** Chairperson Conners, Councilor Durkin, Councilor Farrell, and Councilor Soltysiak
- **Committee members absent:** Councilor Boutcher
- **Others present:** Councilor Bunker, Councilor Mixon, Mayor Foley, Manager Locke, Assistant Manager Bashore, Public Works Director Frank, and Engineer Hughes.

3. **Public Comment**

- **Norbert Hameke, 111 Cedar Street:** Mr. Hameke appeared before the Committee in order to discuss continued water issues in the alleyway behind his property. Engineer Hughes stated that this matter was previously reviewed during the development of the project and it was determined that there would not be work done outside of the acquired easements. Engineer Hughes stated that an education program was discussed. Mr. Hameke asked why it is considered a private drive. Engineer Hughes stated that it is his understanding that it is not a public right-of-way or street. Councilor Farrell asked if Mr. Hameke would be open to discussing the installation of rain barrels with his neighbors. Mr. Hameke stated that he would if the Borough would supply the rain barrels. Councilor Bunker stated that the Borough's Environmental Action Committee would be willing to educate him on rain barrels.

Councilor Bunker asked if there were ordinances pertaining to directing rainwater. Engineer Hughes noted that it is a unique scenario due to the fact that it involves multiple properties. Manager Locke stated that he did not see water entering from Washington Lane when he went out to the site. Councilor Bunker asked if the property owners could tap into the new storm sewer pipe that was installed. Engineer Hughes stated that they could. Engineer Hughes asked if any work had been done to the sidewalk around the house. Mr. Hameke stated that would have been done to the sidewalk. Chairperson Conners thanked Mr. Hameke and stated that the Borough will be in touch with him.

4. **Reports**

- **Public Works Director:** A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials. Public Works Director Frank stated that members of the Public Works Department attended training on brining for the Borough streets and noted that it will save on road salt. Councilor Durkin asked if the Borough would purchase the brine or if we

would mix it ourselves. Public Works Director Frank stated that it would be approximately \$0.25 per gallon, but the Public Works Department could mix it themselves. Mayor Foley asked if it was better or worse environmentally. Public Works Director Frank stated that it depends who speak with, but you are using less salt. Public Works Director Frank stated that repairs were made to one of the Borough's salt spreaders in order for it to function properly. Chairperson Conners asked about the lighting repairs with the Consortium. Public Works Director Frank stated that they are working on an issue on the north end of the Borough.

- **Engineer:** A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials.

5. Old Business

a. 2013 Road Project

- **Engineer - Request for additional fees:** Engineer Hughes stated that the request for additional fees is \$1,040.00 for the change in the scope of the project compared to the original proposal.

ACTION: On motion of Councilor Durkin, seconded by Councilor Bunker, the motion recommending approval of the additional engineering fees for the 2013 road project passed unanimously.

- **ADA Ramp Replacements:** Engineer Hughes stated that the weather has impeded the ability to complete the ramp repairs. Councilor Durkin noted issues with the crossing at Highland Ave. and Greenwood Ave. Manager Locke stated that this will be addressed when the weather is amenable.

- b. **2014 Paving Project:** Chairperson Conners stated that the 2014 paving project will include a section of West Ave. and Myrtle Ave. Engineer Hughes provided a proposal for engineering services. Engineer Hughes recommended authorizing bidding the project in February or March in order to build in time if the project would need to be re-bid.

ACTION: Councilor Farrell made a motion to recommend approval of the proposal of Remington, Vernick, & Beach Engineers to provide engineering services for the 2014 paving project and authorize the advertisement of bids for the 2014 paving project. Councilor Durkin seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

- c. **Sewer Rate Study:** Manager Locke stated that a Request for Proposal has been issued for the Sewer Rate Study project. Assistant Manager Bashore stated that the Borough has received 20 to 25 requests for the documents. Manager Locke stated that he received a question from an engineer who had done this work for Abington Township and asked if there would be a conflict. The Committee determined that there would not be a conflict for this work.

