DHW Minutes From Meeting With Borough Engineers
October 25, 2024

Attendees: Patty Friday, Phil Fraley, Shawn Wingrove, Jess Brett, Phyllis J. Anderson

The big picture is to solidify the Local Share Account (LSA) (gaming revenue) grants which are due at the end of November, and we need to make a resolution to present to council. (The resolution was in Council's packet for the November 4, 2024, meeting, and will vote on the resolution at their November 18, 2024 voting meeting.

Jess presented information on stormwater remediation, a rain garden at the Pennsylvania Avenue entrance, and the retaining wall below the kiosk. There are three types of retaining walls to choose from, EnviroLok, GeoWeb, and Redi Rock. All will be designed to be 40' long by 4' high. We asked Shawn which wall he believes would be best suited for DHW and he replied the Envirolok for several reasons, but it is environmentally friendly, and more sustainable. The details about the first two walls will be attached to this email.

1. Envirolok – is a system of sand and top soil in bags, that are held together by spikes. We could install creeping plants on the wall and over time, the actual bags would not be visible.
2. GeoWeb – is comprised of plastic web cells and concrete. We could plant vegetation in the cells and the vegetation will eventually cover the wall. An example of the wall is at the Pittsburgh Zoo.
3. Redi Rock – is a concrete wall.

Shawn suggested that we bid the first two options and the contractor would select which product we will use. The plants are included in the bids, and the contractor would water the plants. There is an 18-month maintenance plan included with this project.

The timing of our projects are: Stormwater project should begin in 2025, then the entryway, then the retaining wall.

The stormwater remediation project can start in the summer of 2025. We are still waiting to hear if the grant was awarded.

Since we are going to apply for the LSA grant in 2024, the award will be in October or November of 2025, then the project can start in the summer of 2026.

We asked Shawn if the landscape architect can look at stabilization efforts for the hill and the wall as Megan and crew has eradicated the knotweed on the hill/slope above the wall. Shawn mentioned that we can change the scope to add plants to the left and the right of the wall.

The riparian buffer repairs will begin in Spring of 2026. The LSSE landscape architect will know best when to start the project. Phil says we can plant some plants in the Spring of 2025 and again in 2026. It will take 10 years to replenish.

Shawn advised the GEDTF (gaming grant) announces in the Spring, and the grants are due September 30th . Phil commented that we need to work near Plum Creek afterwards.

Looking at phases of work based off the map in DHW Master Plan:

Phase 1 – areas 2 & 4 will complete work upstream
Phase 2 – areas 12 and 3
Phase 3 – areas 10 and 7

We could possibly do areas 7 & 5 together with the engineers because water collects in these areas. Possibly elevate the trails in the area to allow water to go through and people will be able to walk on the trails without getting muddy. The scope of the DCNR grant that we already applied for is area 8. The project key is below.

For clarification, LSA & GEDTF grants are for infrastructure and DCED & DCNR are trail related which ties into recreation.