

UPPER SAUCON SEWAGE TREATMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Monday, November 4, 2019

4774 Saucon Creek Road

Chairman Bruce Bush called to order the regular meeting of the Upper Saucon Sewage Treatment Authority at approximately 6:41 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

Chris Cope, Director of Water and Sewer Resources

John Guignet, 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 October 2019 as amended. Under Treasurer's Report the dollar amount needs to be \$885.00 in both places.

Motion passed 4-1, with Bruce Bush abstaining.

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: 10/22/19

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4774 Saucon Creek Road

Date of letter: 10/10/19

Letter from: Chris Cope, UST (email)

Letter sent to: Bruce Bush and others

Subject: PaDEP Annual Inspection of the Wastewater Treatment Plant

This past Tuesday, PaDEP's Chris Harding was on-site to conduct an annual inspection of the WWTP. The plant's overall appearance and operation earned praise from the inspector. During this visit, I took the opportunity to discuss two outstanding issues with Mr. Harding.

1. NOV letter issued to the Authority on 11/19/18

Mr. Harding confirmed that my response letter dated 12/7/18 (copy was attached) was sufficient and all violations listed in PaDEP's letter are now administratively closed out and there are currently no open violations.

2. TRE request to remove the monitoring requirements of Bis (2-ethylhexyl) from the current NPDES permit

Mr. Harding stated that the request for our permit amendment is still open and he recommended that I contact Amy Bellanca (DEP's Environmental Engineer Manager) for a status update. I currently have a call to Mrs. Bellanca for this update, but have yet to get a response.

(Note: a copy of this email was forwarded to members of the Authority on 10/11/19)

Date of letter: 10/10/19

Letter from: F. Fry, Hanover Engineering (email)

Letter sent to: Chris Cope, UST and others

Subject: PaDEP Annual Inspection of the WWTP

(This email was in response to Chris' 10/10/19 email on the same subject)

Excellent, It is unusual to get an NOV with multiple issues addressed by one response letter.

Date of letter: 10/11/19

Letter from: Gary Brienza, Solicitor (email)

Letter sent to: Chris Cope, UST and others

Subject: PaDEP Annual Inspection of the WWTP

This is very good news.....

***** end of the list of correspondence for November

CORRESPONDENCE COMMENTS:

None

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

The Solicitor's Report dated November 4, 2019 was presented by Solicitor Brienza.

Mr. Brienza has nothing new to report.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Farley Fry, PE, presented Engineer's Report dated November 4, 2019.

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4774 Saucon Creek Road

Mr. Fry said that he and Bill Ramage of Paragon Engineering met last week with Enoqua regarding the disinfection project and that the preliminary drawings and specs are complete.

Mr. Fry said that Wind Gap Electric has a punch list to be completed which will wrap up this project. .

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mr. Cope reported that a check valve on a drain line from the thickener collapsed and caused a minor back up but that there was no leak or violation. The valve was replaced today.

Mr. Cope noted that there is a small leak on the 2" potable water line at the Plant. He hopes this can be repaired before winter.

Mr. Cope said that he met with the bio augmentation sales people and that they gave him the results of the samples they took last year to verify that this process is helping. They determined that we don't really have a grease issue but they did find some other things that could cause issues in the future. They want to come back and test what comes off the thickener.

Mr. Cope told the Authority that the DEP inspection took place on 10/8/2019. The inspector, Chris Harding verbally said that all violations are closed. He is going to come back to give results from samples he had taken.

Mr. Cope informed the Authority that he received a letter from DEP saying that they will not totally remove the Bis-2 and TRE testing from our permit but they are willing to change it from a weekly sampling requirement to a monthly but in order to do so they are requesting a long list of things that need to be submitted to them. Chris does not feel that he will get to complete this list of requirements before he leaves so he will pass along the information he has compiled so far and give it to Farley. The next permit is due 2/2021 and DEP said at that time we could explore having this requirement removed completely from our permit. One item that will need to be addressed is DEP's request for an EIN# from the responsible party. The EIN should be the Township's as they have the financial responsibility. If this is the case, future correspondence should come from someone at the Township instead of Bruce Bush.

Mr. Cope said the plant is in compliance.

TREASURER'S INVOICE(S):

Treasurer Mark Sullivan submitted a report including one request for payment from the Solicitor for general matters during the period between October 3, 2019 and October 28, 2019. The invoice is dated October 30, 2019 in the amount of \$705.00.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the treasurer's report as presented and for payment in the amount of \$705.00 to the Township Solicitor.

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4774 Saucon Creek Road

Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION (S):

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mr. Bush said he will remove the Notice of Violation and Draft Permit application from next month's agenda as they are now complete.

NEW BUSINESS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next scheduled meeting of the Authority will be Monday, December 2, 2019 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 6:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan Holmes
Secretary