

UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Monday, February 5, 2024,

4774 Saucon Creek Road

John Guignet 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 - **ABSENT**

Mark Sullivan – Treasurer - **ABSENT**

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

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 Authority.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

MINUTES:

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

Motion passed unanimously with John Guignet and Mike Shafer abstaining.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Authority members may comment on the correspondence packets or the "Summary" which they received. This is a summary of the correspondence; details must be obtained by reading the actual correspondence.

CORRESPONDENCE COMMENTS:

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

The Solicitor's Report dated January 8, 2024, was presented by Solicitor Brienza. Nothing new added this month.

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ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Andy Bohl, PE, presented the Engineer's report dated February 5, 2024.

Andy is still working on Act 537 so the Mt. Trexler project can proceed.

Coopersburg – Had 3 exceedances at the meter station between 1/1/2024 and 1/30/2024. The Borough exceeded their allocation 23 out of the 30 days. Averaging around 800,000 GPD.

Brinley Court – Submitted as-builts for Phase 1. Reviewed and issued letter for Phase 3.

TOA – Andy sent the contractor pictures of the worst two sags in the sewer lines.

Old Saucon – Still having a problem with Manhole 1037. Unfortunately, the manhole is live because Community Development issued CO's upstream of manhole. John Guignet also mentioned they still have not fixed the sags in the sewer lines yet either.

The CAP report was sent out on 1/22/2024. Chapter 94 & IPP Questionnaires were sent out 1/9/2024.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Lambert reported Barnes & Noble has grease in a manhole out front but he's not sure where it is coming from. The manholes above and below are clean.

There was a problem at the Country Club pump station during the last storm. It knocked out power and the phone line.

Our first Sewer Lateral Inspection failure letter will be sent to a New Street property.

Jonathan B started to implement a flush & video program throughout the Township in sections. So far, the sewer crew has done 2 runs and found 4 issues on Bittersweet. The Sewer Department will try and line them this year.

They also found a crack in the sewer line coming from the Car Wash on Rt. 378. The Sewer Dept will be doing temporary repairs this Thursday. This will have to be added to next year's budget for replacement.

Zachary Karasek asked Patrick if laterals that have roots would have to be completely replaced or can they be lined? Patrick replied that lining is not in Township specifications.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

The report was submitted for January and February, but Mark is not here to discuss. Mike reported there is nothing that would need to be discussed.

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MOTION (S):

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. Bruce Bush asked Tom Beil for an update on two outstanding matters and Tom indicated that the Township Solicitor was busy with other matters at this time.

D. Acquisition of Borough of Coopersburg sewer lines. A letter was hand delivered to Tom Beil's office on August 3, 2022, requesting permission from the UST BOS to begin discussions regarding the acquisition. At the September meeting Gary reported that he spoke to Tom Beil and that Tom was going add to the 2023 Budget the cost for the study to be conducted by Dave Busch.

E. Jack asked Gary about the Coopersburg acquisition. Gary told him the cost of the study was included in the 2023 budget so he will speak with Tom Beil about getting a signed contract for Mr. Busch so this can proceed.

NEW BUSINESS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next scheduled meeting of the Authority will be Monday, March 4, 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 6:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Zachary Karasek
Secretary