



PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

July 9, 2014

7:30 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Call to order: Chairperson J. Connors called the meeting to order.

Attendance:

- **Committee members present:** Chairperson J. Connors, Councilor C. Durkin, Councilor K. Farrell, Councilor C. Soltysiak, Councilor J. Mixon
- **Committee members absent:** Councilor M. Boutcher
- **Others present:** Vice President R. Bunker, Borough Manager G. Locke, Mayor E. Foley, Public Works Director T. Frank, Police Chief A. DiValentino, Engineer O. Hyne

Public Comment: One resident came in to discuss how traffic in Jenkintown will hopefully be reduced due to the bridge reopening. She stated that "not one person in Jenkintown drives 25 miles per hour." She also stated that she had spoke to Police Chief A. DiValentino about this subject matter. She stated how she cannot drive down Walnut street due to trucks driving or being parked. Also commented on "people running the red light at Washington Lane and Old York on a regular basis." Wants to know why the Police cars are parked behind the library or Fiesta when they could be watching for traffic violations.

Reports

- **Public Works Director:** A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials. Public Works Director Tim Frank wanted to highlight the actual report. Mr. Frank changed the format of his report to highlight things that he feels is important to the committee; and allows tracking and inventory to be seen by council. Mr. Frank also highlights the amount of public input about complaints, concerns, and incidents through the web as well as phone called. These complaints, concerns, and incidents are then tracked by ward, and compliance on the calls; such as how quick was a response given to inquired persons. His report also highlights the usage of equipment such as the speed trailer, trucks, and snow inventory. Mr. Frank would like to make a notation on department savings, specifically resources and finances. Mr. Frank stated that in previous years we would spend \$350 per truck to remove debris from our yard, this year he proposed a deal that allowed him to do it for no charge. Also informing the Committee that he and his Forman have started putting together a monthly schedule, instead of weekly to keep up with the amount of production they have started to achieve. Mr. Frank made it known to the board that he is happy to change, correct, or answer any questions about the new report.

Councilor J. Mixon thanked Public Works Director Tim Frank for the detailed report, explaining that it will further help in the future.

Borough Manager George Locke thought that the new report was excellent but wanted to clarify on the deal Public Works Director Tim Frank made. Mr. Frank made a deal with PECO. The deal is that PECO is allowed to store materials in the yard for trench repairs, in turn they removed debris. PECO is also allowing Public Works to use their materials as needed.

- **Engineer:** A written report was provided with the monthly meeting materials. Engineer Owen Hyne discussed that we are currently on hold for the H₂O Grant Sanitary Sewer Project. Borough is preparing to look at some manhole inserts and after that will be moving on to further inspection and rehabilitation of additional sanitary sources Mr. Hyne along with his boss Mr. Tom Beach met on the site and take taken a look at the storm sewer bypass that has been installed and are now performing hydraulic calculations on the system to find out where they can improve and or make any adjustments on the H₂O Cedar to Walnut Project. Once calculations are completed Mr. Hyne will provide a report along with recommendations for making any improvements after they have completed the analysis. Expect the report to take about a week or so. Mr. Hyne wanted to discuss the PEDDA Grant is a good opportunity for the Borough. This grant does not require any match from the Borough and allows the Borough to look into alternative energy. Mr. Hyne has spoken about this with the Borough Manager, George Locke and it seemed like the best idea or possibility would be to go after LED Street Light Conversions. Is not official but RVB is offering to prepare for the Borough for no cost.

Councilor J. Mixon asked if the LED street lights do a better job pointing straight down. Mr. Hyne replied that each light has different optics and would be determined on selecting the right light fixture; but answered the question as a yes, because they would select the right light fixture.

Mayor E. Foley asked if that would improve the ballard lights. Mr. Hyne answered that there are LED replacements for nearly every light out there. Mr. Hyne said he would have to look into it but with 99% certainty they could switch it out.

Mayor E. Foley asked if that would be more reliable that the lights we have now. Borough Manager George Locke answered that they may not be more reliable because the LED traffic lights blow at the same rate the streetscape lights do because of unreliable infrastructure, but they would last longer and be cheaper to run. He also stated that the light at the corner of Summit and Walnut is LED. Mr. Locke said that only three have been put in, the plan was to put five LED lights in a year, that being said one was broken being installed and another cannot be located. Mr. Locke also stated that with 330 street lights we are looking at 90,000 to replace them all at once, and that is only in the Borough, not streetscape lights, but they are relatively inexpensive to run, was \$12.00 a month a piece now \$4.00 a month with the new energy provider. Mr. Hyne said that there is a cap on the savings with LED. they use less energy but they use a light fixture which costs a little bit more than the conventional light fixture but lasts substantially longer so there is a maintenance savings, and energy savings. Borough Manager George Locke stated that EAC supports this and would write a letter of support. Mr. Locke also recommended Remington and Vernick to start the grant at no cost.

