

# UPPER SAUCON SEWAGE TREATMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Monday, November 6, 2023, 4774 Saucon Creek Road

Chairman Jack DeMatos called to order the regular meeting of the Upper Saucon Sewage Treatment Authority at approximately 6:45 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 - **ABSENT**

## **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 October 2023 as presented.

Motion passed unanimously with Zachary Karasek abstaining.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Authority members may comment on the correspondence packets they received.

## **CORRESPONDENCE COMMENTS:**

None

## **SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

The Solicitor's Report dated November 6, 2023, was presented by Solicitor Brienza.

Solicitor Brienza reported that Coopersburg did not have many sewer lateral inspections this month.

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Fairmont Village shopping center is in Upper Saucon Township, but Coopersburg supplies their water, therefore they must follow the Borough specs. There has been a considerable drop in usage and a contractor has been there doing work, the concern is the meter is being bypassed. CVS is also on Coopersburg water. Patrick feels this shopping center should be billed the same as all other commercial properties with multiple tenants, with one master meter. The contractor removed Upper Saucon's water meter that was monitoring well usage for a portion of the building for consumption sewer usage billing.

Attorney Brienza told the Authority that Dave Busch has not reached out to Coopersburg to request the additional information he needs. This project was in the 2023 budget, Patrick submitted a PO in March that still has not been signed by the Township office therefore, 8 months later Dave Busch still has not received payment. Everyone is under the assumption that this is why he is not proceeding. Jack suggested Tim Pashaus should call Tom Beil to move things along. Patrick said he will also send an email to the office asking for an update and he will copy Jack and Gary.

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

Farley Fry, PE, presented the Engineer's Report dated November 2, 2023.

Mr. Fry said the UV disinfection contractor has made the final repairs. Farley has downloaded the logs and will review them. It appears they only have one guy that can make repairs and he is in CA. PSI has submitted as-builts and Farley sent them to Paragon for review. Bill Ramage has been out, so his boss is going to review them. The SCADA consultant looked over things and there doesn't appear to be any faulty alarm wiring from the Enaqua unit to the alarm system.

Mr. Fry said that there is no blower package large enough to meet our needs for the airline replacement. We will have to custom assemble one and Eastern Environmental gave us a cost estimate of around \$80K. They did not provide a time schedule as to when they could begin but said it would take 2-3 months to complete at a total cost of around \$230K. Farley will contact other contractors for price and time frame quotes. This is a budgeted item, but Tom Beil may want to put it out for bid.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

Mr. Rasich said that the Plant is in compliance.

Mr. Rasich reported that McGovern was out to clean the east side aeration basins and they looked good. Patrick showed the Authority pictures.

Mr. Rasich noted that he got quotes from Design Plastics for handrails on those basins. For fiberglass the quote came in at \$135K which is more than was budgeted.

Mr. Rasich told the Authority that there were aeration valve failures, one was replaced, and a second was delivered today.

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

Mark Sullivan presented the Treasurer's report and needs approval for one request for payment from the Solicitor for general matters for the period of 9/26/23 through 10/17/23, in the amount of \$851.00.

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

Motion passed unanimously.

## **MOTION (S):**

A motion was made and seconded to endorse the Upper Saucon Township Sewage Facilities Planning Module for the proposed DeSales University welcome center project. REF: Hanover Engineering's email dated 9/7/23.

Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded to endorse the Upper Saucon Township Sewage Facilities Planning Module for the Route 309 Commerce Center land development project. REF: Hanover Engineering's email dated 10/27/23.

Motion passed unanimously.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The next scheduled meeting of the Authority will be **Monday**, December 4, 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 7:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Zachary Karasek  
Secretary