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## Public Works Committee

**Date:** April 7, 2026 @ 5:30 PM

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

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

Borough Manager: Sean Metrick

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1. Call to Order - meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM
2. Announcements
  - none
3. Comments, suggestions, petitions by residents in attendance regarding items not on the agenda.
  - none
4. Departmental Reports
  - a) Traffic & Engineering Reports
    - Kelly Goff, RVE, stated that for the gay Street Project the work has started beyond the curblin. I wanted to alert you to a change order request that came in during excavation. There were multiple spots where the storm water pipe underneath had deteriorated, so the recommendation was to replace during construction. The change order amount is \$41,657.36. Under the MS4 we will start the outfall inspections in the next week or two. We are in the process of developing the construction and permit plans for the High and Gay Street intersection project. There is a S. High Street streetscape project between Miner and Barnard that will include trees, lighting, sidewalks, etc.
    - Mr. Travis inquired about how to get the clogged storm inlets cleaned to which Ms. Goff said Don Anderson would have to answer. Mr. Flynn asked if we had the money in the budget for the change order request. Ms. Goff said that in order for the CMP

This meeting is being audio recorded for the public record. corrugated metal pipe on Gays Street at the four corners at High Street and at Matlack Street was needed. Mr. Metrick stated its \$46,000 and in the threshold for approval so he signed it. We needed to replace it before the bollards were installed. Mr. Flynn asked if it was covered by the grant. Mr. Metrick said we have two grants and they don't cover the entire project. There is \$125,000 contingency in the budget and Ms. Goff said there is a \$100,000 contingency allowance. If the change order gets over \$170,000 we will run by council before it gets approved.

## b) Public Works

- Don Anderson, Director, stated the library elevator circuit boards have been replaced and they are operational. We have been touring neighboring public works facilities since we are working towards a new public works building. The crosswalk signs are on back order, so we will install them once they are delivered. Spring tree planting has started so we will add tree watering to our weekly tasks. The 2026 paving project will be ready for bid by the end of the month. The wood carpet at Horace Phippen Park new playground has been installed. We have been working with RVE because we will have relining project starting soon. Mr. Anderson stated he didn't know where we were with Chapter 62 enforcement and Mr. Flynn stated we are scheduling a public hearing. Mr. Anderson said once that is approved, we will start sending letters of violation.
- Kyle Elliott started a year ago and worked really hard and he just passed his CDL test. Mr. Travis asked how we check the stormwater/sewer system, so it doesn't clog the street inlets. Mr. Anderson stated that Public Works clears the tops of the inlets of debris and we check to see if they are clogged. We use the vacuum and Jetter truck to flush out debris. Mr. Travis asked if he could report issues through the portal and Mr. Anderson said yes and we will address immediately. Lisa Kearns, W Biddle Street, are we running into issues with trees for the Gay Street Closing project and asked if any need to be removed and if that was budgeted. Ms. Goff said they are investigating two tree issues. Mr. Flynn stated they cut the roots of the tree at 151 W Gay and it now needs to be removed. The owner of Saloon 151 has requested a cherry tree and that information has been passed onto Will Williams.
- Wastewater
  - Sean Mitchell, Wastewater Director, said crews at Goose Creek found a small leak which turned into replacing 100 feet of galvanized pipe. The soda ash system was totally cleaned out and inspected. We started road repairs from damage caused by the weather and plowing this winter. The thickener tank clarifier drive failed. The cost to replace it is \$280,418.75 through a co-stars company. It is on the Finance agenda for tomorrow night, but we are going to table and try to get a better price. At Taylor Run the quarterly PM and lubricants were checked on all RBC units in the

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plant. The C-train was drained and inspected and all of snails were removed before being placed back online. The crew repaired a faulty check valve on P-13 and discovered the impeller clogged. They disassembled, cleaned and put it back in service. Taylor Run had its final PA Laboratory Accreditation stating everything is up-to-date and the audit is closed.

