

UPPER SAUCON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY MINUTES

Meeting Held Monday, April 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 **ABSENT**

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 **ABSENT**

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 March meeting minutes as amended.

The motion was passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE:

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

CORRESPONDENCE COMMENTS:

Mr. DeMatos asked about the next step on the 2nd IPP notices that were sent. It was reported by Mr. Lambert that no response was received from Lutron. It was discussed that the Solicitor will resend a letter to them since they are not habitual.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Solicitor Brienza presented his April report.

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Bluebell/Weyhill –A motion was added for approving the Bill of Sale.

Mount Trexler Manor – The final version of the contribution agreement is being reviewed and approved by the Township, anticipating it to be signed and funded by the next meeting. There was a discussion this month with representatives regarding the easement acquisition. There are two that are still potentially problematic.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

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

A project meeting with Mount Trexler representatives on March 18 was held to discuss the project update. Fifteen easement agreements have been secured and 4 more are expected to be secured by early April.

Coopersburg – There were three exceedances at the meter station in March. Due to a wet season 19 of the 26 days exceeded allocation at the WWTP.

Brinley Court – Developer is working on the dedication documents for Pump Station and force main.

Old Saucon Phase II – The contractor is applying a second coat of epoxy to interior of manhole.

Brookline Estates – A Component 3 Planning Module was received and is currently being reviewed.

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

Act 537 will be finalized in the next couple of weeks.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Patrick Lambert reported and displayed problems with the plumber's interpretation of the sewer lateral reports and quality of videos. Patrick Leonard will be approached about the UST website having more information for the residents and plumbers to understand what is needed in the reports and videos. Also discussed was revisiting the 10-year time limit to a 2- or 5-year time limit for inspections. It was noted by members this is a work in progress and the ordinance can be amended accordingly after fine tuning. Mr. Bohl stated that information on when the house was built is available on the Lehigh County Assessment Office website.

The Pump station – Martin Machinery did generator checks. At Old Bethlehem Pike one pump is down and it is 4-6 weeks delivery on the impellor that is needed.

The sewer main inspections are continuing. There were problems found at Bittersweet and Oakhurst with cracked mains and other little issues.

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Patrick asked Mr. Bohl about the Rt.145 Sewer Main and Andy responded that it is part of Act 537.

Sewer manholes need to be lined at Oakhurst and we are working with Emmaus, Salisbury, and Whitehall to get prices.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Mark reported he paid the annual dues for the PA Municipal Authority Association. The current balance is \$372.22.

MOTION (S):

A motion was made and seconded to approve a resolution conditionally accepting a bill of sale for the on-site sanitary sewer system located within rights-of-way of the Weyhill Estates subdivision pursuant to the subdivision and land development agreement by and between Upper Saucon Township and Toll PA IV, L.P., for Weyhill Estates dated October 03, 2012.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Members went into session at 6:36 pm.

A motion was made and seconded to end the Executive Session at approximately 7:00 pm.

A motion was made and seconded to authorize the Solicitor to proceed with all condemnation proceedings required to acquire easements related to the Kay

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Warehouse project pursuant to the agreement between Kay and UST with the Solicitor billing at the litigation rate.

Motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

With there being no further business to discuss, the meeting of the Upper Saucon Municipal Authority was unanimously adjourned at approximately 7:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Zachary Karasek
Secretary

