

July 7, 2010
Salford, Pennsylvania

A joint meeting of the Upper Salford Township Board of Supervisors and Planning Commission was brought to order by Chairman Poatsy at 7:30 p.m. Messrs. O'Donnell, VanLuvanee, Giannini, Raisner, McMaster and Nase were present, as was the Township Solicitor, Stephen P. Imms Jr., Township Engineer, Michael Reinert, and Sewage Engineer, Fred Ebert. Mr. Sacks was absent.

The discussion of a township-wide ordinance to address the maintenance of on-lot sewage disposal systems in connection with the proposed **Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan** continued.

The Board of Supervisors directed the consultants to draft an ordinance based on the following:

- Pumping of all Township septic systems will be required once every three years.
- The Township will register pumpers and will make a list of the registered pumpers available to the residents. Pumpers must be certified by the Pennsylvania Septage Management Association.
- The pumpers will be required to complete a Sewage Disposal System Field Inspection Checklist every time a system is pumped. Mr. Ebert supplied a sample checklist developed by the Pennsylvania Septage Management Association for the Board to consider.
- Data collection will include water testing.
- Systems suspected of malfunctioning will be referred to the Montgomery County Sewage Enforcement Officer.
- The draft ordinance should include language to allow for small community systems if one is required to meet specific needs areas.

The draft ordinance will be reviewed at the next Act 537 meeting. Once the Township has agreed upon an acceptable ordinance, policy decisions and engineering issues will be addressed.

Mr. Ebert offered to draft plans dividing the Township into thirds for the purpose of the pumping and water testing requirements. The proposed zones would be reviewed at the next Act 537 meeting.

Mr. Poatsy requested that the consultants create a simple educational package for the residents explaining what the ordinance does, what the requirements may be, which zone they are in and offer information on how to maintain their existing systems. This package should include an explanation on why the Township requires water samples and the resident's option to test their drinking water. It should also include information on the Montgomery County Health Department water testing program.

The Township should set up a data base to record the information received from the field inspection checklists.

Comments from the public included:

- Bob Lane commented on water testing.
- Roger Richter questioned if water testing was part of the Act 537 requirements.
- James Cooney commented on testing the drinking water.
- Bob Hickson commented on sources of coliform contamination.
- Gary Larson questioned follow ups for malfunctions discovered during the pumping/inspection.
- James Cooney questioned issues with septic systems without sand mounds.
- Gary Shelby supported the water testing and commented on coliform contamination sources.
- Ryan Wimmer questioned options for water testing by the Montgomery County Health Department.
- Bob Lane commented on the list of approved haulers; the residents' right to appeal a malfunction determination; a quality assurance program for the Township; and cost effective solutions that may include a public system.
- Barbara Gormley suggested posting a notice on the website with regards to pumping septic systems.
- Eric Walker questioned whether the requirements of existing Operation and Maintenance agreements for existing alternate systems would be amended by the new ordinance.

The next meeting date to continue the discussion of the Act 537 Plan was not set; however, the date of the Planning Commission meeting on August 17, 2010 would be considered if no plans come in for review by the Planning Commission prior to the cut-off date for that meeting.

On a motion made by Mr. O'Donnell and seconded by Mr. VanLuvanee, the minutes from the June 1, 2010 Joint meeting were unanimously approved as amended.

On a motion made by Mr. Poatsy and seconded by Mr. O'Donnell, the minutes from the June 2, 2010 Joint meeting to discuss the Act 537 Sewage Facilities Plan were unanimously approved as amended.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Rosato
Secretary