

# UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Monday, March 6, 2023,

4774 Saucon Creek Road

Jack DeMatos called to order the regular meeting of the Upper Saucon Township Municipal Authority at approximately 6:02 pm in the public meeting room of the Upper Saucon Township Water/Sewer Department office, 4774 Saucon Creek Road, Upper Saucon Township, Lehigh County, PA.

## **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

## **STAFF PRESENT:**

Gary A. Brienza, Esquire, Solicitor  
Andrew T. Bohl, P.E., Engineer  
Farley F. Fry, P.E., Engineer  
Patrick Lambert, Director of Water and Sewer Resources  
Ed Rasich, UST Asst. Director of Water and Sewer Resources - **ABSENT**

## **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:**

## **MINUTES:**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the February meeting minutes as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Authority members may comment on the correspondence which they received.

## **CORRESPONDENCE COMMENTS:**

Jack DeMatos asked Andy Bohl if he has had any response to the second notices sent out for the IPP's? Andy said they were just sent out so it's too early to tell. Jack then asked if there are any repercussions if businesses don't comply and if we've ever exercised them? Patrick responded that last year we came close but the possibility of receiving a fine seemed to encourage compliance. So far, we have only received 14 back, 9 did not contain required information. Every year, it's the same offenders. They have until March 31, 2023, to comply before they will begin to incur fines.

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## **SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

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

Attorney Brienza reported that he has two documents that need to be signed tonight for Blue Ridge West. 1. Easement agreement between the current owner of an individual property and the Township Authority. 2. Resolution agreeing that the bill of sale can be transmitted to give all municipal improvements (both water and sewer) to the Township Authority. The developer is giving a 6-month warranty. Mike Shafer asked if this was the only easement needed? In response, Gary stated that the Township agreed if the developer gave the Township as-builts that were signed and sealed it would be the only one necessary and the Township would accept dedication.

Solicitor Brienza noted that the final draft of the lateral ordinance is complete. Gary reached out to Tim Paashaus at Coopersburg and found out they do not have a CO requirement at the time of sale. Tim explained the process they use which is to 1. Notify the Lehigh Valley Board of Realtors, they in return contact their network of realtors. 2. Township needs to incorporate when a final is scheduled this inspection becomes part of that process. Jack DeMatos asked if the Authority members could have a draft of the ordinance to review.

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

Andy Bohl, PE, presented the Engineer's report dated March 1, 2023.

Mr. Bohl told the Authority that Mt. Trexler Manor held an engineer's meeting and he's hoping to have documents submitted by mid-April to the review agency.

Mr. Bohl noted that Coopersburg had 3 exceedances at their meter station and none at the Plant this month.

Mr. Bohl indicated that he issued an updated punch list on 2/14/23 for Brinley and all items have been addressed.

Mr. Bohl told the Authority that he did a punch list inspection at TOA on 2/8/23.

Mr. Bohl said that the contractor for the Corporate Parkway project is still waiting for the Township to complete the paperwork necessary to finish this project. The unit is unable to be powered up until this happens. The completion date will need to be pushed back until at least April, depending on when the Township completes paperwork. The force main portion has been tested, the gravity portion has not.

Mr. Bohl also noted that there were lateral design issues on lots 66 & 67 at Estates. Lot's 67's lateral traversed onto lot 66. He asked the developer to change this design. They also found the clean outs for lots 96 & 97 are located in the easement right-of-way.

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Mr. Bohl said that he will be sending out individual letters to those companies who returned their IPP but were incorrect or incomplete. Second notice letters went out last week to those who did not submit their IPP by the deadline.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

Mr. Lambert told the Authority that during the major rain event over the weekend Coopersburg flow shot up to 1891. There is a problem over on Mill Road. Flow meters in that area showed an increase of 800-900 GPM.

Mr. Lambert informed the Authority that D&B submitted an IPP but reported that there has been no one in the building since COVID so they didn't know they still needed have the grease trap pumped to comply. The sewer foreman went out to inspect their grease trap and found there is grease in it.

Mr. Lambert said that the sewer department went out to look at the grease trap at the Coopersburg Diner and the grease was better than it was 2 months ago when they checked and the same for the Spring Valley Inn.

Mr. Lambert informed the Authority that the GIS marking has been done on 25-30% of the system. The guys are working on this as they get time.

Mr. Lambert told the Authority that SCADA will soon all be linked for the stations so the guys will be able to monitor the stations from their phones.

Mr. Lambert said that a neighboring resident of the Spring Valley Pump Station at 1401 Spring Valley Road had dump trucks that were accessing his property via our driveway for the pump station and cracked the driveway. Patrick took pictures of the damage and may have them repair the driveway. The house on the other side of the driveway just contacted Wendy and is looking to connect to the public sewer.

John Guignet asked about the Station Avenue property that has the failing septic system. Patrick responded that Chris Taylor has issued a letter stating that they need maintain or repair their current system or hook up to the public sewer.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Mark Sullivan presented the Treasurer's Report. He reported that there were no disbursements this month so with interest the balance stands at \$740.17. The report needs quarterly approval.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented.

Motion passed unanimously.

## **MOTION (S):**

A motion was made and seconded to approve a resolution to accept the bills of sale for the on-site sanitary sewer system, Phases 1 and 2, pursuant to the subdivision and land

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development improvement agreement between Upper Saucon Township, Upper Saucon Township Municipal Authority and Hampton Homes dated 8/4/1994 for the Blue Ridge West subdevelopment. Ref: Solicitor Brienza's approval email dated 2/13/23.

Motion passed unanimously.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

A. Coopersburg's Ordinance regarding lateral inspection upon any real estate transfer. (Ref: Coopersburg Ordinance #2021-675, Duly Adopted 3/16/2021).

B. Acquisition of Borough of Coopersburg sewer lines.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The next scheduled meeting of the Authority will be Monday, April 3, 2023 @ 6:00 PM at the Water and Sewer Building.

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

With there being no further business to discuss, the meeting of the Upper Saucon Municipal Authority was unanimously adjourned at approximately 6:43 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Zachary Karasek  
Secretary