Mayor E. Foley asked how the solar rays would stack up in terms of potential savings. Mr. Hyne stated that issue with solar is a site. In a Borough like this they have looked at Borough Hall as being a roof, but really there is not that much place to put one. It would be more beneficial to go from the street lights because of it.

Vice-President R. Bunker stated that reduction and consumption is more beneficial in some places than additional generation.

Councilor C. Durkin wanted more of an update in the Cedar Street flooding. Mr. Hyne spoke about it a little but again recapped that he spoke with the Borough at the site and have taken a

look at asbuilts and the situation in the field, maintenance issue that Mr. Frank has identified and looking at all the issues putting together a hydraulic analysis of the asbuilt system, and present the finding and any recommendations.

Councilor C. Durkin asked who the design was by and the costs on the recommendation. Mr. Hyne informed the committee that the final design is Remington, Vernick and Beach's work. When putting together the recommendations they're may be some structural recommendations, there will be costs associated with that Mr. Hyne wanted to note that the original system was intended as a bypass, because there was an existing pipe between the two streets that was too small, always causing the streets to flood.

2013 Paving Project – ADA Ramp Replacements: Engineer O. Hyne stated that the project is complete. JTB finished the concrete work and restored everything but there is some grass that they've seeded that hasn't come in. Mr. Hyne stated he may ask to come back to re-seed. Recommendation for final payment was submitted to committee and everything was code compliant.

Borough Manager G. Locke did receive the letter and asked Mr. Hyne for clarification on the phrase "maximum extent practicable" because he is not familiar with that phrase when it comes to code. Mr. Locke stated that it is technically infeasible or it is compliant. There is a question on the ramp on the corner of Walnut and Mather and if Remington and Vernick feels that it meets code in their professional opinion. Borough Manager G. Locke is asking for clarification, because he is concerned about the Borough's liability and that the Borough could be sued if someone is insured. Borough Manager G. Locke doesn't feel right about those words and wrote an email saying so on July 7th.

New Business

- 1. AQUA PA Water Line Replacement Program** - Councilor J. Conners explained that the last thing they had talked with AQUA about was doing night work and coming down West Avenue onto Leedom then onto Summit. In the eleventh hour they changed and decided they wanted to do day work. In discussions, the Borough was not thrilled about that but then they would have to table that project and it could be a few years before they got back to it, even though it was told to be a major project. Monday July 7th they submitted for a permit without clarification as to when they were going to do the work. Borough Manager G. Locke stated he has reached out to AQUA and they have not returned his calls. Borough Manager G. Locke has not approved the permits and stated that at the coordination meetings AQUA suggested doing night work. AQUA stayed for the coordination meeting so they know all of PECO's plans and such and are going to get back to the Borough on whether or not they are going to do it during the day or at night.

Councilor K. Farrell asked if they specified on the permit application when they would start they work. Borough Manager G. Locke preceeded to tell the committee that there are no dates or times on the application, just the plan and the permit.

G. Locke thinks that one of the decisions the committee has to make is deciding whether or not they can work during the day. At this point Borough Manager G. Locke suggests not allowing them to start until the Arts Festival is over.

Councilor K. Farrell asked about how long would this project last. With the help of Public Works Director T. Frank Borough Manager G. Locke replied about 9 weeks.

- 2. 2014 ADA Ramp Replacements** - Borough Manager G. Locke explained that they have coordinated with the school to pay for the four ramps on their side of Western Avenue saving us \$6,400.00 out of Borough of Jenkintown's budget. We do however have four ramps on our side

by Highland and West and two down by Myrtle Avenue. The work for these are going to start on Thursday of next week. The plan is to be done a couple weeks before the paving.

- 3. Sign Inventory Software** - Public Works Director T. Frank spoke on this subject. He explained that it is a web based program used to meet the federal mandated replacement program for the signage for the Borough. It is something that we were able to use for sixty days for free and will be approximately \$48 per month. This allows us to inventory all the signs in the Borough, know exactly where the signs are located, and assets on hand. So that if a sign is damaged, we know we have the material and where it is going and what the sign is. We are using the software now, and we are continuing the inventory.

