

# UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Monday, December 7, 2020

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  
Ronald Reybitz - Asst. Secretary and Asst. Treasurer  
Ryan Holmes - Secretary  
Mark Sullivan – Treasurer

## **STAFF PRESENT:**

Gary A. Brienza, Solicitor  
Andrew T. Bohl, P.E., Engineer  
Farley F. Fry, P.E., Engineer (ABSENT)  
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 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:**

In the November meeting minutes, paragraph 6, under Engineer's Report please change Bruce to Andy regarding water line dedication.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting minutes as amended from November 2020.

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 correspondence)

Date list was prepared or amended: 12/2/2020, 12/5/2020

UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Monday, December 7, 2020

4774 Saucon Creek Road

Date of letter: 11/3/2020

Letter from: Andrew Bohl, Hanover Engineering

Letter sent to: Patrick Lambert, UST

Subject: Old Saucon Subdivision -- Phases 2 & 3 .....Proposed Sanitary Sewer Modifications

Hanover Engineering reviewed the proposed sewer changes provided by Bohler Engineering Redline Markup of the Van Cleef Engineering Plan and Profile of the Proposed Road B and offer these comments:

Hanover then listed their 10 comments. One of their comments was -- Since the depth of the proposed sanitary sewer mains will be deeper than previously designed and approved, the Township may need additional equipment to service these proposed mains. The Township should be reimbursed by the developer for any additional equipment.

\*\*\*\*\*

Date of letter: 11/3/2020

Letter from: Gary Brienza, Solicitor ;(email)

Letter sent to: Andy Bohl, Hanover Engineering and B. Bush

Subject: Valley Manor Sewer Lateral

(Gary forwarded an email he received from T. Paashaus, Coopersburg Borough, dated 11/3/2020. This email forwarded a communication that was sent this morning between our engineer and theirs:

Attached is a letter I reviewed with the Infrastructure Committee and they concurred with all the comments. During the discussion at the meeting two additional issues were raised. First, since the sewer lateral is in close proximity to the Municipal Authority water facilities, it was suggested that you meet with the Authority to review the proposal which will give the Authority Engineer the opportunity to provide any additional comments. The next Authority meeting is the evening of Tuesday November 10th. If that works for your schedule, please reach out to Tim Paashaus at the Borough to work out the details. Second, after you have been in touch with Lehigh County Conservation District to determine the environmental approval requirements for the project please provide a schedule including the anticipated start and completion of construction.

\*\*\*\*\*

Date of letter: 11/4/2020

Letter from: T. Sear, UST (email)

Letter sent to: B. Kutz, Gilmore Assoc., A. Bohl, Hanover Engineering and others

Subject: 5190 Skyview Drive

Hanover Engineering is authorized to review the revised plan that was previously forwarded on 10/26 in response to your 10/21/2020 letter. I have forwarded the sewer permit application to the Permits Clerk and I will need guidance regarding the necessary inspections that must be arranged. I will send you an 10/26/2020 response letter from Gilmore and Associates shortly.

\*\*\*\*\*

Date of letter: 11/12/2020

Letter from: Andrew Bohl, Hanover Engineering

Letter sent to: Patricia Lang, UST

# UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Monday, December 7, 2020

4774 Saucon Creek Road

Subject: Traditions of America at Saucon Valley ..... Phases 1-4 Sanitary Sewer Improvements.....Request for Letter of Credit Reduction

Hanover Engineering reviewed the developer's letter dated 11/2/2020 requesting reduction of its various letters of credit for the required improvements in Traditions of America. The letter is specifically limited to the sanitary sewer collection system improvements within all construction phases and as shown on the approved subdivision plans. Our Construction Observer who has monitored the construction of the sanitary sewer collection system improvements has reported the collection system has been completed in general conformance with Township Standards and the approved plans. All punch list items have been satisfactorily completed. Thus, it is recommended the developer's financial security for the collection system improvements be released, conditioned upon the appropriate maintenance security being in place.

\*\*\*\*\*

Date of letter: 11/17/2020

Letter from: Andrew Bohl, Hanover Engineering

Letter sent to: Patricia Lang, UST

Subject: Blue Ridge Chase Subdivision....(FKA Penn's View South).....Sanitary Sewer Improvements

In preparation for dedication of site improvements to the Township by the Developer, Hanover Engineering has reviewed the sewer collection system improvements and offers these comments:

1. Sewer collection system was constructed in 2008
2. Collection system was video inspected in 2008 and found acceptable by SEA Inc.
3. Pursuant to a recent site inspection, the sanitary sewer collection system is functioning properly and all the manhole chimney seals have been installed.

