

UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Monday, April 2, 2018

4774 Saucon Creek Road

Chairman Bruce Bush called to order the regular meeting of the Upper Saucon Township Municipal Authority at approximately 6:04 PM in the public meeting room of the Upper Saucon Township Water and Sewer Department office building, 4774 Saucon Creek Road, Upper Saucon Township, Lehigh County, PA.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bruce Bush – Chairman
Joaquin (Jack) DeMatos - Vice Chairman
Mark Sullivan – Treasurer
Ronald Reybitz - Asst. Secretary and Asst. Treasurer
Ryan Holmes - Secretary

STAFF PRESENT:

Gary A. Brienza, Esquire, Solicitor
Karl E. Schreiter Jr. P.E., Engineer
Chris Cope, UST Director of Water and Sewer Resources
John Guignet - UST Assistant Director of Water and Sewer Resources

NOTIFICATION:

All public sessions of the Upper Saucon Township Municipal Authority are electronically recorded. The recordings are maintained as part of the record of the meeting until the minutes are transcribed and approved by the Authority.

VISITORS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

MINUTES:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting minutes for March 5, 2018 with a correction under Solicitor's Report:

“On the Promenade Shop easements, Solicitor Brienza is hopeful that all easements will be done by the next meeting in April.”

Motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE COMMENTS:

Authority members may comment on the correspondence packets or the “Summary” which they received.

(NOTE: This is a summary of the correspondence prepared by the Chairman. Details must be obtained by reading the actual correspondence)

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Date list was prepared or amended: 3/19/2018, 3/22/2018, 3/23/2018, 3/27/2018, 3/28/2018

Date of letter: 3/6/2018

Letter from: Karl Schreiter, SEA (e-mail)

Letter sent to: P Lang, UST and others

Subject: TOA / LVGC

Trisha ----- We have not received a revised planning module from Pennoni regarding the Special Study. The Special Study cannot be submitted until this is included with the Special Study.

Date of letter: 3/6/2018

Letter from: Karl Schreiter, SEA

Letter sent to: Bruce Bush

Subject: Posh Properties.....Review of Video Inspection

We reviewed the videotapes of the inspection of the sewers of this subdivision.

Inspection was conducted on 2/26/2018.

The segments that were inspected were all found to be in acceptable condition. There were two segments that will not be dedicated to the Authority but were inspected and found to be in acceptable condition.

Date of letter: 3/6/2018

Letter from: Tom Dinkelacker, DDA Law Office (e-mail)

Letter sent to: Karl Schreiter, SEA and others

Subject: TOA / LVGC

Thought TOA was ready to go?

Date of letter: 3/6/2018

Letter from: John Pearson (e-mail)

Subject: Pearson proposed sewer line

John's letter stated that he will begin the work to pull those things mentioned in Karl's e-mail dated 3/6/2018 together.

Karl's e-mail stated he will need a plan and profile of the lateral to show that it can be completed. He will also need a PENNDOT Permit for crossing Spring Valley Road. Plus we will need a copy of the formal Easement from Mr. Adams.

Date of letter: 3/7/2018

Letter from: Karl Schreiter, SEA (e-mail)

Letter sent to: Tom Beil, UST and others

Subject: UST (Sewer Tapping Fee Study)

Tom ---- Can you process Dave Busch's bill for work completed to date.

(Note: The invoice was in the amount of \$ 3,775.00 (invoice # 109, Project # 14-04-02, dated 11/28/2016)

Dave's note which was attached to the invoice stated.....Rate study work was never completed because we never received the necessary information for individual customer usage for each billing over a 12 month period. My understanding is that the

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Township's billing system does not store the usage history after the bill have (been) issued. If we could get this information as well as updated budget information both the operating and capital for the sewer system we would be happy to pick up the sewer rate study. I expect the cost to complete the study would be close to the remaining \$11,300.

