

UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Tuesday, September 5, 2023, 4774 Saucon Creek Road

Jack DeMatos called to order the regular meeting of the Upper Saucon Township Municipal Authority at approximately 6:00 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:

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:

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

Motion passed with Zachary Karasek abstaining.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Authority members may comment on the correspondence which they received.

CORRESPONDENCE COMMENTS:

None

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

The Solicitor's Report dated September 5, 2023, was presented by Solicitor Brienza.

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Attorney Brienza reported that the public information meetings for the Mt. Trexler Manor sewer line has been scheduled. They will be held Thursdays beginning the first week of October.

Attorney Brienza said that a few modifications are being made to the sewer ordinance as per Tom Beil. Jack DeMatos asked Gary if it would be possible for the Authority to review the sewer lateral ordinance since it pertains to the sewer system? Gary said the Authority will have a chance to review it.

Attorney Brienza said that the owner of the Glen Road property is planning to proceed with installing a sewer line. This project will follow normal project procedures and requirements because it will eventually be turned over to the Township.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Andy Bohl, PE, presented the Engineer's report dated August 30, 2023.

Mr. Bohl indicated that notices for the Mt. Trexler Manor informational meeting will go out next week and that the North Branch NPDES permit will be submitted to the conservation district.

Mr. Bohl said that the contractor for the Oakhurst sewer extension will be finalizing the punch list in the next two weeks.

Mr. Bohl also noted that he is waiting for keys to the lift station box for the Corporate Center Parkway project, then this will be complete.

Mr. Bohl told the Authority that TOA still has not addressed the sewer line sags. He has asked Trish and Tom to write a letter telling them CO's will not be issued until the sewer lines are fixed.

Mr. Bohl said that the sags in the sewer lines at Old Saucon phase 1 and now also phase 2 still have not been fixed. There is still no way to accurately predict flows when built out since phases 3 and 4 haven't been finalized yet.

Mr. Bohl noted that DeSales submitted a land development plan for a new welcome center.

Mr. Bohl indicated that he issued a review letter and a planning module review for Saucon Park.

Mr. Bohl said that Good Shepherd needs to submit and IPP. No CO has been issued.

Mr. Bohl said that Brinley has started phase 3. They still need to finish the punch list for the pump station. He is going to require them to do some maintenance on the pumps and generator before dedication.

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Mr. Bohl informed the Authority that Coopersburg had 1 exceedance this month and exceeded their plant allocation 5 days.

Mr. Bohl said he submitted the south branch CAP report to DEP.

Mr. Bohl noted that a reminder IPP letter will be sent out ahead of time to reiterate exactly what the requirements are and the deadline for submittal.

Mr. Bohl has one motion for approval tonight to endorse the UST planning module for the 5039 Route 309 proposed medical building.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Mr. Lambert told the Authority that the Roads Department is replacing the storm sewer in Oakhurst. The design only calls for 14-18" distance between our sewer line and the storm pipe. They plan on lowering the water main but that is Bethlehem's water line.

Mr. Lambert informed the Authority that he is looking into getting SCADA for the new Corporate Parkway pump station.

Mr. Lambert said that he is still working on getting the sewer fees and tapping fees rate study done with Dave Busch.

Mr. Lambert informed the Authority that there are controller issues at the Country Club pump station. He will be getting a quote to replace the electrical controls.

Mr. Lambert said that the sewer department will be going out again this month to check the manhole and grease trap at Coopersburg Diner

Mr. Lambert told the Authority that the sewer lines at Old Saucon are over 30' deep. Jack asked what options are available for us to maintain lines that deep? Patrick responded that the reach of our equipment is 20-25' max. They will either need to fix the lines or purchase equipment for the Township to enable us to go that deep. They still have not submitted plans for the final phase, therefore, impossible to predict flow.

Mr. Lambert indicated that the new Oakhurst sewer extension project for the section of Oakhurst where residents attending the Authority meeting earlier this year has been added to the budget for next year. He will look at hiring a contractor to bore under Route 145.

Jack DeMatos asked Mr. Lambert how the interviews went for the Assistant Director position? Patrick responded that a person has been selected and will be appointed at the next Board of Supervisors meeting.

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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 \$555.08. The report needs approval this month.

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 the Upper Saucon Township Sewage Facilities Planning Module for the proposed medical building at 5039 Route 309. Ref: Hanover Engineering's email dated 8/29/23.

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**, October 2, 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 6:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Zachary Karasek
Secretary