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Public Works Committee

Date: **February 10, 2026 @ 5:30 PM**

Committee Members Present: Bernie Flynn – 6th Ward (Chair)
Bryan Travis – 2nd Ward
Brian McGinnis – 3rd Ward

Department Heads Present:
Don Anderson, Interim Director Public Works
Sean Mitchell, Wastewater Director
Ramsey Reiner, Assistant Borough Manager
Keith Kurowski, Director Parks & Recreation

Borough Manager: Sean Metrick

1. Call to Order - meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM
2. Announcements
 - A Public Hearing will be held on February 18th for the Parks & Recreation Pros Plan at 6:30PM
3. Comments, suggestions, petitions by residents in attendance regarding items not on the agenda.
 - Alice Hall, 120 E. Barnard Street, spoke regarding the snow removal. She thanked Public Works for doing the best they could during this storm. She suggested, however, they push all of the snow down to the corner and haul away. She feels that would assist with the parking issues. She also feels the abuse that the workers take is unacceptable. Mr. Flynn stated that her comments are duly noted and said the biggest problem is vehicles not moving.
4. Departmental Reports
 - a) Traffic & Engineering Reports
 - Kelly Goff, RVE, stated she would highlight three projects for tonight's meeting. The Gay Street closure project they are reviewing the submittals, and they are working with the contractors on the delivery. For the MS4 permit we are trying to schedule the outfall inspections. We need to wait 72 hours after the snow melts. For the Gay and High Street project at the intersections there is a lot of rutting. We had a pre-construction meeting with Borough staff and PennDOT. We are also ready to take core samples in the next few weeks. Mr. Flynn asked what core samples were for and Ms. Goff explained they are to check the integrity of the infrastructure underneath the roadway.

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b) Public Works

- Mr. Flynn stated that Public Works worked around the clock during the snow storm. Unfortunately, we had unprecedented cold weather along with icy rain which made the task more difficult. We broke three plows and we had to hire two outside contractors to assist with the clean-up and hauling. Mr. Don Anderson, Interim Public Works Director, thanked Mr. Flynn for the kind words. Mr. Anderson said he wanted to point out that with these types of situations you cannot plow to the curb, especially if cars were parking out in the roadway because they couldn't get close enough to the curb. The vehicles actually created more of a hazard and logistical issue. The amount of snow and ice wasn't as simple as plowing.
 - Mr. Anderson stated they caulked the library borders as a temporary fix, and it appears to be working. Once the weather warms up, we will schedule the thermoplastic striping at Chestnut and New Streets. As Ms. Goss stated we will be doing the crosswalks at Gay and High within the next few weeks. Several contracts were approved and we will discuss that later in the meeting. Mr. Flynn stated that over the years residents have complained about the rock salt. Mr. Anderson stated we have had some problems with some of the salt we received this year, so we are going back to the green salt.
- Wastewater
 - Sean Mitchell, Wastewater Director, at Goose Creek stated the fiber glass walkway was completed at Goose Creek. They flushed and cleaned two heaters, and they put them back in service. The T-12 sludge thickener drive froze and seized up, so the crew made a makeshift box to hold us over why we wait on prices to replace the unit. The cold weather also caused the secondary clarifier to freeze which bent the scraper arm. We had to drain the tank and repair the arm as well as weld the substructure to put back on-line. All of the work was done internally. The aluminum sulfate system is working, and we started collecting data for gallons used and total phosphorus removed. The average flow was 0.764 mgd.
 - Taylor Run a primary sludge pump was inspected and a new motor, stator and flex shaft were installed so we could put back in service. The digester heater shut down, and they discovered that the pressure relief valve froze. They rebuilt it and placed it back in service. They replaced the generator batteries and also replaced the polymer lines that froze. A new employee, Emily Rose, is starting shortly. She has some wastewater plant experience. The average flow as 0.703.
 - The pump stations had their monthly cleaning and inspections. With the weather we ran the generators continuously. We had an SSO (sanitary sewer overflow) at College Avenue. The floats froze and everything was cleaned up to DEP's satisfaction. For the capital projects, the electrical substation is on-line. The third and

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final piece is scheduled for delivery this week. The Borough received a \$500,000 grant for phase 2 of the Maple Alley Project. The plans are almost complete for Phase 1 and Phase 2. We are waiting on information from AQUA and Verizon pertaining to the communication bank conduits and water line at the road crossings. Phase 1 is ready to go out to bid, and we plan to award in April, and construction is set to begin May/June. The College Ave and New Street pump station POs are on the finance agenda for tomorrow night. There is a 14-18 week lead time for delivery. The sluice gates PO is awaiting approval from the Finance Director. There is a 5-week lead time for delivery of those two gates. We will have more information on the Taylor Run driveway replacement in second or third quarter.

