

**AVONDALE BOROUGH  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 16, 2006  
6:00 P.M.**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jay Pusey, Russ Kilmer, Fred Bryan, Bob Cleveland, Patrick Harrison  
Absent: Rose Ann Swift, Pat Longen

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Glenn Diehl, Mike Short, Lew Christy, Walter Barcz, Vince Barbone, Howard Thompson, Harold Brown, Bill Webb

After the Pledge of Allegiance, President Pusey called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

President Pusey announced that there were two executive sessions held: one on April 26, 2006 to discuss Route 41 and on May 9, 2006 to discuss the New Garden Agreement.

**MILLER ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**

Mike Short gave the following report:

Monthly Water Production – 3,084,400 gallons / average daily flow – 102,813 gallons

Monthly Effluent Flow – 9,772,000 gallons / average daily flow – 324,000 gallons

New Garden Flow – 2,620,080 gallons / average daily flow – 93,574 gallons (3/30/06 to 4/26/06)

Unaccounted Monthly Wastewater Flow – 4,067,520 gallons (41.6%)

2006 1st Quarter Billed Water Production – 6,147,310 gallons

2006 1st Quarter Unaccounted Wastewater Flow – 16,331,729 gallons (42.78%) Using billed water production as requested by Solicitor.

NPDES VIOLATIONS - 2 - The violations were for ammonia concentration and loading within this reporting period. Miller Environmental feels that these accidents are related to Microthrix Parvicella that caused poor settling in the final clarifiers. Experienced higher than normal pin flocking and the lose of nitrifying bacteria. Have been treating the Microthrix Parvicella with Sodium Hypochlorite injected into the return activated sludge line. We have had success with breaking up this filamentous and now have a better settling sludge and are in the process of increasing the sludge age. The flow exceeding plant design also contributes to poor settling of the solids in the final clarifiers.

The following activities were reported for the Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant:

- Completed 2005 Water Supply report for the water plant and submitted it to the DEP.
- Repaired wires to water meters at 302 and 307 Church Street and installed a new remote for water meter at 501 Chatham Street.
- Installed new water meters and remotes at 218 Church Street, 521 Henson Street and 90-2 Pennsylvania Avenue.
- Shut water off at 123 W. State Street and turned it back on after their water bill was paid in full.
- Tested for Total Coliform in the water distribution system on 4/4/06. Results were negative.
- Performed 7 water actions forms and PA One Calls through out Borough.
- Continued adding air into the sludge holding tank as requested by DEP.

- The #1 influent pump motor was pulled out of the volute to remove rags on 4/4/06.
- Continued to add Sodium Hypo-Chlorite [Chlorine] to the influent flow to prevent possible odors.
- Started spraying Sodium Hypo-Chlorite onto foam in the sludge digester to prevent possible odors.
- The #2 EQ pump failed on 4/1/06. Called Reels Motor Service to trouble shoot why the pump would not run. They replaced a relay but the pump had to be pulled out and a spare pump was installed in its place.
- Map Machine was called to the plant to repair a broken bleed-off valve for the #1 influent pump.
- Started adding Sodium Hypo-Chlorite to the activated sludge return flow to stop filamentous growth that is occurring.

### **WWTP LIAISON REPORT**

Howard Thompson gave the following report:

Visited the treatment plant on May 4th and May 16th.

Headworks - The concrete work has been completed. Continuing the electrical and the electronic wiring. The auger and the grit grinder have been installed. Railing has been completed.

BNR – The railing and the steps are being installed.

Pump House – Installed the chemical tank and they are beginning to do some painting and grouting work.

Electrical and Disinfectant Building – In the process of doing some painting and grouting work.

The generator will be started tomorrow (Wednesday, May 17th). 800 gallons of fuel is stored in the generator and the cost to fill it was \$2300.00.

### **ENTECH REPORT**

Walter Barcz gave the following report

#### **COUNTY GRANT AND PENNVEST LOAN**

Upon approval, the County grant and the Pennvest loan will be submitted together.

#### **EPA GRANT - \$192,900**

The EPA has approved all documents submitted and approval was sent to Las Vegas Finance Center for disbursement of the check to be sent to Avondale.

