

EAST BRANDYWINE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY
JULY 12, 2022

Members in Attendance:

Michael Corbin, Chairman
David Summers, Vice Chairman
Sandra Moser, Treasurer

Absent:

David Whelihan, Member
Thomas McClung, Member

Also in Attendance:

Luke Reven, Township Manager
Matthew VanLew, Township Roadmaster
Thomas Oeste, Esq., Municipal Authority Solicitor
Joseph Boldaz, Municipal Authority Engineer
Jan C. Bednarchik, Recording Secretary

The East Brandywine Township Municipal Authority meeting of Tuesday, July 12, 2022, was called to order at 8:03 AM by Chairman Corbin. John Dean of EEMA was the only other attendee.

Minutes

Mrs. Moser moved to approve the minutes of the Tuesday, June 14, 2022, meeting as written. Mr. Summers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Treasurer's Report

Mrs. Bednarchik read the Treasurer's Report and provided a list of twenty-seven invoices for the period of 6/15/22 through 7/12/22 totaling \$60,693.59 for approval and payment from the Operating Fund. Mr. Corbin noted that the Budget Performance Summary shows the expenditures for Keats Glen have exceeded the annual budget and advised that any discretionary expenditures must be pre-approved. Mr. Summers moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and pay the bills as presented. Mr. Corbin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Nineteen customers remain delinquent for the second quarter of 2022. Several delinquent notices were returned as unclaimed and will be resent today by First Class Mail. The payment due date will be 7/22/22.

There were two settlements in June at The Estates at Dowlin Forge. The number of occupied dwellings is two hundred eleven, and the development is now fully built out.

There were six settlements in June at Maplevue. The number of occupied dwellings is eighty-three plus the model home.

Applecross

John Dean reported that the plant is running well, and all permit parameters were met in June. Filamentous bacteria has been significantly reduced by treating surface foam in the SBRs with a sodium hypochlorite solution. Transducers and floats were cleaned to clear some alarms at the plant and pump stations, and a t-shirt was removed to clear a fault in the influent Lakeside Screen. Average daily flow was 125,303 gallons, and total treated effluent was 3,259,000 gallons for the month of June.

EEMA conducted the quarterly Drip Field Inspection for the second quarter of 2022. All issues noted in the first quarter inspection were repaired. Drip tubing was repaired in Zones B, E, and F due to damage from groundhogs. Numerous groundhog dens were found and eliminated.

Hydraterra issued a letter dated 7/12/22 with a summary of quotes received from tree removal companies to remove diseased ash trees within the forested section of the drip disposal area. Meetings were held with the contractors to review the specifications and explain the limitations associated with removal of the trees in the drip area. Separate quotes were obtained for tree removal inside the drip area, outside the drip area, and for the removal of all trees. Martin Tree Service was the low bidder in each category with a total bid of \$22,450 for the combined work but did not specify what protective measures would be taken to minimize damage. Mr. Corbin spoke in favor of being proactive to avoid damage rather than letting the trees fall naturally and possibly causing extensive damage to the drip tubing. Mr. Oeste noted that the threshold for public bidding is \$21,900. Mr. Boldaz will contact all three contractors to request new quotes. Mr. Corbin moved to award the contract for the combined work to the low bidder if the quote is below the bidding threshold, or, alternately, to award the contract for only the work inside the drip area. Mr. Summers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Mr. VanLew acknowledged that the road department staff would be onsite to oversee the work. Mr. Boldaz remarked that all bids included exceptions that wood chips would be dumped at the township and that road department staff would provide traffic control for PennDOT. Mr. Dean offered that EEMA would survey the field after the work is completed to look for leaks and other damage.

The Quarterly Permit Report noted one excursion for Total Suspended Solids in the second quarter of 2022 due to a tear in the disk filter media.

Mr. Boldaz indicated that data was unavailable to complete the Quarterly Lagoon Capacity Report because the Golf Course Operator is on vacation.

Keats Glen

Mr. Dean reported that the plant is running well, and all permit parameters were met in June. A new chemical pump for the sodium hypochlorite feed is being used. Maintenance included changing the oil in the blowers and cleaning the blower room. Average daily flow was 5,000 gallons, and total treated effluent was 154,000 gallons for the month of June.

The Quarterly Permit Report noted no excursions for the second quarter of 2022.

Estates at Dowlin Forge/Hillendale

Mr. Dean reported that the plant is running well, and all permit parameters were met in June. All blowers are back in service, and no new leaks have been detected. Average daily flow was 29,000 gallons, and total treated effluent was 860,000 gallons for the month of June.