It is recommended the Township and MA allow dedication of the sewer improvements by the developer. Easement descriptions and plot plans for all sanitary sewers located outside the Right-Of-Way of Cumorah Avenue should be provided by the Developer.

\*\*\*\*\*end of correspondence list for the December meeting

## **CORRESPONDENCE COMMENTS:**

Jack DeMatos asked why the sewer plans for Old Saucon changed? Andy Bohl told him that the Engineer for the project changed and when the new Engineer came in and reviewed the drawings, they determined that about 800lf could be removed by going deeper (approximately 25' deep). Jack said he is questioning because the Township's current fleet of equipment will not reach that depth to be able to service the lines.

## **SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

The Solicitor's Report dated December 7, 2020 was presented by Solicitor Brienza.

Attorney Brienza noted that the Brinley Court on-site construction began and then stopped immediately because they were in violation of NPDES regulations and Lehigh County Conservation District standards. However, all legal work from the Township Solicitor is complete.

# UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Monday, December 7, 2020

4774 Saucon Creek Road

Solicitor Brienza said issues remain with the final paving and dedication at Weyhill and that the developer has proposed paying a fee in lieu of moving the trees planted over the water line. Gary said their offering is a little "lite" so the Township will be submitting a counter proposal.

Solicitor Brienza told the Authority that he believes the Center Valley Parkway extension is finalized and no easements are required so he will remove this from his list for next month.

Attorney Brienza reported that he has received the Yundt easement.

Solicitor Brienza told the Authority that he was supposed to have a meeting with Mt. Trexler on November 16, 2020 but it was postponed until December 10, 2020. At this meeting he will give them a list of all the easements that will be required. There will be about 30-35 easements required in all.

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

Andrew Bohl, PE, presented Engineer's report dated December 4, 2020.

Mr. Bohl noted that Coopersburg had one exceedance this month. During the 3" rain event last week their flow meter read 1.4 million gallons, but they had a 6-hour period where their meter didn't record. According to the raw data he reviewed he thinks it was closer to 2 million gallons. Since July, our water table has increased to the magnitude of up to 46" which could be contributing to I&I.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

Mr. Lambert told the Authority that most businesses do submit their required IPP's but most contain insufficient information and documentation. He would like to re-do the form that was created years ago, so it is easier to understand. He feels most businesses do not understand what their requirements are. He would also like to sit down with Gary and come up with steps to take if businesses do not comply.

Mr. Lambert said that he has received a second call from a resident who says, "we're pumping sewage into his basement". This occurs during heavy rain events when our flow is up. Last week this occurred when our flow was up to 4.8mil. He had a check valve (which would help prevent this) installed years ago, we believe by the Township. He removed it because he said it was not working. When 309 South bound lanes flood the manhole in that area used to surcharge.

Mr. Lambert mentioned that he has purchased new flow meters that can be read cellularly so we can get flow data in real time. This will help to pinpoint leaks and infiltrations at the Plant.

Mr. Lambert noted that the pump at the Country Club pump station was changed out and is back up and running. The station had been flooded during the last tropical storm

# UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Monday, December 7, 2020

4774 Saucon Creek Road

and it ruined the meter. Now that a new meter has been installed the readings have been much higher than they were previously.

Mr. Lambert told the Authority that a resident on Hill Ct has applied for a sewer connection permit which he denied because the resident submitted a small hand drawn map that did not contain most of the information that is required.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Mr. Sullivan reported that there were no disbursements this month and with interest the balance stands at \$706.16. The Treasurer's report needs approval this month.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the quarterly Treasurers Report dated December 7, 2020, as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

## **MOTION (S):**

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

A. Unconnected Sewer Analysis

Gary discussed this with Tom Beil and noted that if the Mt. Trexler project goes through it could bring this issue to a head.

B. Sewer Tapping Study – This continues to be an unresolved issue.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Bruce Bush mentioned that he had received a pamphlet addressed to the Authority from the Jehovah Witness and an invitation to network with Women of Innovation. He said both were available for review if anyone would like to take a look.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The next scheduled meeting of the Authority will be Monday, January 11, 2021 @ 6:00 PM at the Water and Sewer Building. There is the possibility this meeting may be held virtually. This will be our re-organizational meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

With there being no further business to discuss, the meeting of the Upper Saucon Municipal Authority was unanimously adjourned at approximately 6:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ryan Holmes  
Secretary