- The pump stations had their monthly cleaning and inspections. College Avenue had a new level control system installed. It is less expensive than what we currently have and it is more reliable. We are looking to replace the float systems at two other pump stations with the same device.
- The Goose Creek Substation capital project is underway. The old equipment has been removed, and the new equipment has been staged. The wiring and final testing of the low voltage switch gear is tentatively scheduled for a few weeks from today. We found out last night there was a change order, the throat from the low voltage transformer was offset by 24 inches. By using conduit and wires we can correct the issue. The total for the change order is \$32,967.47 and it is under 10% of the total bid so we are still under budget with money left over in the contingency fund. Everything else is up to date. Mr. Mitchell explained the photos he had displayed showing the substation. He said they are hoping that the job will be completed in the next 4 weeks. Mr. Flynn asked why there wasn't a roof to protect it from the elements. Mr. Mitchell explained that the units are updated and there is a slanted roof on each unit. They have heaters inside to reduce condensation since they are outside units.
- The Maple Alley Project had the WQM permit submitted to the PADEP. We held a pre-bid meeting and three contractors attended. We opened the bids on March 30<sup>th</sup> and six contractors submitted bids. They are reviewing and finalizing the paperwork for the low bidder JA & Bradley Construction out of Allentown PA for a total of \$596,859. The six bids ranged from \$596k to \$893k which is below what we budgeted. Mike Ellis from Pennoni will be at the Finance meeting tomorrow night to make a presentation and he will go over the RCO and paperwork. I went to the CASE Meeting in Ward 4 last week to give the residents more information and answer any questions. We will give residents more information when we have a better timeline of dates. The College Avenue Pump Station was just delivered, and we are waiting for delivery of the New Street pump. We are testing out WIFI at College Avenue and then two pump stations. It will enable us to have WIFI, security cameras and monitoring of the stations. The Taylor Run driveway replacement is slated 2Q-3Q this year. Mr. Flynn said documents for tomorrow might include everything and Mr. Mitchell said we can award with the RCO but we will still need the bond. He stated Pennoni is pulling everything together for tomorrow's meeting.

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- Parks and Recreation
  - Keith Kurowski, Parks & Recreation Director, stated that the weather cooperated and they had a successful Easter Egg hunt outside for the first time in three years. While it was cold outside approximately 500 people attended. The Borough is hosting an America 250 event in August. Each municipality is going to have a member read a portion of the Declaration of Independence. The Chester County Community foundation gave a footprint of what they want everyone to do. There will be some social media posts with details for people to get involved. We will have an area where Borough residents can submit a video clip of them reading and they will be reviewed. We just had a walk through at Hoopes Park and there are a significant number of Ash trees that need to be removed. We went around to different parks and started labeling them. Between Hoopes and Everhart Parks there are 50 trees slated for removal. We are becoming more proactive with the Friends of the Parks groups. We will be doing Spring and Fall walk throughs. This will help with our planning improvements. On May 15<sup>th</sup> we will have our third annual virtual golf competition on Gay Street from 4PM – 8PM. For capital projects, we are still working on the John O’Green splash pad. Mr. Flynn asked if we could sell the Ash trees and Mr. Kurowski said the arborist informed us, we could not.
- Public Works Chair Report
  - Mr. Flynn explained the environment covenant at John O’Green Park. It was actually the site where electricity and gas were produced for the electric company. Therefore, by-products leached into the soil, so it took a lot of contaminants including arsenic. It actually provided all of the electric for the Borough until 1929. Nothing new to report on the new public works building.

## 5. Old Business

- a) Approve the March 2026 meeting minutes
  - Approve 3 - 0
- b) Motion to schedule public hearing for Chapter 62 Garbage, Rubbish and Refuse for May 20, 2026, at 630PM in Borough Council Chambers (attachment)  
*Issue: schedule a public hearing for the amendment*
  - The amendment was modified to address the recycling totes. For every two trash cans the property is permitted one recycling tote. Mr. Metrick asked to change the wording to say minimum capacity of dumpster to two cubic yards. George Nebel from S. Walnut Street asked to say up to 96 gallons for the tote to be clearer and he was told they don’t make them smaller.
    - Approve 3 - 0

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c) Discuss the progress of the new Public Works building

*Issue: Continue conversation on a new Public Works Building*

- Mr. Metrick stated we have more field visits scheduled and are looking at financing. He also said they are looking to have a feasibility study drafted by the end of the Summer.

6. New Business

a) Motion to approve the weaver Mulch agreement

*Issue: Weaver Mulch leases the Snyder Avenue location in lieu of payment they mulch our yard waste and provide us with mulch*

- Approve 3 – 0

b -d) Motion to adopt the resolution for PA Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Community Conservation Partnership program grant \$250,000 for John O'Green Park. Grant for Hoopes Park playground and Chester County Preservation Partnership. The economic development authority and the Chester County Preservation Partnership program.

- Mr. Kurowski explained they are applying for two state grants and a local grant with the hope that it will cover 70% of the project. We are applying for a DCEED grant and a county grant to maximize our costs for Hoopes Park inclusive playground upgrade. Working with Faith on the Spectrum for inclusivity for people with special needs. Mr. Fynn asked about reporting the wells status at John O'Green to the DEP. Mr. Kurowski stated he is working with Pennoni on that information. Mr. Flynn asked who was doing the grants. Mr. Kurowski stated he is working on the vast majority of the grants with support from Pennoni. Mr. Flynn thanked him for working on the grants.

- Approve 3- 0

Adjourn – 6:15 PM