

March 22, 2021

A continued meeting from the March 3, 2021 regular scheduled Borough Council meeting was held on March 22, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.

The following members and officers were present: President Donald Rosenberger, Vice President James Roberts, Councilmembers Michael Johnson, Douglas Propst, Mae Wear, Jon Sell, David Wilsey, Manager Scott C. McElree and Asst. Borough Secretary Kris Barndt. Solicitor Peter Nelson, absent.

There were no visitors who wished to speak.

REVENUE & FINANCE COMMITTEE

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 46-21, proceed with planning for the Waste Water Treatment Plant expansion, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 46-21

WHEREAS, the Borough of Quakertown Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) has exceeded its capacity for future needs and is thus required to expand and upgrade the plant; and

WHEREAS, under the direction of Borough Council, the Administration has researched all aspects of upgrading our WWTP to achieve enhanced purposes which include the production of biogas and electric generation; and

WHEREAS, the necessary research performed by the Administration has included a feasibility study by Anaergia, a company specializing in Anaerobic Digestion & Resource Recovery Facilities; and

WHEREAS, based on the feasibility study supplied by Anaergia, the Borough Administration can confidently recommend to Borough Council that it would behoove us to proceed with steps leading to an investment of up to \$34,000,000 to expand, improve and enhance various production capabilities of our WWTP and that this investment will allow for a timely repayment of any funds borrowed, then be it

RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Quakertown that the Administration be authorized to proceed with such planning, and further be it

RESOLVED, that the Borough Manager will apprise Borough Council on a continuing basis the progress of all steps being taken to advance the completion of the various levels of expansion of the WWTP.

Motion of Vice President Roberts, seconded by Councilman Propst. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

Vice President Roberts made the following statement:

"Let me remind Council that the need to expand our WWTP was imposed on us, again by forces of necessity as our Upper Bucks area continues to grow, so expansion is forgone conclusion. What the Borough is proposing here tonight is what for us is a giant step in the purpose and use of our present facility. After months of diligent study and research, the Borough Administration is confident that our new enterprise, and that is what, to a large degree, this motion involves, will include a plan to produce enough clean energy to run the entire facility. But in so doing, we are increasing the ability of the plant to produce even greater

revenues for the Borough. It is these increased revenues which will help defray the costs of paying back the money we are borrowing to do this and the other major projects I began with. Like any business enterprise there is a risk, albeit it slight, in my opinion. The Borough must build a partnership base of users for an expanded plant – a partnership base which our advisers and our own research has concluded should be readily available. So, this whole project is not a shot in the dark or a pig in a poke, but highly substantiated with fact and figures from existing similar facilities in other municipalities within Pennsylvania. I greatly commend the Borough Manager and administration’s leadership in this endeavor. And I want to especially acknowledge the clear vision of our Plant Superintendent, David Erwin, for supplying us with the information that should give us confidence to vote for this project.”

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMITTEE

RESOLVED, That, the following Resolution 47-21, the Borough entering into a Professional Services Contract with Anaergia, be adopted:

RESOLUTION 47-21

WHEREAS, Quakertown Borough Council has passed Resolution 46-21, wherein the Borough Manager and Administration have been authorized and directed to continue with the planning of our expansion of the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP); and

WHEREAS, Resolution 46-21 identifies the need to continue with the engineering services provided thus far by Anaergia for the continued planning of the expansion of our WWTP and Anaergia is prepared to provide the Phase 1 engineering services as detailed in a proposal submitted March 9, 2021, for the Maximum Case Scenario; then be it

RESOLVED, that the Quakertown Borough Council directs and authorizes the Borough Manager to enter into a professional services contract with Anaergia at the proposed cost of \$480,000.00.

Motion made by Councilman Wilsey, seconded by Councilman Johnson. A roll call vote was taken and the motion was unanimously carried.

President Rosenberger adjourned this continued meeting from March 3, 2021 at 7:44 p.m.

BOROUGH OF QUAKERTOWN

Donald E. Rosenberger
President of Council

Attest:

Scott C. McElree
Borough Manager