#### **NEW DRAFT OPERATION & MAINTENANCE MANUALS**

Previously, Entech has supplied to Miller Environmental the first draft O& M manuals. After they were reviewed, they were returned to the manufacturers for development. The final manuals will be reviewed and when they are found acceptable, they will be distributed.

#### **WWTP UPGRADE AND EXPANSION CHANGE ORDER - \$28,0000**

The change order includes: Sludge and scum piping additions, tree line extension, prechlorination, new shed, electrical & SCADA wall well house feeders and a 49 day construction contract extension. President Pusey said he, Bob Cleveland and Patrick Harrison went over the changes with Walter and recommend approving the change order. Patrick Harrison made a motion to approve the change order, 2nd Russ Kilmer, motion carried.

#### **WWTP NPDES PERMIT APPLICATION**

Waiting on DEP's response from the April 6, 2006 submittal.

**BOROUGH SOLICITOR'S REPORT**

Glenn Diehl gave the following report

**PROPOSED STORMWATER ORDINANCE**

In the next couple of days, DEP will be coming out with their new guidelines for stormwater and then he will prepare the draft ordinance.

**PROPOSED MASTER SEWER AND WATER ORDINANCES**

In the process of preparing the ordinances.

**UPDATE – GRANT APPLICATIONS**

Spoke to Barry Cassidy and he will again submit the second phase to the CDBG grant with no charge to the Borough. This application was submitted last year and was denied by the County because the previous project had not been completed. In order to submit the grant application, we need to have a public hearing and adopt a resolution and this can be done at the special meeting on May 23rd. Council approved Glenn to advertise the hearing.

**BOROUGH ENGINEERS REPORT**

Jamie Mac Combie gave the following report

**WILKINSON PROJECT**

Reviewed the Subdivision & Land Development Plan submitted by Wilkinson. Wilkinson will address the issues stated in the review. Jamie said he wasn't aware that the Borough hired F.X. Browne to do a letter of map revision to the flood plain. The secretary said F.X. Browne was in charge of the White Clay Creek Restoration Project that was funded by a grant from DEP. Jamie said since the improvements were done to the stream, there was a request from FEMA to re-map a portion of the flood plain. Wilkinson didn't know about the improvements and submitted a flood plain analysis that doesn't agree with F.X. Browne's information. Spoke to F.X. Browne and they have filed the additional information to FEMA. Based on the new map revision, it is showing a portion of Wilkinson's proposal is located in the flood way of the creek and they will need to get a permit from DEP to proceed.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Fred Bryan gave the following report

**2005 AUDIT**

Received the draft audit for 2005 and Vince Barbone is here to answer any questions. There were no questions and Fred Bryan made a motion to approve the 2005 audit, 2nd by Patrick Harrison, motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID**

Fred Bryan said the committee reviewed the bills to be paid and recommend that Council approve them. Russ Kilmer made a motion to approve the bills to be paid, 2nd by Patrick Harrison, motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Fred Bryan said the committee reviewed the financial statements and recommend that Council approve them with one correction. There are two PLGIT Bridge Accounts; one account is supposed to be marked as "sewer fund". Russ Kilmer made a motion to approve the financial statements with the correction, 2nd by Bob Cleveland, motion carried.

**WALABAX PAYMENT #16 - \$128,203.37 AND MONACACY PAYMENT #9 - \$62,408.90**

Fred Bryan made a motion to approve Walabax payment #16 and Monacacy payment #9, 2nd by Russ Kilmer, motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Russ Kilmer made a motion to approve the Council Meeting minutes from April 18, 2006 and the Special Council Meeting minutes from May 2, 2006, 2nd by Patrick Harrison, motion carried.

**PERSONNEL REPORT**

Bob Cleveland gave the following report

The secretary planted some flowers at the Borough shop signs located at Pennsylvania Avenue and State Street. The flowers were donated by Rosazza's Greenhouse.

