

UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Monday, November 4, 2024, 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 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 and Asst. Treasurer

STAFF PRESENT:

Gary A. Brienza, Esquire, Solicitor – via phone
Andrew T. Bohl, P.E., Engineer
Farley F. Fry, P.E., Engineer – via phone
Patrick Lambert, Director of Water and Sewer Resources
Jonathan Barron, UST Asst. Director of Water and Sewer Resources

VISITORS:

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 members of the Authority.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

MINUTES:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the meeting minutes from October 2024, as presented.

The motion was passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Authority members may comment on the correspondence packets or the "Summary" which they received.

CORRESPONDENCE COMMENTS:

None

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Gary Brienza presented his November 2024 report.

Brinley – The Resolution is being finalized. The township will be passing their version at the meeting at the end of November.

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Blue Belle/Weyhill – The dedications are pending the final inspections.

Mount Trexler Manor – The last remaining easement has been signed. There is no need for condemnation.

Kay Warehouse – The draft easement and supplement of the map has been sent to Golf Course LP. It is expected to be finalized without any issues.

Mr. DeMatos asked about the Phases for Brinley court and Andy Bohl clarified his question that there are three Phases.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Andy Bohl, PE, presented his Engineer's report for November.

North Branch - A comment letter was received from the Conservation District. The plans are being revised and resubmitted for the NPDES permit for the construction which should be issued by the end of November.

Mr. DeMatos inquired when the bids are expected. Mr. Bohl responded it will be in the next year. A special study will be sent to the DEP which will subsequently involve pausing Act 537.

Coopersburg – The flow meter station collection data for October is less than normal due to dry conditions since September. Andy will begin providing a report every month with daily gallons per day.

Brookline Estates (formerly Yamnicky Subdivision) – A review letter was issued on October 17, 2024. The planning module was issued by PADEP on October 21, 2024.

Act 537 – As stated earlier it is paused for the special study.

John Guignet questioned Andy regarding Bethlehem putting in a water service line across from Mountain Glenn. Andy responded they are planning on that. We have submitted on behalf of the developer a HOP for the low-pressure line to come across in that area.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Sewer Lateral lines, inspections, replacements – Snyder Environmental will be in next week to install Vac UTs at Oakhurst & Bittersweet. These sections will be lined.

Station Ave septic issues are being investigated by Patrick Lambert and Chris Taylor.

Sewer Mains – The sewer mains on Oakhurst were lined. The videos were viewed and looked good.

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The Miller's wanted to know about the decision on the line running on Old Bethlehem Pike. Patrick wants to proceed and present to the township. Jack DeMatos stated that he wants to know the costs from Andy Bohl and the neighbors that are committed to this. A commitment from the interested residents should be attained.

Oakhurst sewer main will be for next year.

Grease traps – The issue with what got into the plant last month is still being investigated.

There is a leaking line at the Car Wash that was repaired in the manhole and is now leaking again. Andy may need to investigate that for a replacement.

IPP's will be coming up.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mark Sullivan reported there were no disbursements last month. The current balance is \$383.85.

MOTION (S):

A motion was submitted by Solicitor Brienza:

- A. To approve the Upper Saucon Resolution conditionally accepting bills of sale for the on-site and off-site sanitary sewer improvements of the Brinley Court Subdivision (Phase I).

Motions passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Unconnected Sewer Analysis

Gary discussed this with Tom Beil and noted that if the Mt. Trexler project goes through it could bring this issue to a head.

B. Sewer Tapping Study – This continues to be an unresolved issue. Bruce noted that this has been hanging out there since at least 2018. Patrick noted that he has included the sewer tapping fee review in next year's budget.

C. Coopersburg Sewer Evaluation – Mr. David Busch attended the meeting to answer questions regarding purchasing the Coopersburg Sewer system. Mr. Busch stated that the methods used were based on the Income Based Methodology (how much will the system produce) and the Asset Based Methodology (examining the value and value). The factors for both methods included customer rates, revenue, and liabilities. The Board needs more information on the pending repairs that need to be done. Mr. Lambert and Mr. Bohl are in the process of viewing videos pending suitable equipment to do so. The information will be presented to Tom Beil.

NEW BUSINESS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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The next scheduled meeting of the Authority will be Monday December 2, 2024 @ 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