Old Business

- 1. 2014 Paving Project** - Chairperson J. Conners said that it was set to begin in August. It will be on West Ave and Myrtle Avenue. Encouraging residents to have their sidewalk and curb replaced. Borough Manager G. Locke stated all but four of the 28 have submitted permits and/or done the work. One of the four is a big contract and his contractor has been talking to Borough Manager G. Locke. After that is finished, it will reduce down to two or three people Borough Manager G. Locke is working with.
- 2. Peco Gas Main/Paving Project** - Chairperson J. Conners explained that it was PECO's idea is to come into the Borough and fix gas mains on approximately six streets. We approached PECO with the idea of paving the other half of the street because when they come in and dig up the streets and replace the line they repave only the side of the road they were working on. PECO seemed open to the idea. Borough Manager G. Locke is now researching their bidding process and giving the information to the solicitor. We are optimistic that it will work though.
- 3. School run off at Florence & Greenwood Update** - Chairperson J. Conners said that discussion took place with Dick Greer and know they were looking into and working on it. Borough Manager G. Locke stated that they have been working with the school but have been waiting for plans to see if it is coming off of the building. The meters do not come down the side of the building they go inside of the building so Mr. Locke cannot easily see what is happening. We think they are clogged. If not it is coming from the field behind the school. Either way, the school is willing to fix it.

Mayor E. Foley asked if the JYA was aware of the discussion with Dick Greer due to the fact that they have been maintaining that field down to Florence and Greenwood. Councilor K. Farrell said that they wanted to deal with it as well as obtaining estimates a while ago for the fix but unsure what happened to those estimates. Councilor K. Farrell said she would look back and see if she could find those emails. As well as Borough Manager G. Locke informing JYA of the discussion with Dick Greer.

- 4. Inlet Rehabilitation Project** - Chairperson J. Conners explained that Public Works Director T. Frank has been working around Jenkintown cleaning out the inlets along the side of the road with the leaf machine (the leaf machine turns into an inlet cleaning machine.) Public Works Director T. Frank attended classes for that vehicle to learn how to transfer the leaf machine into the let cleaning machine. They have been very successful at it. In report it shows 39 inlets were cleaned. In the process before they were doing two inlets a day due to cleaning them by hand with a shovel, now with the machine they can get up to seven done a day and still maintain daily tasks. While cleaning with the leaf machine they found that the boxes are deteriorating and falling apart and while cleaning them they are prioritizing the ones that need work. That list though changes daily; because for example, one inlet failed on Vernon that was set to be repaired a week later. Setting up a program to get the repairs done to try and do preventative maintenance.
- 5. Planning of PW Equipment Purchases** - Borough Manager G. Locke discussed that there are still purchases they are looking to make and budget for them next year. Borough Manager G.

Locke wants to keep reminding Committee members and Council so it does not take anyone by surprise. One purchase is the tank for the brine. The price varies depending on the seasons. The brine tank price is lower now than in any other season. The tank we need however is between two and three thousand dollars and we would like to ask the Committee to give permission to buy this. The price asked for was between two and three thousand. Some other reasons why it was asked to be purchased in the middle of the summer was they have to install and pipe it to be ready for the winter. With the yard being cleaned up it may be a good time to install it down there.

Chairperson J. Conners agreed with Borough Manager G. Locke to acquire it now.

Councilor K. Farrell agreed as well.

Vice-President R. Bunker asked what happened to the one we used last year. Borough Manager G. Locke responded that there is one on the vehicle that is 350 gallons and we have to fill that up three and a half times to do the Borough. Also, our manufacturing plant is 500 gallons at a time. If we have a back to back storm we are out of brine and we have several of them this year alone. It doesn't go back when we make it. This is a storage tank, where as the 500 is for the manufacturing.

Public Works Committee unanimously voted to allow the purchase of this tank.

6. **Waste Disposal** - Chairperson J. Conners said with the county no longer offering trash disposal we are considering entering a consortium. We have to have it done by December 31st, although if it is not done it will not be a major problem. Borough Manager G. Locke stated that the county has a subcommittee together now and the county has agreed to pay their attorneys to prepare bid documents to put this out for bid. There is 32 communities that want to stay in the consortium to keep the prices down. The county has also indicated open to allowing their waste authority to continue while this is taking place. The next meeting is July 16th at Springfield township and Borough Manager G. Locke plans to attend.

Adjournment: On motion of Chairperson J. Conners, seconded by Councilor C. Durkin, the motion to adjourn the meeting passed unanimously.

