

# UPPER SAUCON SEWAGE TREATMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Monday, May 1, 2023,

4774 Saucon Creek Road

Chairman Jack DeMatos called to order the regular meeting of the Upper Saucon Sewage Treatment Authority at approximately 6:53 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:**

Joaquim (Jack) DeMatos - Chairman  
Mark Sullivan – Treasurer  
Zachary Karasek – Secretary  
John Guignet – Vice Chairman  
Michael Shafer – Asst. Secretary/Treasurer

## **STAFF PRESENT:**

Gary A. Brienza, Esquire, Solicitor  
Andy Bohl P.E., Engineer  
Farley Fry P.E., Engineer  
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 April 2023 as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Authority members may comment on the correspondence packets they received.

## **CORRESPONDENCE COMMENTS:**

None

## **SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

The Solicitor's Report dated May 1, 2023, was presented by Solicitor Brienza.

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Solicitor Brienza reported that Coopersburg Borough is engaged with Coopersburg Diner regarding the grease trap issues. The Borough lateral inspections continue to find laterals with cracks and root intrusion.

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

Farley Fry, PE, presented the Engineer's Report dated April 27, 2023.

Mr. Fry said the Enaqua unit is still having issues with bulbs turning off intermittently. The fecal counts are going up when the lights go out. Farley received the plans and close-out documents from Eastern Environmental which are under review. Jack feels as though additional money should not be released until issues are resolved and they should be given, in writing, what is expected for the money to be released. PSI submitted payment application number 3 for \$29K which leaves a retainage of \$6,800. Payment application number 3 was sent to Bill Ramage for approval since Bill was out to do the inspection. The contractor removed excessive ground and concrete and paved the trench last week.

Mr. Fry said that the sludge hauling contract received no bids. Four days prior to the bid he received a call from Greater Hazleton Sewer Authority asking to be removed as the backup disposal site. Farley would like LCA or a facility located closer to the Plant to be used as the back-up. No one can recall ever seeking a different back-up.

Mr. Fry called McGovern to see why they didn't bid. They told him they weren't aware. Waste Management came out to look at the site but told Patrick that Hatfield said they wouldn't accept them as a sludge hauler. Farley asked for a two-month contract quote from Franc to hold us over until a new contract is in place. A new bid will be advertised. The current contract expires in June. A recommendation could be ready for approval at next month's meeting.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

Mr. Rasich said that the Plant is in compliance.

Mr. Rasich reported that the Enaqua system did handle the high flows this weekend. The system peaked at 9MGD.

Mr. Rasich noted that the circuit board on the pump 1 VFD went bad which took out the pump. They are currently waiting on a new circuit board. The new VFD is in and running but they will be ordering back-ups to keep on hand.

Mr. Rasich said that ICSES will be installing a power quality monitoring device to check on the power coming in.

Mr. Rasich told the Authority that the interface for the Trojan unit is bad so when we need to use it as a back-up it must be run manually.

Mr. Rasich reported that a PO for the digester stairs was placed, and delivery is about 4-5 weeks out.

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## **TREASURER'S INVOICE(S):**

Mark Sullivan presented the Treasurer's report and needs approval for a request for payment from the Solicitor for general matters for the period of 3/29/23 through 4/20/23, in the amount of \$999.00.

Motion was made and seconded to approve the Solicitor's Invoice as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

## **MOTION (S):**

Motion was made and seconded to recommend endorsement of the Upper Saucon Township Sewage Facilities Planning Module for the Pitt Ohio building expansion plans project for a total of 18 EDU's. Ref: Hanover Engineering's letter dated 4/25/23.

Motion passed unanimously.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The next scheduled meeting of the Authority will be Monday, June 5, 2023, 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 7:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Zachary Karasek  
Secretary