

MINUTES

South Lebanon Township

January 9, 2018

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1. The special meeting of the South Lebanon Township Board of Supervisors was called to order at 6:07 p.m. at the Friendship Fire Company, 610 S. 2nd Street, Lebanon, PA, by Chairman Stephen Krause, with all members, Township Manager, Assistant Township Manager, Public Works Director, Township Solicitors Keith Kilgore and Andrew Morrow, and sixty-six (66) visitors present.
2. Chairman Stephen Krause led the group in saluting the flag.
3. VISITORS:
 - A. Steve Sherk and Dan Cannistraci, Steckbeck Engineering and Surveying, Inc., were present to provide a presentation and explanation of the Stormwater Pollution Control Fee Rate Study for South Lebanon Township.
 - B. There were sixty-four (64) residents and property owners present to learn about the proposed Stormwater Management Fee and discuss its impact.
4. Vice Chairman Jonathan Beers discussed the history of National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permitting, Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System, Pollutant Reduction Requirements, related actions the Township has taken to date, fee options and anticipated difficulties in implementing the fee.
5. Dan Cannistraci provided a PowerPoint presentation explaining stormwater regulations for MS4 under the NPDES permit, the goals of the Pollutant Reduction Plan and an overview of the Stormwater Pollution Control Rate Study prepared by Steckbeck Engineering for South Lebanon Township.
6. Questions and concerns expressed to the Board include the following:
 - A. Steve and Bonnie Wenger, [REDACTED], feel the fee is a double taxation on farmers since they are required to implement stormwater control measures by the Conservation District, the items on the moderate level are already performed by the Township and benefit the residential property owners more than non-residential property owners, farmers have implemented BMP's for many years and it has not had a significant impact on water quality, farmers are not able to pass the increase on by raising prices due to government regulation, and questioned if the fee could be reduced or postponed until 2019.
 - B. Jon Arnold, [REDACTED] thanked the Board for hosting the special meeting, questioned why the ERU method was selected over alternative methods, stated that yard waste/street sweeping services benefit the residential population, and feels the extra fee is discouraging to new businesses locating within the Township.
 - C. Carrie Boyer, Woodland Contractors, Inc., stated the large fee assessed to Pennsy Supply will impact developers by an increase in the price of stone, developers already have the expense of NPDES permits, administration and record keeping expenses listed on the moderate level are not actual new expenses, and questioned oversight of the projects handled by the Consortium.

- D. Bill Smeltzer, [REDACTED] questioned who will determine the success of our reduction actions. Steve Sherk replied that EPA and DEP will be satisfied when there are no impaired streams in Pennsylvania. Mr. Smeltzer also stated that he has projects in other municipalities where he will be impacted by similar fees, and he questioned if the Consortium is a public entity subject to prevailing wage rates.
 - E. Brian Boyd, [REDACTED], feels the fee should be collected as a tax increase rather than a fee to avoid an excessive burden on non-residential property owners, and farmers are encouraged not to develop by the clean & green program and are now paying excessive fees.
 - F. Glen Krall feels the Conservation District was already addressing the issue of stormwater runoff from agricultural properties.
 - G. Other comments addressed the length and availability of credits, collecting the fee as a per capita tax, and penalties for non-compliance. Chairman Krause thanked the group for their attendance and advised the Board would give consideration to their concerns.
7. The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m. by Chairman Stephen Krause.

Respectfully submitted,

James G. Loser, Sr.
Secretary-Treasurer