- d. **Inter-municipal Agreement with Cheltenham Township:** Manager Locke stated that Abington, Cheltenham, Jenkintown, and the DEP have been meeting weekly to address issues in the inter-municipal agreement. Manager Locke stated that the flow limits are the only unknowns. Engineer Hughes stated that the best case is to have a draft agreement in front of Council in February. Engineer Hughes stated that he is proposing having the flows more evenly distributed among the Borough's three (3) metering locations.

e. **Greenwood Ave. Bridge Project - Status Update:** Assistant Manager Bashore provided a written report on the status of the project. Assistant Manager Bashore stated that they lost a few days due to weather, but this should cause an overall delay in the project completion date. Assistant Manager Bashore reported that Verizon has not yet completed the relocation of its infrastructure, but the contractor is working around them as they can. Chairperson Conners asked if meetings were still being held at Cheltenham Township. Assistant Manager Bashore stated that they are still occurring and he will forward the date to Chairperson Conners when it is available.

- **Summit Ave. Right-Of-Way Issue - Status Update:** Manager Locke stated that he is awaiting a certified statement of the survey before notifying the Council members and the property owner. Councilor Farrell asked when Manager Locke anticipated receiving the document. Manager Locke stated that he should receive it in the next few days. Councilor Bunker recommended reaching out to the property owner prior to the work continuing. Manager Locke stated that the improvements being done at the intersection are federally mandated for accessibility purposes.

Noble Station Bridge: The Committee directed Assistant Manager Bashore to reach out to PennDOT to have a representative discuss the project with the Committee.

f. **Borough Lighting**

- **Holiday Lighting Wrap-Up:** Manager Locke stated that the Public Works Department will remove the holiday lighting once the weather is favorable. Manager Locke stated that additional electrical work will be done for next year.
- **Town Square Electrical Issues:** Manager Locke stated that upgrades are being performed in order to bring the electrical system in Town Square up to code. Councilor Bunker asked if the plugs were GFI. Public Works Director Frank they are GFI, but are not functioning.
- **Lighting Consortium – Update:** Manager Locke stated that there is a new crew in the Borough from the Lighting Consortium. Manager Locke stated that the new crew is working out well and he is continuing to monitor costs.
- **In-house Lighting Repair Status:** Manager Locke stated that a 12-foot ladder was purchased and repairs to the ornamental lighting have been made.

6. **New Business**

a. **H2O Grant Project Engineer Fees:** Engineer Hughes stated that this request is for \$3,715.61 in additional engineer fees in order to cover costs outside of the original scope of the project. Engineer Hughes stated that the inspection of the paving was done under the paving project contract. Manager Locke reported that he and Engineer Hughes worked with the Grant Administrator to have rain water pans installed under the Borough's H2O grant.

ACTION: On motion of Councilor Durkin, seconded by Councilor Bunker, the motion recommending approval of the additional engineering fees for the H2O Grant Project passed unanimously.

b. **Winter Storm Report:** Chairperson Conners stated that things went well during the two (2) snowstorms this year. Chief DiValentino stated that there were no police incidents

during the storms. Councilor Mixon asked if the snow plows always the same route. Public Works Director Frank stated that there is a specific route that is followed, but it may be adjusted to address issues. Mayor Foley asked about the Borough's snow emergency routes and where individuals without driveways would place their personal vehicles. Councilor Durkin stated this was reviewed about two (2) years ago and he believes that they are the right routes. Councilor Durkin stated that it would be a good idea to review possible alternative parking scenarios.

Councilor Durkin noted that trash and recycling collection has been backed up due to the storm and would like to see the Borough waste hauler have a presence in the Borough tomorrow to collect trash, even for a half a day. Manager Locke stated that he will contact the Borough waste hauler.

- c. **Storm Water Inlet Repairs:** Manager Locke stated that two (2) inlets are being repaired on Myrtle Ave. and Runnymede Ave. and Greenwood Ave. and Walnut St. Public Works Director Frank stated that the inlets have been ordered and are scheduled for repair next week. Chairperson Conners asked if this was an on-going project. Manager Locke stated that it is. Engineer Hughes noted that Glanzmann is interested in tying into an inlet in the vicinity of the project and recommended evaluating the inlet.
 - d. **Glanzmann project:** Councilor Farrell noted that she received an e-mail from an abutting property owner regarding issue with Glanzmann, including not shoveling in a timely manner and driving the wrong way on Greenwood Ave. Manager Locke stated that he will speak with Mr. Glanzmann regarding these issues.
7. **Adjournment:** On motion of Chairperson Conners, seconded by Councilor Farrell, the motion adjourning the meeting passed unanimously.