

JANUARY 31, 2013

# Mt. Pleasant Township Municipal Authority reorganizes

## *New engineering firm appointed for 2013*

BY LINDA HARKCOM

The Mt. Pleasant Township Municipal Authority recently held its annual reorganization meeting.

While many items and positions carried over from 2012, the biggest change was the appointment of a new engineering firm for 2013. The firm, Gibson-Thomas Engineering Company Inc. of Latrobe, will take on any projects started by the authority.

Solicitor Les Mlakar said the authority's former engi-

neer Douglas Regola of Victor P. Regola and Associates Inc. of Youngwood will continue as project engineer for the Norvelt sewage project until its completion. The project is not done until there is a final closeout from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, he said.

"We definitely want Mr. Regola to finish out the project, and the board hopes he continues to do a good job as he finishes out the project. We are just going in a different direction for future projects, and we thank him for all the work he has done for the township over the years," said Chairman Jerome Yasher.

Another change came in the appointment of officers. Yasher held his seat as chairman. James Genard was reappointed treasurer, and Joseph Yuhas was reappointed as secretary and assistant treasurer. Charles Naggy was appointed vice president. He was nominated by outgoing Vice President Paul Kraisinger.

Yasher and Naggy were also recently reappointed to positions on the board for new terms by the Mt. Pleasant Township board of supervisors this month.

In other business, the board approved a billing agreement, which when filled out and signed by

landlords will direct the authority to bill the tenant of a property instead of the property owner. If at any time the bill is delinquent for 30 days, the bill will then become the responsibility of the property owner.

Kraisinger asked if the property owner would have the right to turn off water to the property to protect himself from larger bills. Mlakar said it would depend on the type of dwelling, but it could be possible.

"But the property owner is still responsible to pay the bill whether the water is turned off or not," Mlakar said.

The board also approved

a change order for the Village of Hecla Sanitary Sewer Collection System that included an increase of 56 for substantial completion because of delays by PennDOT and an increase in cost of \$53,297.95, which resulted in having to move the location of the sewage line to avoid existing water lines.

In his chairman's report, Yasher thanked Mlakar for the good work he has done for the board.

"Things are going good. This last time 723 bills went out, and I consider that excellent," Yasher reported.

The authority appointed Loughran, Mlakar & Bilik as solicitor at the rate of \$80 per hour for Norvelt project legal services and \$100 per hour for the other municipal authority legal services. It also appointed Horner, Wible & Terek for auditing the records for the year 2012.

*Linda Harkcom is a freelance writer.*