

UPPER SAUCON SEWAGE TREATMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Monday, February 3, 2020

4774 Saucon Creek Road

Chairman Bruce Bush called to order the regular meeting of the Upper Saucon Sewage Treatment Authority at approximately 6:30 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
Ronald Reybitz - Asst. Secretary and Asst. Treasurer
Joaquin (Jack) DeMatos - Vice Chairman
Ryan Holmes - Secretary
Mark Sullivan – Treasurer

STAFF PRESENT:

Gary A. Brienza, Esquire, Solicitor
Andy Bohl P.E., Engineer
Farley Fry P.E., Engineer
John Guignet, Acting Director of Water and Sewer Resources
Patrick Lambert, Director of Water and Sewer Resources
Ed Rasich, UST Asst. Director of Water and Sewer Resources

VISITORS:

None

NOTIFICATION:

All public sessions of the Upper Saucon Township Sewage Treatment 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 January 2020 as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

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 piece of correspondence).

Date prepared or revised: 1/25/2020

UPPER SAUCON SEWAGE TREATMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Monday, February 3, 2020

4774 Saucon Creek Road

Date of letter: 12/26/2019

Letter from: John Guignet Jr., UST

Letter sent to Chris Harding, PaDEP

Subject: USWWTP Matter

(This matter [Red fuel oil being discovered in the wet well of the plant] was discussed at the January 13, 2020 meeting.)

Date of letter: 1/15/2020

Letter from: Gary Brienza, Solicitor (email)

Letter sent to: Tom Beil, UST

Subject: Discussion with Borough regarding overuse of capacity

Are you handling setting up the meeting with Tim and the Borough?

Date of letter: 1/15/2020

Letter from: Wendy Sinko, UST (email)

Letter sent to: D. Gombosi, UST and Mark Sullivan

Subject: UST Billing

Wendy forwarded an email from Rachel Dwinal, Paralegal to Gary Brienza, regarding the invoice dated 1/8/2020. In that email Rachel stated that their billing department mistakenly billed the first entry at \$185 an hour instead of \$165. In order to correct this error, we will put a credit on next month's general billing.

***** end of the list of correspondence for February

CORRESPONDENCE COMMENTS:

None

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

The Solicitor's Report dated February 3, 2020 was presented by Solicitor Brienza.

Solicitor Brienza reported that there was a meeting held with Coopersburg regarding their exceedances. It was discussed that the borough is in the middle of litigation with Valley Manor Nursing Home. The nursing home has had a leaking lateral for years which Coopersburg feels has been a significant source of I&I. The Borough sued at the Magistrate level; Valley Manor representatives did not show up but filed an appeal. The Borough is seeking a daily fine of \$500/day which would eventually graduate to \$1,000. A hearing is scheduled for the end of February. Valley Manor denies that they have an issue with their lateral, but the Borough argues that if you pop the manhole and look inside there is a constant flow of clear water. Jack DeMatos asked why it hasn't been TV'd but Solicitor Brienza told him that there is no way to TV it without going on Valley Manor's property. Patrick Lambert noted that it has been rumored that there is a steel cesspool tank located somewhere in the middle of this line and that it's possible this is where the leak is coming from. Mr. Brienza also mentioned that Coopersburg doesn't have enough new connections to justify the numbers therefore the additional flow is likely coming from I&I. Weather conditions could also be a contributing factor. After a

UPPER SAUCON SEWAGE TREATMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Monday, February 3, 2020

4774 Saucon Creek Road

recent storm with 2" of rain their flow increased to their normal "weekly" total flow in a 12-hour time period. Tim Paashaus, Coopersburg Borough Manager said that he is filing for a State Grant for system upgrades/repairs. Coopersburg has been continuing to make repairs and do slip lining.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Farley Fry, PE, presented the Engineer's Report dated February 4, 2020.

Mr. Fry reported that there are three outstanding punch list items for the Plant Electrical System Upgrade.

1. There are no steps to get up to the enclosure. Concrete for step foundation needs to be poured.
2. Defective emergency transfer ground is going to be fixed by Wind Gap Electric this week. Once this is complete it needs to be field tested.
3. As-built drawings need to be completed.

Mr. Fry noted that there is a Mag meter that can measure Parshall depth flow which will need to be placed close to the Parshall Flume.

Mr. Fry has one motion needed for payment application #9 in the amount of \$38,189.40. That leaves a remaining \$5,000 to complete the three items on the punch list.

Mr. Fry told the Authority that it is time for the hauling contract to go out for bid.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mr. Guignet reported that on 1/24/20 a rain event was predicted so the Plant put the second clarifier on by-pass. The actuator worked well when the flow increased. The Plant may drop a clarifier this week, it will depend on the weather.

Mr. Guignet said that the bio-solids report was sent out.

Mr. Guignet noted that preventative maintenance work continues at the Plant.

Mr. Guignet said the plant is in compliance.

TREASURER'S INVOICE(S):

Treasurer Mark Sullivan noted that last month there were two invoices submitted by the Solicitors Firm. One covered a few days of January and the wrong hourly rate was used to calculate the bill which resulted in a \$12 overcharge. This month's invoice reflects the \$12 credit. This month the Solicitor's firm has submitted a request for payment on general matters between 1/8/2020 and 1/29/2020 in the amount of \$2,215.50.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the Solicitor's Invoice from January 29, 2020 as presented and for payment in the amount of \$2,215.50 to the Township Solicitor.

UPPER SAUCON SEWAGE TREATMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Monday, February 3, 2020

4774 Saucon Creek Road

Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION (S):

Motion was made and seconded to approve payment application #9 for Wind Gap Electric in the amount of \$38,189.40 for the Plant Electrical Upgrade. REF: Hanover Engineering letter dated 2/3/2020.

Motion passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next scheduled meeting of the Authority will be Monday, March 2, 2020 following the adjournment of the USTMA meeting, at the Water and Sewer Building.

ADJOURNMENT:

With there being no further business to discuss, the meeting of the Upper Saucon Sewage Treatment Authority was unanimously adjourned at approximately 6:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan Holmes
Secretary