

Lower Makefield Township

EAC Meeting Minutes – July 12, 2017

Present: Alan Dresser and Peter Solor, Co-Chairmen, Soumya Dharmavaram, Lisa Kamp, Paul Roden, Dan Grenier and John Lewis, BOS Liaison

Also in attendance was Barb Baus, LMT Resident

Approval of June 14, 2017 Minutes

Morrisville Municipal Authority's Recent Sewer Plant Improvements and Upcoming Plans

Thomas Jennings of Curtin & Heefner, John Warena, executive director of the Morrisville Municipal Authority or MMA, and Robert Campbell of Pennoni Engineering were in attendance for the sewage treatment facility. There are two possible plans for sewage treatment for LMT. The first plan is to renovate the existing plant in Morrisville. The second option would involve building a brand new facility in Falls Township in the Keystone Industrial Park of about 40 acres (site of the former USX Plant). A new facility would cost be between \$85 to \$115 million, depending on the size and if additional industrial/manufacturing waste capability is built into the facility. It would also depend on how many municipalities become partners and if corporate partners who have needs for processing manufacturing wastes are part of the planned facility. LMT produces about 30 % of the sewage waste treated by the facility. The existing facility is limited in size and would be hard to retrofit for future anticipated regulatory requirements for the reduction of contaminants in waste water effluent.

The MMA is seeking state and Federal grants to offset this construction costs, but this will be an expensive but necessary project, that will have financial impact on the taxes that residents pay in order to stay in compliance with Clean Water Act, Safe Drinking Water and other Federal and State environmental laws. It has applied for a \$55 million state grant.

EAC Lecture Series – Possible Mike McGrath lecture in October at LMT Building - Lauren is coordinating.

LMT's MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System)

a. 2013 MS4 5 Year Plan – years 2/3 progress report is coming out next week and the 2018 MS4 plan's Pollution Reduction Plan (PRP) for LMT will be submittal to PA DEP by Sept. 16. Municipalities in Pennsylvania are required by law to separate their sewage waste from rainwater runoff from roads and properties. That is why containment basins are needed. Trees and plants are needed to absorb water to slow the run off, reduce the flow, to prevent flooding and contamination of rivers, especially like the Delaware, which many municipalities downstream use as a source of drinking water. In times of severe storms, like hurricanes and Northeaster storms, rainwater runoff could run into sewage systems causing contamination problems. That is

why municipalities have to have plans to reduce stormwater runoff, improve sewage treatment capacity, and encourage the use of rain gardens, the use of rain barrels, naturalization and expansion of catchment or rain water containment basins to manage stormwater. LMT has to submit a report on its plan in September of 2017.

Summer 2017 Newsletter – Paul, Alan and Soumya will draft articles on Open Space and Water Retention Basin Naturalization Project for the Next issue of the LMT EAC Newsletter

Basin Naturalization and Mowing Plan, eight selected basins in the Township, currently being frequently cut, will be re-naturalization with the assistance of the Public Works Dept. A letter and flyer will be handed out to all nearby residents of these basins. They will then be allowed to go natural.

Open Space – Possible parcels for open space. Acquisitions. There is about \$500,000 in 2017 budget for land acquisition – Alan and Jim will continue to explore the possibility of acquiring the University of Dayton tract off of Pinegrove Road and Prince William Court. Also, a tract of land adjacent to 5 Mile Woods next to a wooded area in Falls Township that the Falls Township EAC might also recommend for purchase as open space. It would establish an open space corridor between the Guzikowski Farm and the 5 Mile Woods Nature Preserve. This would be good for wildlife in both areas to roam without being disturbed by or encountering humans and or their vehicles.

Land Use Reviews: Dogwood Lane 5 home development, Snipes athletic fields appeal, Memorial Park – Plans and documents were passed out for the Dogwood Lane, 5 house lot development. No updates on Snipes Athletic Field lawsuit filed by neighbors against the LMT BOS decision to move forward with the project.

Community Environmental Award –

It was recommended to make an award to the National Honor Society Students from Council Rock High School for their outstanding volunteer work on the Electronics Recycling.

Odds and Ends: Fall Electronics Recycling Collection Event is still under negotiation with the E-Waste Contractor for the Fall. Mark is following up on nailing down a date. The EAC is concerned about the proposed Amendment to Green Building Ord. to change “LEED Silver” to “LEED Certification”. This anti-environmental proposal is unnecessary, the Community Center could have met LEED silver with little additional cost if planned for from the beginning.

Open Discussion - EAC and Public

Meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.