



TOWNSHIP OF SPRING

BERKS COUNTY, PA

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Township of Spring Infrastructure Committee Meeting Minutes – September 7, 2021

The regularly scheduled public meeting of the Township of Spring Infrastructure Committee was called to order by Chairperson Ehrlich at 8:33 a.m. on Tuesday, September 7th, 2021 in the Public Meeting Room of the Township of Spring Administration Building, located at 2850 Windmill Road, Spring Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania. The following members were present: Chairperson Ehrlich, Myer, Schannauer and Darrah. Mike Kocher attended via teleconference. Also, in attendance were Dan Becker-Esquire, Jen Bensinger, Jim Moll, Mary Burkholder and Chris Hannum of Entech Engineering. Andrew Bertolazzi-Engineer of Alcon and Steve Hoffman of Great Valley Consultants attended via zoom.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made by Mr. Schannauer, seconded by Mr. Myer to approve the minutes of the August 17th, 2021 meeting. Upon roll call all committee members present voted affirmatively. MOTION CARRIED

Open to the Floor – None

Entech Engineering Report –

a. Spring Ridge Pump Station

Mr. Hannum reported the Spring Ridge Pump Station project is in the final stages. The Township will hold substantial completion until the trash rack is mounted.

b. Wyomissing Interceptor Project

Mr. Hannum reported the preliminary design phase for the Wyomissing Interceptor Project has been finalized. Entech is recommending that the lower portion of the Interceptor be upgraded from 18” to 30”. The modifications are highlighted on Drawing No. D-001. Entech recommends the replacement of the 18” interceptor from the meter location at Parkside Drive south to Cambridge Avenue. This would be completed by digging and replacing the existing 18” sanitary sewer with a 30” sanitary sewer at the same location, except where noted on Exhibits 1 & 2. The estimated construction cost for this portion is \$3,500,000. During the preliminary layout and hydraulic calculations, Entech also performed a field investigation to ensure there were no connections from the adjacent Joint Municipal Authority of Wyomissing Valley Interceptor.

The area of concern was around Cambridge Avenue. Staff from Spring Township confirmed that the manhole upstream of the interceptor at Reading Avenue has experienced surcharges during intense storms. Entech is recommending replacement of this 12” line. This section would add \$400,000 to the project, bringing it to a total of \$3,900,00 which included a total of 5,790 feet of replacement piping.

Wyomissing Interceptor Project (Continued)

There are two locations where the proposed interceptor deviates from the existing interceptor. The existing interceptor is located under a portion of the lacrosse field for Wyomissing. The proposed interceptor avoids the field and the abutting Wyomissing Creek. This would require an easement from the Wyomissing School, (Exhibit 1). The other location (Exhibit 2) is where the proposed sewer deviates upstream from Cambridge Avenue. The existing sanitary sewer does not have adequate depth below the Wyomissing Creek, the proposed location will require an easement from Wyomissing Borough.

Mr. Darrah reported his concerns with the end of the interceptor at Harvard Boulevard where the Township has experienced issues recently with the last storm. Mr. Hannum stated he believes this area can be done separately without replacing the entire line. He recommends this upgrade as a separate project. Mr. Darrah reported his crew found one area up near Lawrence Avenue and Harvard Boulevard where a tree root busted the line. Mr. Darrah's crew is in the process of making the repairs to this section. Mr. Darrah and his crew have been cleaning out lines and the work that the Township has done has helped tremendously to eliminate inflow and infiltration (I&I).

Optional Upgrades

Entech has determined the upstream portion of the interceptor, which extends from Cambridge Avenue to Wellington Avenue in the Lincoln Park District, has sufficient capacity for existing and future sewer needs. (Drawing No. D-002). This sanitary sewer is also 18" and could be upgraded to 24". An estimated construction cost has been prepared to total \$2,600.00.

Mr. Hannum reported although these optional upgrades are not needed, they do provide the following advantages:

- Replacing this part of the interceptor could alleviate inflow and infiltration associated with this section
- The health of this portion is not fully known. There could be sections that need replacement based on existing conditions with the pipe. This requires further investigation.
- The potential for upstream growth is not known, but this upgrade could be needed in the future.
- The economy of scale associated with construction. A larger project would provide for better unit cost pricing
- The required work will be disruptive to local neighborhoods. A single disruption would be better than several disruptions.

Wyomissing Interceptor Project (Continued)

The disadvantages of completing the optional work include:

- The optional upgrades are not currently needed and add significant costs to the overall project.
- The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PA DEP) has stated that no planning would be needed if the required work was done under a Corrective Action Plan (CAP). The CAP would be put in place to alleviate the surcharging in the lower section. The work in the optional or upper section is not needed to solve the surcharging issues. Therefore, the PA DEP may not consider this a necessary part of the CAP and then require a formal planning submission.

Mr. Myer stated the Township may utilize COVID money to cover a portion of the project. The Sewer Interceptor project is something that is covered under the American Rescue Plan. J. Moll mentioned stormwater projects also fall under guidelines for using COVID money.

