

COUNCIL OF TRAPPE  
TRAPPE TOWN HALL  
AUGUST 21, 2017

President Fegel called the infrastructure projects workshop to order at 5:00 pm. Council members: Nick Newnam, Tonya Pritchett, RD Diefenderfer and Walter Chase were present. Other attendees for the Town: Administrator Braband, Attorney Booth and Superintendent Callahan. Public Attendees: Pete Bozick, Jason Lytle and Scott Getchell from GMB and Don English.

**Well 6 – Scott Getchell, GMB**

Scott stated that the Town wells are over 50 years old and have been having a lot of mechanical issues lately therefore the Town requested that GMB do a PER (professional engineering report) to see what options are available to the Town. The PER concluded that the best option for the Town is to drill a new well to add to the already existing 2 wells. The new proposed well would be placed onto the same property as the water tower and would allow the Town to share controls that are already installed. The PER has been approved by USDA and USDA has approved loan financing only for this project. Administrator Braband stated that a grant application was completed and submitted to USDA in hopes that a grant would be available but USDA is only offering a loan in the amount of \$1,141,000.00 with an interest rate of 2% and 40 year maturity date. The quarterly payment would be \$10,384.00 should the Town go with USDA's loan. Scott stated that not only will this project bring a new well online for the Town but it would also replace all the outdated equipment that is currently there and bring the Town up to the current standards which is much more operator friendly. Superintendent Callahan informed the Council of all the recent repairs to Well 4 and Well 5 and some of the costs associated with these repairs. Scott and Superintendent Callahan both informed the Council of the benefits of the new well from improving the Town's water supply to the ability to get rid of the chlorine gas system that the Town currently has. Administrator Braband explained to the Council that the urgency of this project is because the Town is currently running on 2 old wells, one of which is currently down due to needed repairs. If the second well goes down before the first well is repaired then the Town has no water source. If the Council were to approve the installation of the new well then this well would become the primary well and the other 2 old wells would become backups. Commissioner Diefenderfer asked why the project is so much more expensive than what an irrigation well would cost which comes out of the same aquifer. Scott answered that this project isn't only a new well, new controls will be installed, a new building will be built, new chlorine feed system, new security fencing and upgrades to the existing wells would be completed. The Town's wells also have to comply with more regulations and testing than an irrigation well would be required to do. Attorney Booth stated that this is also just an estimate and if the Council chooses to move forward with the project then the whole project would be put out to bid and USDA would have to approve the winning bid. Scott stated this is just a preliminary design, a plan for the Town. President Fegel asked about going to MDE for possible grant funding. Scott replied that there is possible funding through MDE but it could be a couple of years before funding is available and MDE could come back with a loan only approval. Administrator Braband stated that as of right now the earliest funding through MDE is July 2019 and this project is an eighteen month project therefore

the Town is looking at almost 4 years before the new well comes online. Can the Town wait and take the chance or go with USDA who is offering a loan now? The Town would have to upfront the entire project through interim financing. President Fegel asked the Council to think about the project and what direction they would like to go.

#### **Pumping station upgrades and renovations – Jason Lytle, GMB**

Jason stated that the Town asked GMB to look at the Town's existing 8 pumping stations and evaluate their conditions. A PER was done describing each pumping stations and what the best option for the Town would be regarding that particular pumping station. The PER showed that the best option for the White Marsh station and the Lakeview Station was to repair them, the South Main Street station and the Greenfield Avenue station showed that the best option was a total replacement for each of them, the Shelby Acres pumping station showed that nothing needed to be done at this time, Marvel South, Marvel North and Rumsey Drive pumping stations showed that the best option was to do a gravity fed sewer line to the Rumsey Drive pumping station and remove the 2 on Marvel Drive. The cost for this entire project is almost \$2,000,000.00. The PER has been submitted to USDA but USDA has not accepted it yet because USDA's engineers are focusing on projects that they are funding this year at this time. Jason stated that MDE is funding projects now with BRF funding for I & I improvement projects and this could be a possibility for some of the pumping stations. Jason stated that GMB does need to know if the Town wants to handle the initial investigations for this project such as Geo Tech, easements, surveying, property acquisitions, etc. Attorney Booth stated that the Town has some previous discussions regarding property acquisitions so the Town could handle that portion most likely. President Fegel stated that he spoke with Senator Eckhardt previously and discussed using BRF funds for pump stations and she assured him that she would try to get legislation passed to allow the funds to be used for these types of projects. Jason stated that he has seen the BRF funds used for I & I projects but not just repairing existing stations but that could change if new legislation is passed. Attorney Booth asked if the Town were to only be able to get loans for both of these projects which the Town cannot afford to handle at this time, what the priority would be from a public safety, need to fix things perspective. President Fegel stated that he felt the well was most important because the pumping stations are currently operational. Jason stated that this PER was assessing all the pumping stations but if there is one that is more important than another the project could be changed. If the Council should choose to proceed with the design then decisions need to be made regarding who would hire for the geo tech work, etc and let GMB know for the design contract.

#### **ENR Plant Upgrade – Jason Lytle, GMB**

Jason stated that GMB had conversations with MDE regarding the Town's eligibility for the treatment plant ENR upgrade and MDE agreed to fully fund the planning study. Attorney Booth stated that the Town previously signed an ENR agreement that stated the Town would apply for an ENR upgrade in February 2017 but the Town never received it back from MDE. Jason stated that under the ENR agreement there is a provision that the nutrients that are reduced by the ENR upgrade become property of MDE. This is important to the Town because the Council needs to look at where they hope to be in the future development wise and not just where there are now. Jason stated that Lakeside

Development is something that needs to be kept in mind and look at the future flows and capacities when considering the design on the upgrade. A proposal for a PER was submitted to the Council for their review and signature when ready to proceed. Attorney Booth stated that she has talked to the Lakeside Developers and their needs will be accounted for. MDE does not like to fund expansion which may mean that the Town doesn't get as much grant funding for this project but would instead get more loan funding with the idea that this design would be phased so the Town is able to expand to accommodate additional development. The Town would enter into an agreement with Lakeside to allow the Town to commit to the loan but the burden wouldn't fall onto the existing citizens. The agreement would state that Lakeside would pay for any additional loan needed for their capacity the minute that the Town would have to start paying. Attorney Booth stated that she will talk to MDE to make it perfectly clear that if the Town accepts their money, that we are not limiting our expansion potential as far as Lakeside and the Lyons farm development are concerned. MDE just issued an eligibility determination list in July and Trappe is on this list. MDE is now funding the decommission of treatment lagoons and some expansion which is determined by their formula which just became effective July 1<sup>st</sup>. Attorney Booth stated that this is huge; MDE will pay for up to 50% of sludge removal. Jason and Attorney Booth will sit down with MDE and discuss the upgrade and the expansion of the Town prior to the Town accepting anything from MDE.

#### **Main Street Water Line – Scott Getchell, GMB**

Scott stated that the Town applied to MDE for a grant to replace the water line on Main Street from White Marsh Elementary to Maple Avenue. This project was brought about by the large water line break that occurred in October 2016 on Main Street. This project would replace about 3,800 feet of water line and totals almost \$1,000,000.00. MDE did not fund this project this cycle but the Town can and will apply again during the next funding cycle. This project is not an emergency but it is something that does need to be done and should be planned for.

With no further business to discuss Commissioner Diefenderfer made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:57 pm. Commissioner Chase seconded the motion and all approved.

Respectfully submitted,  
Erin Braband – Town Administrator/Clerk