Date of letter: 3/12/2018

Letter from: Chris Cope, UST (e-mail)

Letter sent to: Rebecca Kennedy, PA Gov't

Subject: PENNVEST / American Bank Homeowner Septic/Sewer Loan Program ----
Oakhurst Meeting

(Note: Chris was responding to Rebecca's e-mail asking for a reminder what the timelines would be for homeowners to eventually hook-up.)

According to UST Ordinance and State of PA Second Class Township Code that all property owners within 150 feet of a sewer system must connect to that system within 90 days after receiving official written notification from the Township.

Date of letter: 3/13/2018

Letter from: Gary Brienza, Solicitor (e-mail)

Letter sent to: Tom Dinkelacker, DDA Law Office

Subject: Letter from Atty Deschler --- Curly Horse

Gary replied to Tom D. e-mail dated 3/13/2018.....

No.....our interpretation is correct (regarding Michael Deschler's letter dated 1/30/2018).

[Note: copy of M. Deschler's letter was provided to the members of the Authority at their April meeting]

Date of letter: 3/16/2018

Letter from: Karl Schreiter, SEA (e-mail)

Letter sent to: C Cope, UST and others

Subject: Oakhurst Storm Sewer Improvements - Sanitary Sewer Conflict

There is a conflict between the storm and sanitary sewers near the intersection of Oakhurst and Juniper as shown on the (attached) drawing. There appears to be only a clearance of seven inches at this time. Since the existing sewer pipe is TCP pipe, this will get damaged during construction. We recommend that a manhole be installed upstream of the pipe conflict and the downstream sewer pipe between the new manhole be replaced with DIP pipe. Doug Haberbosch indicated that they will look to see if a drop manhole can be used to lower the sewer pipe and gain additional clearance at the storm pipe crossing. In addition, the sanitary sewer crossing under Oakhurst Drive will be upgraded to new DIP.

Date of letter: 3/19/2018

Letter from: Gary Brienza, Solicitor (e-mail)

Letter sent to: Karl Schreiter, SEA and others

Subject: Brinley Court - Amended Stipulation of Settlement

[This note forwarded an e-mail from Tom Dinkelacker regarding the subject]

Tom D. stated that he approved the letter.

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Date of letter: 3/22/2018

Letter from: Karl Schreiter, SEA

Letter sent to: Travis Bult, Dirtworks Solutions

Subject: Lanark Commons Pump Around Submittal Review

[Karl had the following comments]

MH#355 is located at the intersection of West Valley Road and Lanark Road. Since Lanark Road is a State Highway, you will need to notify PennDOT of the work to be completed. You may need to have traffic control at MH#355 since you plan on keeping it open during the construction period. All residents who discharge to the sewer within the bypass segment must be notified before starting the work. Confirmation of notification must be provided to our office before starting the work. Sewer cannot be left out of service during normal working hours. You are responsible for operation of the bypass pumping. We recommend that a worker be assigned to monitor the upstream manhole to assure there is sufficient capacity in the pump and the sewage is not backing up into upstream homes. We need a backup plan in case of pump failure. The use of the Gorman Rupp Prime Aire Centrifugal Pump is rejected.

Date of letter: 3/22/2018

Letter from: Travis Bult, Dirtworks Solutions (e-mail)

Letter sent to: Karl Schreiter, SEA

Subject: Lanark Commons Pump Around Submittal Review

This pump is the pump we use on every pump around we have ever done. I have reached out to Sander Power Equipment who rents these pumps on a daily basis for sanitary pumping. They or I have never had a problem with this pump for this application. We will have a back-up pump with so if there is a problem we have a back-up. I have talked to PennDOT about pumping out of manhole 355; they are ok with it, we just need to set up signs and cone off the area.

Date of letter: 3/22/2018

Letter from: Karl Schreiter, SEA (e-mail)

Letter sent to: Travis Bult, Dirtwork Solutions

Subject: Lanark Commons Pump Around Submittal Review

I discussed this with the Gorman-Rupp representative and he confirmed my concerns. I would feel much better if a trash type pump was used in this application. We have issues with rags in the system and they could present a problem with clogging. Call me to discuss.