Motioned made by Mr. Myer, seconded by Mr. Schannauer to recommend to the Board of Supervisors to authorize Entech to proceed with the design for the blue and pink section, shown on table 1 & 2 at a projected cost of \$3,9,000.00 and consider as part of the project the small section at Lincoln Park and Harvard Boulevard at a projected cost of \$400,000. Upon roll call all committee members present voted affirmatively. MOTION CARRIED

c. Payment Application # 5 for Final Clarifier

Entech has reviewed Payment Application #5 submitted by PSI Solution and recommends payment of Application #5 for work completed for a portion of demolition, excavation, piping, electrical and relocation of the transformer at a cost of \$121,617.51.

Motion made by P. Darrah, seconded by Mr. Myer to recommend payment of Application #5 to PSI Solution for work complete in the amount of \$121,617.51. Upon roll all committee members present voted affirmatively. MOTION CARRIED

d. West Lawn Interceptor

Mr. Hannum reported the Township was approached by Wyomissing Borough and the Highlands. There is potential they could be expanding which would require upgrades to the West Lawn Interceptor.

Sewers –

a. Hofmann Tract Planning Module-No Report

Mr. Moll reported the Board of Supervisors authorized the completion of the Township's section of the capacity certification.

Mr. Hannum stated the Township is currently waiting on DEP approval. Discussion will be needed to follow DEP guidelines when the Township does the upgrade to the blue section.

Sewers (Continued)

Mr. Moll pointed out that the sewer modules show the capacity the Township would have in the lines after the projects are complete.

b. **Alcon Planning Module-**

Mr. Moll reported Alcon has submitted modules. The Township is reviewing the modules and Mr. Moll will be presenting the information at the next Planning Commission meeting to illustrate the planning component part of the project. Mr. Bertolazzi reported Alcon contacted Deb Hoag and Tim Kraw of the City of Reading and they are working on their review from Alcon's submittal on 08/18/2021.

Public Works Director/WWTP Superintendent –

a. **Spring Ridge Pump Station**

Mr. Darrah reported the project at Spring Ridge Pump Station is near completion, a couple of components remain open. A shortage of supplies is delaying the arrival of the metering box.

b. **Final Clarifier Project**

Mr. Darrah reported the project has been delayed due to the recent flooding.

c. **Cacoosing Creek Flooding-**

Mr. Darrah reported the Cacoosing Creek backed up into the sewer plant. Flows from the creek went from 10 ft to 15 ft in a matter of a few minutes on Wednesday night. The creek backed up over the road, up over the bank into the plant. Mr. Darrah reported this is the first time the sewer plant flooded to this extent.

d. **DEP Inspection-**

The Township Treatment Plant was inspected by the DEP. Mr. Darrah is waiting for the final inspection reports.

Streets and Stormwater –

a. **Harvard Boulevard**

Mr. Hoffman of Great Valley Consultants reported an Engineering report was submitted to the Board of Supervisors with a couple of options and estimates for reconstruction on Harvard Boulevard. The Board of Supervisors recommended that the Infrastructure Committee review the options.

Option 1- Reconstructing the street where the curbs are at a projected cost of \$1,150,000.

Option 2-Narrowing the street by 6 feet which would save the Township close to \$50,000.00.

Mr. Darrah reported the Township televised the storm sewer 2 years ago and have been working on updating the televising. The Township will be repairing a section that is approximately 10 feet long. It is located at one of the big trees close to

Streets and Stormwater (Continued)

Lawrence Avenue and the three-way intersection that abuts Harvard Boulevard, Lawrence Avenue, and Filmore Avenue.

Mr. Hoffman stated when the televising review is complete, Great Valley Consultants will compile all the data into the feasibility study. Mr. Hoffman questioned whether the Township will maintain their right to assess property owners for curb costs if the Township does not install curbs in original location.

Curb costs for this project would be approximately 40-45 % of the total project cost which would be a substantial cost.

Mr. Becker reported under the Second-Class Township Code if a construction project requires relocating the curb the Township is permitted to assess those costs to the residents.

Mr. Myer stated he would be in favor of option #1 that does not include narrowing the street and passing the costs on to residents. Mr. Myer stated he would like the total cost of the project including phasing the project over a couple of years.

The Infrastructure Committee will wait until they have final costs before they make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors.

a. **Fritztown Road**

Mr. Moll reported the business owner of 989 Fritztown Road and the property owner to the right located at 983 Fritztown Road contacted the Township due to extensive flooding that occurred with Hurricane Ida. This business owner attended a Board of Supervisors meeting in 2018 because of flooding that occurs at the location. The Township boundary is the center line of Cacoosing Creek which passes beneath Fritztown Road adjacent to this business. Mr. Moll pointed out the properties on a map of Fritztown Road. The two (2) properties located at 989 and 983 Fritztown Road are located directly in the floodplain area and in addition they are also considered to be in the floodway. Mr. Moll reported he has several meetings this week with residents.

- b. Mr. Moll reported the Township is in the process of making minor improvements to the Gring's Hill Road area where we had stormwater issues in the past.

Old Business-No Report


New Business –

Mr. Becker reported South Heidelberg Township has made a request to the Township to consider allowing certain flows from the new warehouse they are looking at constructing on Krick Lane to flow to the Wernersville Plant. South Heidelberg is in the preliminary process, the Township will receive additional information at a later date.

Announcements. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 21, at 8:30 a.m.

Adjournment – *There being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Myer, seconded by Mr. Darrah. Ms. Ehrlich adjourned the meeting at 9:58 a.m.*

Respectfully submitted,



Mary L Burkholder
Township of Spring Secretary