

STORMWATER STAKEHOLDER MEETING

JUNE 18, 2019

CALL TO ORDER. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Don Steinmeier
Max Shradley
Jim Sandersky
Marcell Smullen
Jeff Bridi
Bob Nicolodi
Bob Fowler
Amanda Price
Mike Geppert

STAFF PRESENT:

Dan Rosario, Township Manager
Janet Hardman, Code Enforcement Officer
Erik Harmon, Light Heigel and Associates
John Poff, Light Heigel and Associates
Isaac Wakefield, Township Solicitor
Jay Megonnell

1. RECAP FIRST MEETING:

Mr. Harmon, Light Heigel and Associates, went over the power point presentation from last meeting on May 22, 2019. Reduction of 5% phosphorus and 10% sediment is required as part of the CBPRP. There are three new projects. They are all still rehab projects and forested riparian buffers.

2. BUDGET DISCUSSION

Mr. Harmon stated that he revisited the cost opinion for projects. There are no design plans for the project lit. He will use the CAST assessment tool. The Township wants the Public Works Department to do projects that they can do to save money but there will still be costs involved.

Street sweeping program. Mr. Harmon stated that if the Township wants to take credits for street sweeping there are strict restrictions that need to be included in the Chesapeake Bay Pollution Reduction Plan. The cost of the street sweeping should be deferred to the next CBPRP.

Mr. Harmon stated that the fee structure should bill every property based on impervious coverage. There is a wide difference in coverage

Mr. Shandersky asked if pay on roads.

Mr. Harmon stated that roads are not counted. However, there are no exemptions.

Mr. Shanderky stated that the state police and district justice are in the township.

Mr. Harmon stated that the state police rents their property. There are no exemptions for nonprofits, schools, cemetery, churches, etc. Everyone is treated the same.

Mr. Harmon stated that credits need to be discussed at the next meeting.

Mr. Harmon stated that the average equivalent residential use is at 3,100 square foot right now. They have not completed their analysis of the impervious coverage. He recommends quarter bill increments around 775 square feet. There needs to be at least an 800 square foot difference in impervious in order to file an appeal. The fee is determined by the budget.

Mr. Fowler asked if we are doing what we need to meet the DEP regulations. It is difficult to quantify what is the minimum necessary to meet DEP regulations. A lot of municipalities are shooting for the minimum.

Mr. Rosario stated that board members needs to be appointed to the authority and staff hired.

Mr. Shandersky stated that one employee is needed for the Park and Recreation Department.

Mr. Shradley stated that two employees are needed in Public Works Department.

Mr. Steinmeier asked if \$150,000 is enough for one project.

Mr. Shandersky suggested a contingency line amount if project exceeds budget amount.

Mr. Harmon stated that maintenance needs to be addressed.

Mr. Rosario stated that maintenance of the roads comes out of liquid fuels.

Mr. Wakefield stated that we may want to put maintenance of the storm water facilities in the authority budget instead of liquid fuels.

Mr. Wakefield stated that we will need to account for upkeep of existing equipment.

Mr. Steinmeier stated that the Public Works have been called out the last two weeks to sites about storm water.

Mr. Poff stated that the storm water program is not about flooding; it is about water quality.

Mr. Harmon stated that a comprehensive storm water management program is what the fee will accomplish. We do not need to focus solely on MS4 requirements. There is storm water management infrastructure that needs maintained and expanded.

Mr. Fowler asked if how we compensate for nonpayment,

Mr. Harmon stated that 3% of the budget will be for credits. Nonpayment should be included in budget.

Mr. Wakefield stated that the budget costs should be projected over a five-year period. Maintenance of future BMP's is an ongoing expense.

Mr. Rosario stated that part of the mandate is public education.

Mr. Fowler asked if the property owner does not maintain their storm water facilities will the Township be responsible to maintain it.

Mr. Rosario stated that an access easement is also required along with an operation and maintenance agreement.

Mr. Harmon stated there is no fee now to compensate the Township for required maintenance inspections. The inspection fee should be for a ten-year period.

Mr. Fowler stated it seems unfair that current residents must pay for inspections.

Mr. Shandersky stated that he doesn't agree with charging for ten years of inspections.

Mr. Geppert suggested using drones to check stormwater facilities.

Mr. Wakefield stated that he will check into drone use for inspections.

Mr. Harmon stated that drone use for zoning enforcement has been contested.

Mr. Harmon stated that budget codes need to be added.

Mr. Shandersky asked how many residential and commercial units.

Mr. Harmon stated that there are 3,845 residential, 70 tax exempt, 126 commercial, 7 churches, 2 utilities and 320 no codes.

Mr. Fowler suggested having a list of other townships and their fees for the public meeting.

Mr. Harmon stated that the total ERU' is 10,400.

Mr. Wakefield stated that increments should be used for billing.

Mr. Fowler asked what the minimum increment is.

Mr. Harmon stated that .5 increment could be used. Increments should be rounded up.

Mr. Steinmeier asked if vacant land will be assessed.

Mr. Harmon stated that there needs to be at least a quarter increment of impervious on vacant lot to be assessed.

Mr. Wakefield stated that an undeveloped property should not be billed.

Mr. Shradley suggested asking the sewer authority what percentage of their billing is not paid.

Mr. Fowler asked if there is a discount period for billing. If pay full amount get discount but if pay quarterly, pay entire amount?

Mr. Harmon stated that the budget needs to be development by July 1st for this process and completed by November 1st. Workshops on the budget need to start by September.

Mr. Harmon suggested having an informational meeting and a separate public meeting.

4. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING. There should be two more stakeholder meetings and two public meetings. Mr. Harmon will prepare credit options and appeals process for preparation for the public meetings.

5. ADJOURNMENT – 8:00 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet Hardman,
Zoning and Planning Administrator