Date of letter: 3/22/2018

Letter from: Travis Bult, Dirtwork Solutions (e-mail)

Letter sent to: Karl Schreiter, SEA

Subject: Lanark Commons Pump Around Submittal Review

I understand your concerns. Would you be ok if we would have the trash pump as a backup pump? I feel very confident in the pump we have proposed to use and feel a lot better using and setting that pump up due to the fact that we've done it over 50 times and have not had a problem. And in case we have a problem we have the trash pump as a backup? We're not talking a very long time of pumping we will expose everything

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prior to plugging the line so we're only talking 3-4 hours of pumping. Let me know your thoughts on that.

Date of letter: 3/22/2018

Letter from: Karl Schreiter, SEA (e-mail)

Letter sent to: Travis Bult, Dirtwork Solutions

Subject: Lanark Commons Pump Around Submittal Review

Appreciate that you have very good luck using this pump in the past. However, the pump specs clearly state that it can only pass spherical solids up to 13/32" in diameter. Furthermore, I did talk with Bill LaPorte of Envirep, the local rep for Groman-Rupp, and he concurred that this is not a good application for the pump. I feel your time of completion is extremely short and leaves no room for error or issues during the construction. Therefore, pumping may be required for a longer period than expected. Any pump around must be manned during the period when it is required.

Date of letter: 3/22/2018

Letter from: Travis Bult, Dirtwork Solutions (e-mail)

Letter sent to: Karl Schreiter, SEA

Subject: Lanark Commons Pump Around Submittal Review

I'm going to have to let this up to the developer.....if he is ok with spending the extra money on a trash pump we will.....I will let him know the situation and see what they have to say.

Date of letter: 3/23/2018

Letter from: Gary Brienza, Solicitor (e-mail)

Letter sent to: Karl Schreiter, SEA and Bruce Bush

Subject: Saucon Valley Crossings MHP

[Letter forwarded an e-mail from Malkames Law Offices, dated 3/22/2018 which included a letter from Attorney Malkames. (I was unable to access that letter)]

Date of letter: 3/23/2018

Letter from: Karl Schreiter, SEA

Letter sent to: Patricia Lang, UST

Subject: 3939 West Drive.....Cost Estimate Review

We completed our review of the Preliminary Opinion of Probable Construction Cost for Stabler Executive Center, 3939 West Ave. dated 3/19/2018.

We concur that the estimates which total \$3,988.00 can be used as a basis for escrow funds required by the Developer's Agreement with the Township and Authority.

Date of letter: 3/26/2018

Letter from: Gary Brienza, Solicitor

Letter sent to: Tom Beil, UST

Subject: 1480 Station and 1505 Station

The appraisals came back at \$2400 and \$1800 respectively.....Can I make the offer to the property owners and supply them with a copy of the appraisal to support the offer in return for the acquisition of the needed easements?

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Date of letter: 3/26/2018

Letter from: Gary Brienza, Solicitor (e-mail)

Letter sent to: Bruce Bush and others

Subject: Brinley Court - Order Approving Amended Stipulation of Settlement
Court Order approving Brinley Stipulation.

Date of letter: 3/26/2018

Letter from: Gary Brienza, Solicitor (e-mail)

Letter sent to: T Sear, UST and others

Subject: Sewer service to 5941 Old Bethlehem Pike

I would recommend that they need to "acquire" an easement from us.....whether the Township seeks compensation or not is a different question.....but I am not comfortable allowing that much on an incursion (55 feet) without a formal easement.

*****end of correspondence list for April

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

The Solicitor's Report dated April 2, 2018 was presented by Solicitor Brienza.

