EAC Meeting Minutes – August 26, 2020

Present: Bill Silverstein, Sam Flint, Paul Jacobs, Ken Rose, Leo Stahl, Jane Miluski, and Dave Grady.

Recycling Updates: Mr. Silverstein noted that the Board of Commissioners intended to take action on the recycling contracts at their upcoming meeting on August 27th. He also noted that Republic performed a recycling audit. Mr. Grady showed the results of the audit on the screen. The various percentages were reviewed, including the residue number, which Republic had said was within the normal range. Mr. Silverstein asked if Republic could share the values of each recycling category. Additionally, the group discussed several questions to ask Republic:

1. Was the first audit based on a single truckload or a single day of collections (which could be multiple truckloads)?
2. What normally goes into the residue category? What should we be watching for in the residue category?
3. Is the ACR on our billing based on the audit?
4. What are the values per item?
5. Are there differences between colored vs colorless glass?
6. Is it possible to have another audit, and could someone from our EAC watch the audit?

The group discussed the current recycling arrangement, where B&L picks up the recycling and Republic handles the disposal. Mr. Silverstein noted that it might make the most sense to continue with the current arrangement, even with the increase per tonnage of Republic at $98.80, as the ACR can still make it cheaper. The group decided not to make a formal recommendation, unless the Board requests it of them.

Greenhouse Gases: Mr. Silverstein noted that Mr. Rose was going to begin summarizing the recommendations from the 2010 Greenhouse Gas Report. Mr. Silverstein said that an environmental group had created a template that can be used to calculate the community’s greenhouse gas footprint, including resources in assisting with the determination of the GHG impacts in the area. Mr. Silverstein said the group could attempt to update the data that the consultants from 2010 had put together in a less complex format than the original report. Mr. Rose noted that even though the 2010 data may seem out-of-date, there probably are not many things that have changed in the community, such as the number of streetlights and traffic lights. He suggested using the report, attempting to update as much as practical, and then determining what actions can be taken in the short term as opposed to the long term. He also suggested going back into the report to pull out the parts that are specific to Nether Providence Township. Mr. Silverstein said we can probably recreate new data, for example through looking at the PECO bills, number of road mileage, miles traveled by Township workers, etc. He also noted there may be good ideas from 2010 that can still be implemented. Mr. Jacobs found the “Energy Transition Plan” template, and the group did a high-level review of what sections could be included in an updated report. Mr. Rose asked if there was a specific deadline that the Board of Commissioners had in mind for the updated report, and Mr. Silverstein said there was not. Mr. Silverstein was going to look into upcoming meetings of the multi-municipal EAC. He also encouraged the group to read through the GHG report.

It was decided that the next meeting would be September 23, 2020 at 7:00 PM.