An odor complaint was received on 7/03/22 from an adjacent neighbor. Mr. Dean said that all operations were reassessed to try to pinpoint whether short periods of odor could occur when the pump station starts in the morning or from cycling air in the sludge holding tank for decanting. He noted that the equalization tank is aerated continually to prevent odors. Mr. Dean will contact the neighbor to schedule a tour of the plant for late July.

Hydraterra issued a letter to Metropolitan Development Group on 6/14/22 regarding the final paving installed at both pump stations being inconsistent with the design drawings and approved standards of the Authority. Final paving is to extend one foot beyond the fence line to eliminate maintenance issues. There has been no response to date. Mr. Oeste will contact Metropolitan's counsel to discuss the matter. Mr. Boldaz confirmed that Watson Services satisfactorily completed the restoration in the drip disposal area and access ways. EEMA will conduct the drip field inspection for the third quarter at the end of August and provide an update on the restored areas prior to expiration of the maintenance bond period.

The Quarterly Permit Report noted no excursions for the second quarter of 2022. Flows increased by 3,000 gallons from the same period last year due to the number of home sales.

Mapleview

Mr. Dean reported that EEMA continues to monitor the pump station, flow, and generator twice a week. Average daily flow was 8,020 gallons for the month of June.

Brandywine Walk

Mr. Boldaz mentioned that the Special Study for the Mapleview/Weaver combined drip disposal area is expected to be received later this week or early next week. Township Engineer Nate Cline is awaiting a revised plan submission from D.L. Howell to address numerous stormwater concerns.

McCausland/Plank Tract

The two planning concepts for the proposed drip disposal field layout presented by Vic Kelly at last month's meeting were discussed. Mr. Oeste suggested the Authority plan for the possibility of the Reeceville Road extension, in keeping with the interest of the Board of Supervisors, and a reduction in the required 150% drip disposal area. Mr. Summers agreed that the Authority should pursue that route. Mr. Oeste also suggested that having the metes and bounds of the easement areas specified on the plans was preferable to a blanket easement for the sewer lines. However, the Authority would be better served if both specific and blanket easements were provided to allow more flexibility in making repairs.

Mr. Boldaz reported that Hydraterra witnessed the drilling of some wells last week, and testing for the groundwater mounding analysis is scheduled for next week. Mr. Kelly will be reminded of the need to have the landscape architect or arborist quantify the number of ash trees that could be subject to damage by the emerald ash borer beetle.

Hideaway Farms

Mr. Dean reported that the twice weekly inspections of the pump station were performed. A leak in the hydraulic unit for the grinder was repaired. Average daily flow was 22,300 gallons for the month of June. The evaluation and quote for repair of the pump left onsite is delayed due to a backlog at Reading Electric.

EEMA conducted the quarterly Drip Field Inspection for the second quarter of 2022 and concluded that no maintenance is needed at the dosing station/disposal beds.

Mr. VanLew reported that he is waiting for Downingtown Borough to arrange to take possession of the generator from the dosing pump station.

DEP issued Water Quality Management Permit No. 1504407 for the Hideaway seepage beds on 6/30/22. Background monitoring will need to be performed six months prior to reactivating the dormant seepage beds.

The Quarterly Permit Report for Hideaway indicated there were no excursions in the second quarter of 2022.

Hydraterra was recently contacted by Aqua about providing the monthly meter readings to enable them to generate the quarterly billings to the Municipal Authority. The Bulk Service Agreement specifies that both the Authority and Aqua are to perform monthly meter readings, but Mr. Dean agreed to submit the flow data to Aqua.

Old Business

Hydraterra issued a letter dated 7/12/22 with the results of the bid opening for sampling and analysis of groundwater monitoring wells. Five bids were received, ranging from \$29,975 to \$71,420. All bidders agreed to an optional two- or three-year contract based on the annual CPI increase and the one-year bid value. The apparent low bidder was EMS Environmental with a base bid of \$29,975, which includes an option for Mapleview and Weaver. Mr. Boldaz noted that the low bid represents an increase of \$10,000 over the current contract. Citing concerns about the bid amounts being higher than anticipated, the Board deferred action on the bid award until the August meeting while consideration is given to readvertising a new request for bids.

New Business

Mr. Corbin mentioned that he and Mr. Summers and Mr. Reven recently interviewed Mike Wade as a potential new member on the Municipal Authority and were impressed with his experience and level of interest. Mr. Wade will complete and submit a volunteer application for consideration.

Mr. Oeste advised that he will be on vacation for the August meeting but offered to participate remotely, if needed.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

Mrs. Moser moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:29 AM. Mr. Corbin seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The next meeting is Tuesday, August 9, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,



Jan C. Bednarchik
Secretary