

**AVONDALE BOROUGH  
COUNCIL MEETING  
DECEMBER 21, 2004**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jay Pusey, Rose Ann Swift, Bob Cleveland, Fred Bryan, Jerry Poe   **Absent:** Russ Kilmer   1- Vacancy

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Mayor Howell, Walter Barcz, Jim Marlowe, Lori Walmer, Joe DiMatteo, Bill Romanelli, Howard Thompson, Harold Brown, Lou Kaplan

President Pusey called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

**RESIDENT COMMENT/REQUEST/COMPLAINT**

FOOT BRIDGE

The Secretary said a resident is complaining about the foot bridge that crosses the creek near the boy scout cabin. The resident said the bridge is moving and that there is a danger that it will go into the creek and it is an environmental issue. The Secretary said a couple of years ago the boy scouts anchored the bridge at the request of the Borough's insurance company. Mayor Howell said the boy scouts built the bridge and someone should call them to have them either stabilize or dismantle the bridge. The Secretary will contact the boy scouts.

HOWARD THOMPSON

Howard Thompson said crossing from one side of State Street to the other at the Avon News Shop is very dangerous because of cars speeding both ways. Mr. Thompson said he almost was hit. The Streets Committee will look into this matter.

**S.A.V.E. LOU KAPLAN, Chairman**

Lou Kaplan said he has been working for a number of years on issues surrounding traffic planning and land use planning with focusing on Route 41. Mr. Kaplan said he is hear to give a brief presentation on some information and visualization of what Avondale Borough would look like in the terms of traffic in the year 2027 with the roundabout technology. A simulation model was displayed on a projection screen showing how roundabouts operate. It showed how Avondale would look with no bypasses and with a roundabout during the evening peak hours, using data from the Delaware Valley Planning Commission. SAVE thinks that Avondale could get immediate help by simply having two roundabouts on the existing two-lane route 41 highway in Avondale. SAVE's work began with PennDOT's "need study" in 1994. PennDOT identified four needs of route 41: Safety, Capacity, Infrastructure

and Intermobility. SAVE's approach is a two-lane alternative because they feel it will meet the four needs and also balance the community goals. In the case of Avondale, it is very important to focus on revitalizing the town center. Roundabouts primary function is intersection control, they are compact (two-lane is approx. 165' in diameter) and traffic speed is slow, easy for pedestrians to get across route 41, is calmed as it approaches, enters, navigates and exits the roundabout. There is a huge cost difference between a bypass and roundabouts. From Route 7 to Route 926 is 150 Million dollars for a bypass. With two-lanes and roundabouts, it is one-fifth of that cost. A roundabout at the intersection at Pennsylvania Avenue and State/1<sup>st</sup> Street is a design challenge, but the designer looked at it and feels that it can be done without taking any of Avondale's historic buildings. If roundabouts went in, it would not preclude any other options from being considered. SAVE wants something done as soon as possible on Route 41. If there are two lanes with roundabouts, it is a process that could be streamlined because there would be no environmental impacts because you would be in the existing roadway. Mr. Kaplan said SAVE would like to work with Avondale to make it a vibrant town center and what SAVE is proposing will help along this path. Bob Cleveland asked Mr. Kaplan regarding his statement about placing a roundabout at State Street and Pennsylvania Avenue without disturbing any historic buildings and asked what he meant by historic buildings? Mr. Kaplan said what used to be Pusey's Hardware is historic and he is assuming that the bank at the corner is not historic and that would come down. Mr. Cleveland said the gas station would also have to go. Mr. Kaplan said he is not sure but the designer who looked at Avondale said it is hard but it can be done, the actual design has not yet been done. Fred Bryan said it was stated that it would be safer for a pedestrian to walk across Route 41, but at the same token, you walk out, you may be safe on one side but not safe on the other side because you got the oncoming traffic. Mr. Kaplan said the design is to make a safe island. Mr. Bryan said it does not sound very safe for a pedestrian especially with the amount of traffic coming through the roundabout. Walter Barcz said the graphics that were shown with the vehicles entering and exiting the roundabout should be made a little more realistic.

### **MILLER ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT**

Joe DiMatteo reported on the Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant for November. The total monthly water production was 3,238,800 gallons with an average daily flow of 107,960 gallons. Total monthly effluent flow was 13,770,000 gallons with an average daily flow of 459,000 gallons. Total monthly New Garden flow was 5,074,030 gallons with an average daily flow of 144,972 gallons. The unaccounted monthly flow was 5,457,170 gallons (39.6%). There were no NPDES violation reported.

The following activities were reported for the WWTP for November:

- Found blockage in Wastewater Plant's Aeration Basin A cell. Purchased test plug and rented 3" trash pump to drop basin and remove debris at valve.

- DEP on site on November 16 to conduct stream samples and also took plan effluent samples.
- Entech Engineering down on November 2, 2004 to conduct quarterly plant inspection.
- Replaced drive belts to all three Walker Process Gear Drive Units on sludge thickener tank and final clarifiers.
- Observed blockage to #1 clarifier tank, after considerable attempts to clear pump, found that problem was in blockage at bottom of tank. Blocked off clarifier tank and rented 3" diaphragm pump to remove debris at bottom of tank that was blocking pump.
- Installed portable plunger pump for temporary operation repair of Fairbanks Morse sludge pump.
- Replaced water meter and checked remote at 307 Church Street.
- Tested remote at 401 New Street, functioning properly.
- Purchased two 100" sections of UFG Cable to make repairs to signal wire at Reservoir fill control float.
- Purchased additional water meters for meter replacement program.
- Purchased second pump for Reservoir Cover to remove excess rainwater with generator as necessary during heavy rainfall.
- Continued data and correspondence review for Act 220 water withdrawal report.
- Performed weekly and monthly preventative tasks of lubrication and oil checks.

#### WELL HOUSE ROOF REPAIR

Joe said the tarp has blown off the roof and something needs to be done soon. The Secretary said that Russ Kilmer is getting another estimate.

#### 3 & 48 CLAY CREEK ROAD

Joe said a water leak was found and was determined to be the service line between 3 and 48 Clay Creek Road which was running back into the cesspool at #3. We found that #48 is connected into #3 cesspool. Walter Barcz received permission from DEP to also connect #48 to the Borough's sewer system. We have three contractors coming to give estimates to repair the water line and connect both houses to the sewer system. The Borough received an additional \$12,000 from the property owner for the job. (Total received is \$24,000)