**STREETS REPORT**

Bob Cleveland gave the following report

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Council received a letter from PENNDOT regarding the State Street Bridge. It has been determined that the bridge was built by the county in 1921. It was previously reported in last month's Streets report that ownership of the bridge rests with the Borough. However, no supporting documentation has yet been found to support this. The Borough Solicitor is still researching the matter.
2. Streets Committee has met and, in conjunction with the Borough Solicitor, and Borough Engineer, is in the process of formulating 1 year, 3 year, and 5 year plans pertaining to infrastructure and streets repair. A report, when completed, will be submitted to Council.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. There are currently 9 known Abandoned/Expired/Inoperative vehicles in the Borough. Letters were sent to the residents by the Borough Secretary.
2. The Borough has received cold-patch, and Dominick will begin pothole repair soon.
3. Several STOP signs need replacing. Dominick will do this soon.

**PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Jay Pusey gave the following report

**RE-ZONING PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE**

Council discussed the businesses they would like to see on Pennsylvania Avenue. Bob Cleveland said he would like to see the buildings owner occupied because we have enough absentee landlords in the Borough. Glenn Diehl said from a zoning perspective, owner occupied is something you can not regulate. Zoning goes with use; not who owns the building. Russ Kilmer said he agrees that we now have too many absentee landlords and we are starting to have too many problems like owners being non-responsive to water bills and property maintenance. We should not open a can of worms if we can not control it. Glenn said that one of the reasons why other towns go for commercial businesses along highly traveled roads is they realize that most people can not afford to live in the large houses or can not get loans to make upgrades. There is a possibility of commercial low-impact, where there is a residence upstairs and a commercial use downstairs during the day and there is nobody there at night. This kind of use will throw off enough money so that these buildings can be maintained in really good condition and present a streetscape and then ripples back to values of other properties in the town. This is the decision Council needs to make. Russ asked what part of Pennsylvania Avenue we are looking at. Bob said Second Street to Sixth Street. Russ said when you add up the number of houses that are residences and not apartments or commercial, you are only looking at about 4 or 5 houses that are large, so are we really getting any benefit. Bob said after we get the property owners

feed back, we will be able to make a better decision on where we go from here. President Pusey said this issue will be discussed in a public meeting located in the Fire House on May 23, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. Russ said the public's input will generate a lot of questions and answers for Council and then develop a path forward.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Russ Kilmer gave the following report:

#### **POLICE ACTIVITIES**

The police hours have been increased to 32 hours a week for May and 40 hours per week for June through August. The income from the fines is still maintaining about 50% of the police cost. Russ said that Chief Sheller wants to know the status of the new computer with internet access for the new national reporting system. Fred Bryan said he would like to discuss this issue at another time.

### **PARKS COMMITTEE**

#### **WATSON PARK**

The Secretary said the fire damaged play equipment and the debris pile was removed from the park.

### **ENVIRON & COMPOSTING FACILITY COMMITTEE**

Patrick Harrison gave the following report

On April 22nd we had our first open house at the facility. There were seven pickup truck loads dropped off. On May 6th, the Boy Scouts said they were going to clean up the cabin area and they asked to use the facility. The committee allowed them to use the facility but they didn't put the compostables in the right areas. On May 13th, the second open house was held and one pickup truck load was dropped off. The Boy Scouts came back and corrected the problem from May 6th. Dominick did the first town pick up on April 15th. He had problems with one property where they generated about 18 bags of grass and Dominick thinks the person may have a lawn mowing business. The Committee will address this issue.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **PENNDOT – ROUTE 41**

Council agreed that all the proposals presented by PennDOT would have a negative impact on the Borough and the Resolution adopted in July 2005 still stands as Council's decision. Council agreed that they do not oppose a bypass, but they feel that the bypass should go around the town and not through it. The secretary will write a draft letter to PennDOT for Council's approval.

### **ANNOUNCEMENT**

President Pusey made the following announcements

- There will be a special meeting on May 23, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. at the Avondale Fire House to discuss the proposed re-zoning of Pennsylvania Avenue. The Water and Sewer Committee meeting and the Planning Committee meeting will take place prior to this meeting.
- There will be an executive session after this meeting to discuss legal matters.

Russ Kilmer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 p.m., 2nd by Fred Bryan, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Becky Brownback  
Borough Secretary

Council Meeting - May 16, 2006