

**EAST BRANDYWINE TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY  
WORK SESSION  
JANUARY 25, 2019**

**Those in Attendance:**

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

**Absent:**

David Whelihan, Member  
Don Graewe, Member

**Also in Attendance:**

Scott Piersol, Township Manager  
Matthew Van Lew, Township Road Master  
Thomas Oeste, Esq., Municipal Authority Solicitor  
Joseph Boldaz, Municipal Authority Engineer  
Jan C. Bednarchik, Recording Secretary

The Municipal Authority work session of Tuesday, January 25, 2019, was called to order at 8:08 AM in the East Brandywine Township Municipal Building by the Chairman.

**Act 537 Planning Grant**

An article announcing the upcoming sewage needs survey was prepared for inclusion in the next edition of the Milemarker.

**The Estates at Dowlin Forge (a.k.a. Hillendale)**

Mr. Oeste sent a letter dated 1/11/19 to Giovanna Raffaelli, General Counsel for Metropolitan Development Group, to address the multiple violations issued by DEP for failure to inspect and/or pump the storage facilities in accordance with the required frequency specified in the Pump and Haul Plan. The letter also addressed the subject of the wet well being installed out of level and out of plumb, as well as communication issues. In response, a letter dated 1/16/19 was received from Travis Kreiser, Esq., of Kreiser & Associates, refuting statements in Mr. Oeste's letter but offering to discuss a cooperative path forward. Mr. Oeste indicated that a phone conversation with Mr. Kreiser to discuss the project was unproductive.

A Right To Know request was received from Metropolitan Development Group on 1/25/18 for copies of engineering invoices with backup for time and expenses and various correspondence related to the Dowlin Forge project, copies of agreements between the Authority and Pulte Homes and other sundry documentation. A thirty day extension to prepare a response was requested.

Ebert Engineering submitted the Pump and Haul Report for the month of December to DEP by letter dated 1/10/19. Mr. Boldaz noted that Bob Preston at Hydraterra reviewed the December report and cited inconsistencies between the report and what is shown on the manifests.

A Notice of Violation was issued by DEP on 12/19/18 for violations of the required pumping frequencies as reported in Pump and Haul Reports for October and November. The Department's review of the monthly logs indicated the facilities were not pumped between 9/28/18 and 10/08/18 or between 11/07/18 and 11/12/18. This is the fourth Notice of Violation for failure to comply with the inspection and pumping frequencies. The repeated violations prompted discussion about the impact on the Municipal Authority as the permittee and possible actions to enforce compliance with the Pump and Haul Agreement. It was noted that compliance with the pumping frequency will become more critical as additional houses are connected in order to prevent odors. Mrs. Moser commented on the need to continue documenting the developer's inability to comply with the Agreement and the Authority's efforts to enforce compliance. Mr. Boldaz will contact Kelly Sweeney at DEP to get a better understanding of the Department's perspective on the violations.

Mrs. Bednarchik spoke with Ms. Sweeney about the requirement for a Pump and Haul Facility Report with the signature of a "Municipal Sponsor" to be submitted as part of the monthly Pump and Haul Reports. It was explained to Ms. Sweeney that the Municipal Authority receives the report on the same day it is submitted to DEP and, therefore, there is no time allowance for the Authority to verify that the information prepared by others is accurate. Ms. Sweeney advised that it is not imperative for the form to be signed.

Hydraterra issued several letters last week with review comments on shop drawing submittals for the wastewater treatment plant. Spotts, Stevens & McCoy (SSM) performed a structural review of the wastewater treatment plant and issued a review letter on 1/15/19. SSM's review indicated that there are no building loads applied to the tank walls or the foundation. The building dead, live, wind and seismic loads are not included in the calculation for the wall panels that support the building structure that is specified on the bid drawings produced by Evans Mill Environmental, Metropolitan's Design Engineer. Mr. Boldaz commented that the building loads are embedded in the Design Engineer's Report, but that level of detail is not included in the set of design drawings. SSM also noted that the building masonry walls have anchorage into the top of the precast floor planks, and there is no provision on the precast drawings to coordinate the required anchorage points. Mr. Boldaz had a conference call with SSM and Dutchland to discuss the loading issue and the need for additional details on the drawings. Dutchland agreed with SSM's comments and is currently addressing some of the penetration and loading issues. No delay in production is anticipated. The additional details requested will be provided on a future set of drawings.

Mr. Boldaz noted that some of the SBR equipment specifications were downgraded to alternate types and a reduced thickness of materials from what was originally specified. Hydraterra is requiring that materials be consistent with the equipment specifications in the contract documents. Additional shop drawing reviews will be finalized soon and resubmitted to Evans Mill for revision. Mr. Boldaz also noted that his office was advised by Dan Hudson at Evans Mill that they were instructed by Metropolitan not to communicate with Hydraterra by telephone and that all communication had to be made by USPS mail or email.

## **Weaver Tract**

Last month, DEP issued a letter to Ebert Engineering concerning the Sewage Facilities Planning Module Application Mailer submission, which is proposing sewage disposal by drip dispersal for the Weaver tract. The Department is requiring evaluations of site suitability to be completed by the project sponsor's soil scientist and registered professional geologist and confirmed by representatives of DEP. The soils testing has not been scheduled to date.

## **Applecross**

The specifications for the carbon replacement project with the addition of the sampling tubing will be posted on COSTARS following a final review by Mr. Boldaz.

Hydraterra personnel conducted an inspection during a rainstorm yesterday of certain manholes suspected of contributing to inflow and infiltration (I&I) into the sanitary sewer system. No I&I was observed in the manhole at the intersection of Mercer and Knaur Drives where the surveyor's stake was found. Several manholes adjacent to the curb on Mercer Drive were found to be allowing stormwater to enter the sewer system. Mr. Boldaz suggested installing an insert in the top of three or four manholes to capture the stormwater and release it slowly over time. Research on types of manhole inserts is underway. Manholes receiving flow from East Reeceville Road and from the townhomes in Phase IV South were dry. Some laterals were found to be problematic with water ponding around cleanouts and vent stacks. Inspections will continue once a week to try to pinpoint the area of I&I, and televising may ultimately be recommended. Mr. Boldaz suspected there might be an issue where the basin is located as Mr. Van Lew had previously suggested. Mr. Piersol contacted the Applecross Homeowners Association via email last evening about cleaning the storm sewer pipe outfall at the basin, which is clogged with leaves.

[8:47 AM. Mr. Corbin left at this time.]

Mr. Boldaz met with MGK Industries at the treatment plant yesterday morning to review the Disk Filter Walkway project. A couple of minor changes were discussed, and MGK will submit another set of shop drawings next week. Work is expected to begin in February.

Mr. Boldaz reported that all the shop drawings for the Effluent Pumping and SBR No. 3 Modification project have been revised and approved. All materials are going into production now, and Eastern Environmental Contractors expects to be ready to start active construction in May.

## **Mapleview**

Mr. Boldaz provided his review comments on the drip irrigation system to Ebert Engineering to make some final revisions prior to submission of the Water Quality Management Part II Permit Application and Design Drawings to DEP.

**Old Business**

A policy requiring homeowners to maintain the cleanouts and vent stacks on their sewer laterals will be drafted for discussion at a future meeting.

**New Business**

None.

**Public Comment**

None.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 AM. The next regular meeting is Tuesday, February 12, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,



Jan C. Bednarchik  
Secretary