

# UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Monday, July 1, 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  
Andrew T. Bohl, P.E., Engineer  
Farley F. Fry, P.E., Engineer **ABSENT**  
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 May 2024 meeting minutes as presented.

No meeting was held in June.

The motion was passed unanimously with Zachary Karasek abstaining.

## **CORRESPONDENCE:**

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

## **CORRESPONDENCE COMMENTS:**

None

## **SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

Solicitor Brienza presented his July report.

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Mount Trexler Manor – The Contribution Agreement is in the final stages. Not all the permits are issued.

Patrick Leonard has received responses on all but 5 out of 8 letters. Patrick suggested that side Restoration Agreements, personal to the properties, be generated to clarify what is proposed.

Kay Warehouse – Special Counsel was brought in and is presenting to board members at the mid-July meeting proposing an ordinance, not condemnation, from the township regarding the road expansion. The next meeting should provide an answer on how to move forward.

Mr. DeMatos discussed business regarding the Coopersburg system acquisition. The Diner has a certain manner of compliance issues. Gary is discussing with Tom Beil the repairs that are needed. Mr. Beil will propose to the Board to endorse the Township proceeding with a study to conduct the repairs. Patrick was asked about some of the issues causing concern. It was then agreed by all that the repairs and costs must be resolved first. Dave Busch will be attending the August meeting to address this issue.

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

Andy Bohl, PE, presented his July Engineer's report.

North Branch – HOP Permits for utility crossings were approved in June 2024. The archaeological field about the artifacts investigation has clearance from SHPO (State Historic Preservation Office) and should be issued and secured by August. No artifacts were found.

Thirty (30) easement agreements were sent out per Patrick Leonard. Nine (9) are pending and two (2) will be followed up.

Oakhurst – The Contractor provided final payment including the change orders.

Coopersburg – One exceedance at WWT for June 1, 2024, through June 26, 2024.

Good Shepherd – Awaiting a signed copy of the IPP to issue permit.

Saucon Park at East Valley – Review letter was issued in April 2024, and the Township had another meeting this month with the developer.

Act 537 – Final Anticipated by July 14, 2024.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

Mr. Lambert reported Jonathan, in reviewing sewer laterals, inspections, and replacements, quality issues have been encountered. A new form was issued to improve the quality of videos received with specific instructions.

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Grease traps - Coopersburg Diner looks good. Grease was in trap near Bar Louie at the Promenade. The Promenade Shops will be sent an email to see if they can clean up more often.

Pump Stations – There were power issues due to storms.

Sewer Mains – Investigating roots at Pitt Ohio and will look into getting that lined.

Jonathan attended a meeting about Rt 309 Fly-over. This could affect the sewer main. This needs to be investigated further.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT:**

Mark reported there were no disbursements. The current balance is \$377.19.

## **MOTION (S):**

Recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to release funds for Payment Application #4 in the sum of \$69,907.96 to Anrich, Inc. for the Oakhurst Drive Sanitary Sewer Extension Project per Hanover Engineering recommendation letter dated June 25, 2024.

Motion 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. 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. 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, August 5, 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 7:02 pm.

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Respectfully submitted,

Zachary Karasek  
Secretary

