



**F. MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE
AND MEETING MINUTES**

HARRIS TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Minutes of February 22, 2017
Joint Meeting with College Township Council

A joint meeting of the Harris Township Board of Supervisors and the College Township Council was called to order on February 22, 2017 at 7:30 PM in the Boalsburg Fire Hall by Chairman Bruce Lord. In attendance were Vice Chairman Frank Harden, Supervisor Dennis Hameister, Supervisor Charles Graham and Supervisor Nigel Wilson.

Also in attendance were College Township Council members Richard Francke, Carla Stilson, Anthony Fragola and Eric Bernier; Harris Township Manager Amy Farkas; College Township Manager Adam Brumbaugh; College Township Engineer Kent Baker; Centre Region Planners Mark Boeckel and Greg Garthe; University Area Joint Authority Executive Director Cory Miller; University Area Joint Authority Staff members Jason Brown, Mark Harder and David Smith; College Township Water Authority Members Richard Harris and Martin McGann; State College Borough Water Authority Executive Director John Lichman; State College Borough Water Authority member Jason Grottini; Tom Holleran and Ben Burns from HRG Engineering; and Harris Township Planning Commission Chairman Jeff Duerr.

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM.

Approval of Minutes

There were no minutes to approve.

Citizens Comments

There were no citizens comments.

Proposed Beneficial Reuse Project

University Area Joint Authority (UAJA) Executive Director Cory Miller presented a powerpoint on the proposed expansion of the beneficial reuse lines into Harris Township. The project would run beneficial reuse lines to the Mountain View Country Club property. The water would be used to irrigate the golf course.

Mr. Miller explained that when the Mountain View property changed hands, the Susquehanna River Basin Commission refused to grandfather the property and allow the new owners to continue withdrawing water from the on site ponds for irrigation purposes. In February 2016, the Centre Region Council of Governments approved a special Act 537 study for the extension of the beneficial reuse lines to the Mountain View property.

Mr. Miller reviewed the proposed route for the project. He said he is looking for feedback from the elected officials on the routing. He is also interested in hearing if there are other properties that UAJA should include as possible future users.

Mr. Miller said that the public will have a several opportunities throughout the study to provide comment on the project.

Supervisor Hameister asked which pond the water would be fed into. Mr. Miller said the water would be fed into the lower pond, which is the pond they are currently drawing from now. Supervisor Hameister asked if this would have any effect on the riparian buffer along Spring Creek. Mr. Miller said that with the exception of some disturbance during construction, it shouldn't impact the riparian buffer.

Supervisor Hameister suggested that there might be an opportunity to place a hydrant on Indian Hill Road. Mr. Miller said they can put hydrants wherever the municipalities want them. He said they need hydrants as blow outs at the tops of hills and at low points.

College Township Councilman Eric Bernier asked if the proposed route had been endorsed by the UAJA Board. Mr. Miller said it had.

Councilman Bernier asked what role the municipal comments played in the process. Mr. Miller said Act 537 governs what the authority can do, but the municipalities have the control over the route and over the alternatives. He stressed that this is a municipal plan that is implemented by UAJA.

Councilman Bernier asked if putting the water in upstream would have an effect on the temperature of the creek. Mr. Miller said it was actually very positive to put the water in upstream, as the water is cooled by evaporation.

Martin McGann, chair of the College Township Water Authority, asked if UAJA had a cost estimate for the project. Mr. Miller said the UAJA cost for pipe and labor is a little over \$2 million. He further explained that the total cost of phase 1 of the beneficial reuse project was \$70 million, which included upgrades to the treatment plant. He said there are upgrades needed at the plant as part of this project, but those costs will be handled under a separate project.

Mr. McGann asked if UAJA can remove all of the pharmaceuticals from the beneficial reuse water. Mr. Miller said they will know when they test the water. Mr. McGann asked if the plan on testing the water. Mr. Miller said UAJA is planning to meet with the water authorities to discuss the testing requirements under the source water protection agreement.

College Township Councilwoman Carla Stilson asked what plantings and erosion controls UAJA has to follow. Mr. Miller said UAJA is required to get an erosion and sedimentation permit. He said the disturbed area will be restored and will be maintained by the authority.

Supervisor Graham asked who can use the beneficial reuse water. Mr. Miller said they are not allowed to provide beneficial reuse to residential buildings. Supervisor Graham asked if it could be run to the industrial park. Mr. Miller said it would need to be shown on the map as a future service area. The Harris Township Board of Supervisors asked that the industrial park be included on the map as a future user.

John Lichman, executive director of the State College Borough Water Authority, said the Water Authority planned to sit down with UAJA to discuss the source water protection agreement and the impact of beneficial reuse on the Authority's customer base. He said the agreement needs a definition of large users.

Mr. McGann said that while no one is disputing the conservation benefits of beneficial reuse, the two water authorities depend on customers to provide them with revenue to maintain their systems. He said that if some of that revenue is withdrawn via the beneficial reuse system, the authorities need to be made whole. He said that the three authorities need to sit down to discuss how this will work to the benefit of everyone.

Mr. Miller briefly discussed the possibility of adding bicycle paths along the beneficial reuse route. He said that UAJA would need to know where the municipalities want these amenities. He said they will then obtain an easement for both the line and the path. The Harris Township Board of Supervisors indicated an interest in also partnering with UAJA on the construction of a footbridge in Fasick Park.

Mr. Miller asked each governing body to provide feedback to him on the proposed route and the beneficial reuse project in general in the next month. Chairman Lord asked Ms. Farkas to provide Mr. Miller with information about the two bicycle paths shown on the Official Map that are located in the project area.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amy Farkas
Township Manager