



Handout – Proposed WWTP Upgrade Project
Select Board & Board of Finance Meeting – Hatfield, MA
March 8, 2022 @ 6:00 PM

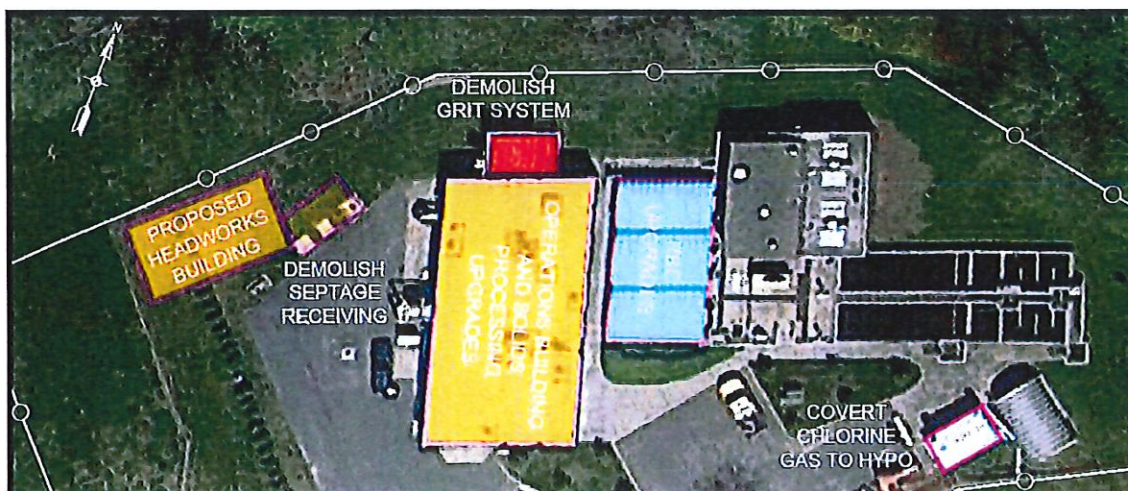


WHY IS THIS PROJECT REQUIRED?

- **Aging Infrastructure:** The WWTP is approximately 35 years old and is showing significant signs of age. A Wastewater Management Plan Report was completed in 2019. The majority of the mechanical equipment and components in operation are approximately 35 years old. The typical useful life of mechanical equipment is 20 years. The mechanical equipment and components at the facilities have reached the end of their useful lives.
- **Operator Safety:** The WWTP currently utilizes chlorine gas for disinfection which presents challenges and possesses inherent safety concerns.

WHAT IS INCLUDED IN THIS PROJECT?

Unit Process	Recommendation
Headworks	Provide new headworks building with a fine screening system and grit removal system (protect downstream equipment).
Secondary Clarifiers	Replace clarifier mechanisms, weirs, and baffles.
Disinfection	Convert from chlorine gas to liquid hypochlorite (safety).
Solids Handling	Modify gravity thickener to route recycle to RBC influent via gravity and provide access for cleaning and flushing. Replace sludge pumping valves.
Plant Water System	Provide new plant water system for new headworks systems and maintenance needs (uses plant effluent).
Plant Water Main	Extend 8-inch Water Main to the WWTP (contaminated well and fire protection).
Site Paving	Replace site paving after construction work.
Main Electrical Gear	Replace main electrical systems and interconnection to new generator.
Main Operations Building	Upgrade the operations building bathrooms.
Pump Stations	Updates to key parts of nine (9) remote pump stations.





HOW MUCH WILL THIS PROJECT COST THE TOWN?

The Town submitted a funding application to USDA Rural Development (USDA-RD) in late 2021. A vote to appropriate the funds is required prior to USDA making a formal funding commitment to the Town. Below is a summary table of anticipated funding/finance terms and net Project costs with and without USDA-RD funding.

Funding/Financing Scenario	USDA-RD	Conventional
Total Capital Expenditure	\$ 12,029,000	\$ 12,029,000
Anticipated Grant Amount (20% for USDA-RD)	\$ 2,405,800	\$ -
Estimated Net Loan Amount to be Financed	\$ 9,623,200	\$ 12,029,000
Number of Years Financed	40	20
Anticipated Interest Rate	1.25%	2.875%
Estimated Annual Debt Service Payment	\$ 305,839	\$ 791,548

WHO WILL PAY FOR THE PROJECT?

Taxpayers and sewer users will both pay for the Project. The proposed split assumes that 50% of the annual loan cost will be paid by sewer users, and the remaining 50% of the annual loan cost will come from the General Fund (property taxes via Debt Exclusion).

HOW MUCH MORE WILL I LIKELY PAY IF I AM A PROPERTY OWNER ON SEPTIC?

Estimated Monthly Increase (Based on \$300K Assessment)	\$ 5.09
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\$61.02 Annually

HOW MUCH MORE WILL I LIKELY PAY IF I AM A PROPERTY OWNER ON SEWER?

Estimated Monthly Increase (Based on \$300K Assessment & Average Residential Sewer Usage)	\$ 23.24
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\$278.87 Annually

WHO DO I CONTACT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?

Marlene Michonski: Town Administrator – 413-247-9200
Eric Meals: Superintendent, Sewer Department – 413-247-9844