

UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Tuesday, October 7, 2019

4774 Saucon Creek Road

Vice-Chairman Jack DeMatos called to order the regular meeting of the Upper Saucon Township Municipal Authority at approximately 6:05 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 - **ABSENT**
Joaquin (Jack) DeMatos - Vice Chairman
Ronald Reybitz - Asst. Secretary and Asst. Treasurer
Ryan Holmes - Secretary
Mark Sullivan – Treasurer

STAFF PRESENT:

Gary A. Brienza, Esquire, Solicitor
Andrew T. Bohl, P.E., Engineer
Farley F. Fry, P.E., Engineer
Chris Cope, Director of Water and Sewer Resources
John Guignet, UST Asst. Director of Water and Sewer Resources - **ABSENT**
Ed Rasich - UST Asst. Director of Water and Sewer Resources

VISITORS:

None

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.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

MINUTES:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting minutes from September 2019 as presented.

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)

Date list was prepared or amended: 9/30/19, 10/3/19

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4774 Saucon Creek Road

Date of letter: 8/29/19

Letter from: Andrew Bohl, Hanover Engineering

Letter sent to: Patricia Lang, UST

Subject: Route 309 Commerce Center.....Preliminary Lot Consolidation, Subdivision and Land Development Plan

The letter listed the Plan that was reviewed and was the basis of the comments listed in this letter.

Proposed subdivision and land development project is located on Route 309 south of the intersection of Center Valley Parkway. The subdivision consists of 3 truck freight terminals and one medical office. Project proposes to connect to the sanitary sewer collection system in 2 locations, upstream of manhole #545 and directly to manhole # NB-11.

Bohl had many comments regarding Plans which were reviewed. See the letter for the details.

Date of letter: 9/13/19

Letter from: Charles Unangst, Hanover Engineering

Letter sent to: Thomas Beil, UST

Subject: Saucon Country Estates Subdivision and Sunset Park Subdivision.....Application and Certificate for Payment #10

(Attached) is subject document submitted by RGC Development LP on 8/5/19. RGC has submitted a payment request for final funds in the amount of \$72,182.76, after performing additional repairs that have been addressed and approved by our office. We reviewed Application #10 and recommend approval of the release in the amount of \$69,557.76. This amount reflects a reduction in the requested release of \$2,625.00 to cover expenses incurred by the UST Water and Sewer Authority for additional flushing and CCTV work. (The letter then listed the dates and the cost for each date of work).

Date of letter: 9/19/19

Letter from: Tom Dinkelacker, LV Law Practice

Letter sent to: Gary Brienza and Tom Beil

Subject: Mt. Glen Lots 21 and 22

Wrapping up the easement for the Mt. Glen sewer. They are basically our standard easements, and I anticipate that the attorney for the Association will approve the same. Will forward them to you by separate emails. The only easement that I ask you to look at is the Heritage Conservancy easement (attached). It is somewhat different than our form and places some added burdens on the grantees. Let me know if you approve. Recall that the Heritage folks, while polite and professional, can be a little difficult because of their conservation regulations and restrictions. Therefore I think changes will likely not be forthcoming.

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Date of letter: 9/20/19
Letter from: Gary Brienza, Solicitor
Letter sent to: Tom Dinkelacker and Tom Beil
Subject: Mt Glen Lots 21 and 22

(in reply to Tom Dinkelacker 9/19 email)
I am fine with this.

*****end of correspondence list for the October meeting

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

The Solicitor's Report dated October 7, 2019 was presented by Solicitor Brienza.

Solicitor Brienza said that he is not sure if all of the documentation for the Promenade sewer Easements has been recorded.

Solicitor Brienza said that a portion of the Mountain Glen property that was given to the Conservancy runs right through the middle of our sewer easement. Therefore we now need an easement from the Conservancy to access our sewer lines. Attorney Dinkelacker has added some language to an agreement and he is waiting to hear whether or not the Conservancy will approve the modification.

Solicitor Brienza reported that he is still working on revising the easements for the Oakhurst sewer extension. He is hoping to have the new easements with letters out to the homeowners in the next week or two.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Andrew Bohl, PE, presented Engineer's report dated October 4, 2019.

Mr. Bohl said that another meeting regarding the 537 is scheduled for October 23, 2019. Mr. Holmes asked if the 537 and sewer tap study had time lines? He questioned because they have been on the agenda for a long time and that no progress is being made. Attorney Brienza said that the tapping fee ordinance is out of the Authority's hands at this point and is waiting on Tom Beil. Treasurer, Mark Sullivan commented that they remain on the agenda so that if anyone from the BOS reads the Authority agenda/minutes they understand that the Authority would still like the BOS to address this issue.

Mr. Bohl said that he is still working on the Executive Parkway easement descriptions.

Mr. Bohl said that the Sunset/Ackerman's work is finally complete.

Mr. Bohl told the Authority that Coopersburg had two exceedances between 8/28/19 and 10/2/19.

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Mr. Bohl noted that the Brinley Part II pump station permit was issued 9/19/2019.

Mr. Bohl said that all easement descriptions for the Oakhurst sewer extension are complete.

Mr. Bohl told the Authority that the work at Saucon Crossings is now complete.

Mr. Bohl told the Authority that phase one of the Old Saucon Development is underway and that sanitary sewer improvements have been done on site. The next portion will be the easement to cross 378 and connect to the Old Bethlehem Pike pump station.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mr. Cope introduced Ed Rasich as the new Assistant Director of Water and Sewer. John Guignet will stay on until July to help transition the new Director.

Mr. Cope noted that work will begin to put the sewer line in for the new Water/Sewer garage.

Mr. Cope said that the sewer flow meters were recently calibrated.

Mr. Cope stated that the department has had several new tap connections.

Mr. Cope said that the Sewer Department continues with point repairs.

Mr. Cope told the Authority he is working on the budget for 2020.

Mr. Cope told the Authority that the Sewer Department has recently assisted DeSales with a blockage where we found a 2x4 in the line. We cleared the line and TV'd it for them.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mr. Sullivan reported that the balance stands at \$919.41 and that the report does not need approval this month.

MOTION (S):

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Unconnected Sewer Analysis

Reference SEA's letter dated 1/8/2014. Study identified 53 potential properties that should be connected to the sanitary sewers.

Background: (1) Update on the letter that the Authority recommended be sent to the "53"; (2) The request for an Ordinance to cover the inspection of the laterals prior to sale of the property.

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Status: 2/19/19--Tom Dinkelacker had a casual discussion regarding this matter with Tom Beil. Tom's sense is that there will be some discussion regarding further review by the committee. 3/8/2019--Tom Beil stated that Bruce would be invited to the next Public Works Committee meeting.

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. Stabler Executive Parkway Sewer Issues. Ref: Letter from Karl Schreiter dated 9/19/2018. Copy of letter sent to each member of the Authority on 9/25/2018.

NEW BUSINESS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next scheduled meeting of the Authority will be Monday, November 4, 2019 @ 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 6:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan Holmes
Secretary