Mr. Brienza said he received a reply from Saucon Crossings' attorney. There are some engineering issues so Solicitor Dinkelacker is going to set up a meeting to discuss with Saucon Crossings. Mr. Schreiter, Solicitor Brienza, Mr. Cope and Mr. Guignet will be invited. Mr. Schreiter said their engineer is asking for a waiver because the driveway is only 12' and he cannot get equipment in or maneuver it. Therefore, they want to place lines 5' apart instead of the standard 10' apart. Mr. Schreiter said 7' or 8' would be acceptable.

On the Promenade Shop easements, Solicitor Brienza is hopeful that all easements will be done by the next meeting in May.

Solicitor Brienza said he received estimates for the additional two easements needed for the Station Avenue Sewer Extension project. Mr. Brienza said easement purchase offers were made to these two homeowners. He hopes all needed easements will be finalized by June. Mr. Schreiter said PennDot may require a construction easement from another neighbor due to a stone fence and driveway.

Mr. Cope asked the Authority if he should invite the effected residents to the May meeting to discuss the upcoming sewer installation. The Authority would like the residents invited to attend the May meeting.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Karl Schreiter, PE, presented Engineer's report dated March 30, 2018.

On the Spring Valley Pumping Station, Toll Brothers gave the Township a blanket easement for the entire stormwater basin per Solicitor Dinkelacker's request. He said

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they may need to use the utility easement to access sewer and water lines. He said there also issues with chimney seals but they are working on correcting this.

Mr. Schreiter said Hanover Engineering is proceeding with the Sunset Drive/Ackerman's Lane sewer project. At the informational meeting, several residents complained about current stormwater issues.

Mr. Schreiter said a small portion of storm line will need to be replaced on Juniper Lane during the Oakhurst storm sewer improvements.

Mr. Bush asked Mr. Schreiter to move ahead with the Oakhurst Road sewer project as soon as possible. Mr. Schreiter said he will work on it but there may be an easement issue that could cause a redesign in plans. Mr. Bush asked Mr. Schreiter to get to this point so that the residents know the Township is doing everything it can to move ahead with the project.

Cooper Farms told Mr. Schreiter they are ready to start boring. Mr. Schreiter told them not to because they did not submit paperwork to the Township or PennDot that must be approved first.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mr. Cope said they had demos on a few TV Vans.

Staff flushed and TV'd at Valley Green and The Villages of Valley Green.

The easement machine was delivered and staff will receive training soon. The machine was tested at Mountain Glen and work will be finished there soon.

Mr. Cope said the Promenade Shops are having grease issues again. The Township is going to correct the issues and bill them.

Mr. Cope will setup a meeting with Station Avenue residents to begin at roughly 6:20 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. during the regular May meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Bush asked why he received \$240 in compensation instead of \$360. Mr. Brienza said with Mr. Bush's reappointment in 2018, his compensation was to increase to \$360. Mr. Sullivan will correct this.

Mr. Sullivan reported interest received.

MOTION (S):

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Unconnected Sewer Analysis

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Reference SAE's letter dated 1/8/2014. Study identified 53 potential properties that should be connected to the sanitary sewers. Update on the status of this project.

B. Sewer Tapping Study - update

C. Easement Problems

D. Oakhurst Drive Project

Ref: Meeting minutes from the March 6, 2017 meeting. Installation of gravity and low pressure sewers to the area east of the I-78 bridge.

E. Saucon Valley Crossings Mobile Home Park

Update on the status.

Mr. Bush asked if he needs to attend the meeting. Mr. Brienza said no.

F. Station Avenue Sanitary Sewer (Spring Valley Area)

Sewer extension from MH# BB99 located adjacent to Weyhill Drive will be installed to service existing homes located along Station Avenue.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next scheduled meeting of the Authority will be **Monday, May 7, 2018 @ 6:00 PM** at the Water and Sewer Building.

ADJOURNMENT:

With there being no further business to discuss, the meeting of the Upper Saucon Municipal Authority was unanimously adjourned at approximately 6:46 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan Holmes
Secretary