- Mr. Travis stated he was appreciative of all the work down internally to keep costs down. Mr. Flynn asked with the cold weather have we thought about heat tracers. Mr. Mitchell stated they have heat tracers at both plants and that this year's cold weather was unprecedented.
- Parks and Recreation
 - Keith Kurowski, Parks & Recreation Director, stated that the Horace Pippin playground is 90% complete. We still need to install EWF and do a final inspection. We held the Santa at the Square in December, and it was great event. It is free and always well attended. We don't have a lot of winter park events, but this one is successful. We had two sold out bus trips in 2025 and will have more in 2026. The Pros Plant will be up for adoption at the Worksession meeting next week. Mr. Travis stated he hasn't received a copy. Mr. Kurowski said it is on the webpage, but he would send him another copy.
- Public Works Chair Report
 - Mr. Flynn stated that his goals this year are working on replacing the Public Works building and identifying all parcels in the Borough under the environmental covenant. He stated that fortunately, we don't have any brownfield/super fund sites.

5. Old Business

a) Discuss Public Works Facility

- a) Mr. Flynn stated we need to do a feasibility study. Mr. Metrick stated he wants to go on site visits with Don Anderson and Ramsey Reiner to neighboring townships that operate a PW facility around the same size and scale as ours. West Goshen and West Whiteland recently renovated their facilities so we will meet with them. We will put together an RFP by the end of the year for a feasibility study and site analysis. If we redevelop, we will need space for operations since we can't stop operating. One option is to build on Snyder Avenue and then figure out what to do with Lacey Street like sell or turn into something

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b) Approve the December 2025 meeting minutes

- Approve 2 - 0

c) Discuss reviving Chapter 62 Garbage, Rubbish and Refuse

- Mr. Travis stated when we put the ordinance in place, we didn't leave room in there for recycling totes. Also, some commercial properties aren't even recycling. Mr. Flynn stated there is an issue with multi-family. Mr. Anderson said that he is working with Mr. Flook regarding the issue. Mr. Flynn asked to have the committee members involved in the discussions.
- Mr. Fran Orbono addressed the committee as a resident of East Goshen, but a property owner in the Borough. Before I purchased the property there were 26 outstanding violations. He purchased a property in June and has done his due diligence with repairs. At the time of the purchase, they had eight 96-gallon totes. I received a citation because the number of totes in the rear of the property in September. A death in the family in October stopped me from working on the issue. When I started to address again with Code Enforcement, I was told I needed to get a dumpster. I asked what if I couldn't get a dumpster and they told me the totes would need to be reduced and moved into the rear of my property so many feet. I then spoke to Mr. Anderson, and he informed me I couldn't have more than four totes and then the question came up with recycling totes. I drive by daily and if I need to arrange more than one pick up a week I will. I am putting a lot of effort into this property and situation as well as a lot of money and I need clarification. I need to know where to put the totes and how many. Mr. Flynn said we should have a meeting and come up with a solution. Mr. Orbono stated he is trying to be compliant, but it is frustrating to drive around the borough and see how many properties are in violation. He received a fine and is pleading not guilty. Mr. McGinnis said other residents are going through the same thing, so clarification is needed. Mr. Orbono also stated that the dumpster corral and these changes can become pretty costly. Mr. Flynn said again, let's get a meeting scheduled.

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6. New Business

- Motion to award the 2026 Shade Tree maintenance services contract to Treemenous Tree Services (attachment)
 - Approve 3 – 0
- Motion to award the 2026 Landscaping contract to Andrews Lawn and Landscaping (attachment)
 - Approve 3 – 0
- Motion to award the 2026 Rain Garden Maintenance contract to Archewild (attachment)
 - Approve 3 – 0
- Motion to reject the 2026 Shade Tree Planting bids
 - Approve 3 – 0
- Motion to award the 2026 Street Signs contract to National Highway Products (attachment)
 - Approve 3 – 0
- Motion to reject the bids for the Traffic Signal Maintenance and rebid
 - Approve 3 – 0
- Motion to award the 2026 Traffic Signal Maintenance contract to Kuharchik (attachment)
 - Approve 3 – 0
- Motion to reject the bids for the Custodial Services contract
 - Approve 3 – 0
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- Motion to award the 2026 Custodial Service contract to DSC Solutions (attachment)
 - Approve 3 – 0
- Motion to approve the CCSWA fee schedule for disposal of waste at Lanchester Landfill located in Honey Brook, PA (attachment)
 - Mr. Travis asked if this could go to bid and Mr. Flynn said no. We are instructed by the County to utilize this facility.
 - Approve 3 – 0
- Discuss updating Ordinance 104-32 to add street sweeping to the 200 block of Wollerton Street between S Darlington and S New Streets
 - Mr. Anderson stated that he is working with Ms. Reiner on this since there will be some other changes.

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- Discuss the Downtown West Chester and West Chester Borough partnership – tree wells and planting proposal (attachment)
 - John O'Brien said the Tree Commission came to Downtown West Chester asking for assistance paying for new tree wells for trees to be planted in BID. The Tree Commission got a quote of \$260 per well and BID committed to pay for 12 wells up to \$4,000. Mr. Flynn stated no one was present from the Tree Commission so we would move it to the March agenda. Mr. Metrick asked to move to discussion at worksession due to timeliness of planting and Mr. Flynn said since no one present it moves to the March agenda.
 - Approve 3 – 0

Adjourn – 6:25 PM