

West Hanover Township
7171 Allentown Blvd. Harrisburg, PA 17112
www.westhanover.com

Board of Supervisor Workshop Minutes
Monday, March 18, 2019

1. Mr. Miller called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Present to participate in the Workshop were the following:
 - a. Gloria Zimmerman, Jay Megonnell, Kyle Miller, Stacey Connors, Don Steinmeier; Board of Supervisors
 - b. Michael Kreiser, William Rehkop, Tom Stewart and Mark Salisbury representing the Sewer Authority & Board
 - c. Representative Andrew Lewis with Trey Rosser and Eric Rivers (staff)
 - d. Richard McNeal, Susan Gunter, Richard Enck as resident attendees
2. This meeting is to explore Financial Grants for the Sewer Project. Representative Andrew Lewis said that he had asked to be here tonight to speak on behalf of the citizens and to be a strong advocate of the Township.
3. Mr. Kreiser said that the Sewer Authority's original intention was to provide the grinder pumps and a \$3,000 credit to each homeowner; this was prior to the Township seeking Grant money. When we received grant money, the Sewer Authority did not feel that it had to offer the \$3,000. The Sewer Authority does not want to be in the business of loaning money to the residents. They stated that Pennvest has loans for 1.3% interest with a 20 year loan. Pennvest does not have any income requirements.
4. Mrs. Zimmerman stated that she is aware of a house that recently sold and was further reduced an additional \$20,000 to cover the impending sewer.
5. Mr. Megonnell thinks that a lot of older people do not know how to go through the process to apply for these loans. He thinks that someone should be available to help them. Mr. Megonnell asked a resident if they have pursued Pennvest – do you even know how to start that? The resident stated that they did not.
6. Ms. Connors said that we cannot say Pennvest as an option if we have not pursued it yet. She stated that she was currently on the Pennvest website and they state that a meeting with DEP, the Township, and the Sewer Authority must take place. This meeting has not been scheduled to date.
7. Mr. Steinmeier said that the residents were given information multiple times at the Sewer Authority meetings.
8. The Sewer Authority said that the pumps they are getting have a seal monitor on them and can notify you if they malfunction.
9. Mr. Megonnell said that we currently have about 40 grinder pumps in the Township and some of these are on +/- \$500,000 homes.
10. Mrs. Zimmerman said that Mr. Rosario had letters hand delivered to the residents that had a clear list of what to do. Some feedback received was – if I am on a lot of medications and have a reverse mortgage; would they even be eligible for an additional loan? Mrs. Zimmerman said that the Sewer Authority project came in about \$300,000 under budget? Yes.
11. Ms. Connors said that she was always under the impression that the Sewer Authority was always giving the residents the \$3,000 credit. The estimated tap in fee is \$4,384 and the grant money received is going to be split evenly among the residents as a payment towards their tap in fees. The intent of the grant was to have the Township cover the first \$xxx for each tap in fee; not to have the Township reimburse the Sewer Authority. The Sewer Authority said that the

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\$3,000 "credit" was only for the Houck Manor properties with the grinder pumps. They said that this is an added expense that Holiday Park does not have.

12. Representative Andrew Lewis said that he and his staff will be available to help any resident that would need help applying for funding, filling out applications, and to see if they would qualify for any financial help on the State level.
13. Motion: Mrs. Zimmerman moved, seconded by Ms. Connors to adjourn the workshop at 7:01 pm. The motion was unanimous.