

HANOVER TOWNSHIP, LEHIGH COUNTY  
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

July 18, 2023  
6:30 P.M.

Present: Yoder, Hawk, Murray, Thomas; Al Kortze, P.E.; Melissa A. Wehr; Vicky Roth; Josef Fragnito; Audrey Anderson

Absent: Dean; Rossi; Attorney Maurer

Attendance: 0

Approval of Minutes: June 20, 2023, Planning Commission Meeting

Motion: I move we waive the reading of the Minutes of the June 20, 2023, Planning Commission Meeting and accept same as presented.

Thomas, Hawk: Moved and Seconded

Unan.

Correspondence:

Chairman Thomas stated he has correspondence related to other items not on the Agenda this evening and available for review at the Township office during normal business hours.

General Business:

1. Act 537 Special Study-City of Bethlehem Planned Improvements at the WWTP to Increase its Organic Design Capacity (Review and Recommendation)

The Township Engineer said he has a letter dated July 12, 2023. The City of Bethlehem Waste Water Treatment Plant is looking to do an upgrade to their facility. It is nothing that would increase capacity. It is designed to help with their organic oxygen load which they call the BOD. They are looking at increasing the plant's capacity to handle that because of the flows coming in. As part of that, they have to do a special study submitted to the DEP and then they would modify their Act 537. Part of Hanover Township is tributary to the Bethlehem Waste Water Treatment Plant. It is primarily the Troxell Street neighborhood area and some of the southeast corner of the Township and part of the airport drains to the City of Bethlehem's Waste Water Treatment Plant. In order to do this, they have to submit this letter regarding the special study to all of the users of the Waste Water Treatment Plant to get comments from their Planning Commission and then once the Planning Commission has a chance to look at it and comment if they have any comments then it would go to their supervisors or in this case to the Council for adoption and then that's set on and the City of Bethlehem cannot proceed with their special study and their upgrade until they get a responses back from all of their signatories to the waste water treatment plant. It will not impact the

allocation that the Township has with the City of Bethlehem. It will not increase their ability to treat. With this upgrade they are indicating that it will not have any additional capital debt service charge to the Township. The Engineer's recommendation is to pass this on to the Council with the Planning Commission's approval.

The Chairman asked if there are any concerns they need to be aware of and the Engineer replied that there are no issues of concern. What ends up happening in the wastewater treatment plant, they have certain processes. There are certain industrial users, some processing users that have the high oxygen level that dumps into their BOD (bio oxygen demand). As those flows to the treatment plant increase, they need to upgrade that process so they can handle more. It will be a couple year process before they get all of it done and make the upgrade. For now, it seems it's something the waste water treatment plant needs and it has no negative impact on the Township.

Motion: I recommend to Council for their approval Act 537 Special Study-City of Bethlehem Planned Improvements at the WWTP to Increase its Organic Design Capacity as recommended by the Township Engineer and subject to his July 12, 2023 letter.

Thomas, Hawk:

Unan.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicky Roth  
Township Clerk