

## **7.1 ANALYSIS OF EXISTING AUTHORITIES**

There are no authorities established within the planning area and none are currently proposed.

### **7.1.1 Financial and Debt Status**

The Borough of Shinglehouse owns and operates the existing sanitary sewer system. The Borough relies on revenues from user rates to provide service. Revenues from operations come from wastewater usage fees, tapping fees, and connection fees. Non-operating revenues come from grants and interest. The existing debt service included in the 2018 Sewer Budget is \$231,298. A copy of the 2018 Sewer Budget is included in Appendix J.

### **7.1.2 Staff and Administrative Resources**

The Borough employs a two-person full time public works staff year-round and employs two part-time staff during the summer to support increased street maintenance and parks and recreation activities. The two-person full-time staff includes one licensed wastewater operator. The goal of the Borough is to maintain both employees as licensed operators. The existing operator completes plant monitoring and reporting duties, general maintenance, and monitors the collection system. The Borough also employs a part-time Secretary and Treasurer who acts as business manager for billing, maintenance of Borough accounts, payment of bills, and other general administrative responsibilities. It is anticipated that the current staff would be able to adequately provide service for the identified alternatives.

### **7.1.3 Legal Authority**

The Borough of Shinglehouse, is empowered to implement the recommended wastewater planning recommendations contained within this Act 537 Plan. They are presently responsible for system wide operation and maintenance duties and could continue in this capacity upon completion of any future plant or system expansions. The Borough has established and, from time-to-time, adjusts the user fees and tapping fees charged to customers for the use of the system. They have the legal authority to negotiate and enter into agreements with other parties and raise capital for construction and operation and maintenance of facilities.

## **7.2 ANALYSIS OF INSTITUTIONAL ALTERNATIVES**

### **7.2.1 Need for New Authorities**

It is not anticipated that there will be a need for new Authorities to implement any recommendations proposed by this Plan.

### **7.2.2 Function of Existing Authority**

The intent of this Act 537 Plan is to identify upgrades for the existing WWTF in order to improve operational efficiency and replace aging systems. Any recommendation for treatment modifications at the WWTP would best be implemented by the Borough. The Borough is in the position to negotiate with funding agencies, assume debt for capital improvements, impose user fees and other charges, and administer construction contracts. Due to the intent of this Plan update, it is not anticipated that an authority or other new governing body would be established.

### **7.2.3 Ability to Address Future Needs**

The Borough is generally positioned to address the future needs of the system.

### **7.3 IMPLEMENTATION OF INSTITUTIONAL ALTERNATIVE**

#### **7.3.1 Incorporation of Legal Authorities**

Formation of an authority or agencies is not proposed by this Plan.

#### **7.3.2 Required Ordinances, Regulations, Standards, and Inter-Municipal Agreements**

The Borough has developed Rules and Regulations for the use of the sanitary sewer system. The alternatives recommended by this Plan would be subject to the provisions of the most recent version of each document. Additionally, this Plan proposes the Borough to draft a new Ordinance for Sewage Management within the planning area.

#### **7.3.3 Required Rights-of-Way, Easements, and Land Transfers**

All work associated with the alternatives selected for this Plan would be located on property already owned by the Borough. Any additional land required in the form of right-of-ways, easements, or additional property would be acquired through the negotiation procedures between the Borough and the property owner.

### **7.4 SELECTED INSTITUTIONAL ALTERNATIVE**

The Borough has been providing sewer service and overseeing the management of OLDS in the planning area since 1966, demonstrating an ability to operate and maintain facilities through proper fiscal and administrative policies and management. Therefore, the Borough is recommended as the agency to implement the proposed structural Alternatives. Upon completion of the project, the Borough will continue to be responsible for operation and maintenance.