

# UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Monday, May 1, 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  
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

## **VISITORS:**

Michael Russek – Engineer  
Fernando Fernandez – Resident @ 3144 Oakhurst Drive

## **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:**

Mr. Fernandez is interested in connecting to the public sewer and Mr. Russek presented a conceptual idea on Mr. Fernandez's behalf. Mr. Bohl noted that this area would need to be included in the Act 537 update that is currently being finalized. There are several other neighboring properties that would be able to connect, if the line is extended. Mr. Bohl said he would discuss the options with Tom Beil.

## **MINUTES:**

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

Motion passed unanimously.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Authority members may comment on the correspondence which they received.

## **CORRESPONDENCE COMMENTS:**

None

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## **SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

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

Attorney Brienza reported that the punch lists for Weyhill/Bluebell have been completed and inspections are pending.

Attorney Brienza said that Blue Ridge West can be removed from his reports.

Attorney Brienza told the Authority that a draft of the contribution agreement for Mt. Trexler Manor finally went out.

Attorney Brienza noted that a final draft of the sewer lateral inspection ordinance was submitted to Tom Beil on 4/28/23.

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

Andy Bohl, PE, presented the Engineer's report dated April 26, 2023.

Mr. Bohl told the Authority that there is a meeting scheduled this Friday to review some of the permitting and pump station designs for the North Branch interceptor project. He is hoping to be able to submit the plans to DEP after this meeting. He gave plans to Tom Beil back in January and to date has not heard anything.

Mr. Bohl noted that Coopersburg did not have any exceedances at their meter station they also did not exceed their Plant allocation this month.

Mr. Bohl indicated that he did a site visit out at Oakhurst on 4/13/23 and issued a punch list. Payment application #3 that was submitted for this project has been reduced until punch list items are completed.

Mr. Bohl told the Authority that he can remove Spring Valley pump station from his report.

Mr. Bohl said that electric for the Corporate Parkway project should be energized this week and then the job should be complete within the next 2-3 weeks.

Mr. Bohl also noted that TOA received review letters after inspections were done. They were told they cannot pave until the sewer line sags are repaired and inspected.

Mr. Bohl told the Authority that he reviewed the sewer line video from Old Saucon Phase 2 and found additional sags. The sags from Phase 1 have yet to be repaired.

Mr. Bohl said that he issued IPP NOV letters. He then received an IPP from Spring Valley Inn, but it is incomplete. Saucon Valley Auto Spa still has submitted nothing. Most of the IPP's that were returned this year were late, incomplete or both.

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Mr. Bohl noted that the Yamnicky/Brookline proposed development resubmitted plans which changed to 9 single family lots, all with wells so no public water.

Mr. Bohl has reviewed plans for Saucon Park subdivision which will consist of 61 Townhomes, 10 single family homes and 1 commercial building.

Mr. Bohl said that the planning module for the Strawberry Hill development has been submitted to DEP.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:**

Mr. Lambert told the Authority that there was a large amount of I&I after the storm this past weekend in the area near Price Avenue. There was a large amount of clear water entering the system. The Sewer Department is going to go out and look at laterals in this area to see if sump pumps might be emptying into the system.

Mr. Lambert informed the Authority that all IPP's have been submitted except one, but most are incomplete.

Mr. Lambert said that the Sewer Department found a manhole in high weeds that hadn't been inspected in 20 years, so they marked it and made a few repairs.

Mr. Lambert informed the Authority that he submitted a PO to Keystone Alliance for the Coopersburg take-over but since then he has not heard anything from Tom Beil.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Mark Sullivan presented the Treasurer's Report. He reported that he paid dues to the PA Municipal Authorities Association in the amount of \$200 so after that the balance stands at \$545.64.

## **MOTION (S):**

A motion was made and seconded to release funds for payment application #3 in the sum of \$90,403.92 to Anrich, Inc., for the Oakhurst Drive sanitary sewer extension project. Ref: Hanover Engineering's letter dated 4/25/23.

Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded to endorse the Upper Saucon Township sewage facilities planning module for the Pitt Ohio building expansion project for a total of 18 EDU's. Ref: Hanover Engineering's letter dated 4/25/23.

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).

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B. Acquisition of Borough of Coopersburg sewer lines.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The next scheduled meeting of the Authority will be Monday, June 5, 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 6:51 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Zachary Karasek  
Secretary