

UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Monday, March 4, 2024,

4774 Saucon Creek Road

Jack DeMatos called to order the regular meeting of the Upper Saucon Township Municipal Authority at approximately 6:03 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
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 February meeting minutes as presented.

Motion passed unanimously with Mark Sullivan and Jack DeMatos abstaining.

CORRESPONDENCE:

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

CORRESPONDENCE COMMENTS:

None

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

The Solicitor's Report dated March 4, 2024, was presented by Solicitor Brienza.

Mount Trexler Manor – Later this month there will be a conference to discuss the ongoing issue of acquisition of easements as well as the final version of the contribution

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agreement. Andy Bohl must get Act 537 submitted to DEP before this project can proceed.

Glen Road – Andy added that the properties were up for sale.

Route 309 – Warehouse/Kay Builders is having a meeting on March 22.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Andy Bohl, PE, presented the Engineer's report.

North Branch – There is a meeting scheduled for March 18 to discuss cost sharing agreement and easements. 12 easements are secured and 4 more are expected.

Oakhurst – PennDOT closed out the permit. All information from the contractor has been received.

Coopersburg – No exceedances or surcharges at the flowmeter. They exceeded their allocation at WWTP 16 out of 28 days.

Brinley Court – Developer would like the Authority to take over ownership of force main and Pump Station.

TOA – Contractor doesn't believe there is a sag even though a video was sent to the contractor. The township should hold off issuing additional CO's or Building Permits.

Old Saucon – Still having problem with manhole 1037. Community Development should not issue additional CO's until it is fixed. Phase 1 sewer line sag has still not been repaired. This will be going on for over 2 years. Community Development does not check with Water/Sewer before issuing CO's.

IPP second notices went out to 4 companies. Second- and third-time offenders will be receiving notice of violations.

Act 537 is being worked on.

Jack DeMatos asked if the Authority signs off on CO's before they are issued. Patrick Lambert answered that we sign off on permits only. It was discussed if this can be investigated. The suggestion was made to send a request by email to Tom Beil. It was discussed that this would help eliminate many of the issues we are currently dealing with.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Patrick Lambert reported sewer lateral inspections are going well. Our first lateral fail on New St. has been replaced as well as one on Homestead Dr.

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Jonathan and Patrick met with representatives from the Promenade shops regarding a new Brewery and Lobster Roll Restaurant regarding grease in manholes and cleaning frequency. Patrick thinks they will comply and is not anticipating any problems.

The Pump station issue at the Country Club has been resolved. Spring Valley and the Country Club have been PM'd.

Sewer mains at Oakhurst and Bittersweet are still being TV'd to resolve issues being found.

A Troon Dr. fence permit was denied as it would make it too deep with the berm in the fence area.

Advanced rehab technology will be scheduled to do manhole repairs at the same time as other local municipality to help save some money.

4 IPP violation letters were mailed.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mark reported he will be paying annual dues next month – the current balance is \$570.04.

Motion was made and seconded to approve Quarterly Treasurer's report.

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. 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, April 1, 2024 @ 6:00 PM at the Water and Sewer Building.

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ADJOURNMENT:

With there being no further business to discuss, the meeting of the Upper Saucon Municipal Authority was unanimously adjourned at approximately 6:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Zachary Karasek
Secretary

