

UPPER MERION SANITARY & STORMWATER AUTHORITY
April 19, 2022 Meeting – 6:30PM

The members of the Upper Merion Sanitary & Stormwater Authority met for their regular meeting on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 in the Boardroom of the Upper Merion Township Building. The meeting was called to order at 6:34PM and commenced with the pledge of allegiance.

ATTENDANCE:

Diane Reilly, Chair
James Ruddy, Vice Chair
Lyn Fields, Treasurer
Vacant, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer
Carole Kenney, Board Liaison
Anthony T. Hamaday, Executive Secretary
Nick Hiriak, Director of Finance
Noah Marlier, Authority Solicitor's Office, Hamburg, Rubin, Mullin, Maxwell, & Lupin, PC
Fred Ciottoni, Authority Engineer, SC Engineers
Geoff Hickman, Director of Public Works

PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no public comments on the agenda items.

MEETING MINUTES APPROVAL:

On a motion by Mrs. Fields, seconded by Mr. Ruddy, all members voted "Aye" to approve the minutes from the March 15, 2022 Authority meeting. None opposed. Motion approved 3-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Matsunk WPCO Maintenance Garage Construction Contract Change Order 2 – Replacement of existing block wall/steel columns with exposed fluted block above the Garage Roof Line - \$8,797.00

On a motion by Mrs. Fields, seconded by Mr. Ruddy, all members voted "Aye" to approve the Matsunk Garage Construction Contract Change Order No. 2 in the amount of \$8,797.00. None opposed. Motion approved 3-0.

- B. Matsunk WPCO Maintenance Garage Construction Contract Change Order 3 – additional saw-cutting and removal of existing foundation to provide level transition at garage doors - \$5,175.00

On a motion by Mrs. Fields, seconded by Mr. Ruddy, all members voted "Aye" to approve the Matsunk Garage Construction Contract Change Order No. 3 in the amount of \$5,175.00. None opposed. Motion approved 3-0.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT:

No report.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Mr. Ciottoni presented his tapping fee calculations to the Authority and recommended an increase from \$8744 to \$9000.

Sewer Authority Resolution No 2022-1 - 2022 Tapping fee Increase

On a motion by Mrs. Fields, seconded by Mr. Ruddy, all members voted "Aye" to approve the increase in the tapping fee charged for connections to the sewer system to \$9000 and authorized the proper Authority members to sign the resolution. None opposed. Motion approved 3-0.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

No report.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT:

Mr. Hickman informed the Authority that he is working on the following Professional Service Agreements for the Authority's approval at the May Meeting:

1. WPCC Conveyer and Sludge Grinder Upgrades
2. WPCC Process Equipment Upgrades
3. Paint & Coatings Project – Phase 2

Mr. Hickman also indicated that the Candlebrook Sewer Project has started with the pipe-lining phase of the project. This phase will consist of lining and pipe bursting of certain sewer lines in streets and in easements over private property. Once complete, the second phase will consist of sewer line replacement later this spring.

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE REPORT:

Mr. Hiriak provided his report to the Authority which included receipt of 2 EDU fees of \$8,744 were received for 282 & 284 Balligomingo Road and expenses of \$182,793.54. Mrs. Reilly questioned why the we have exceeded the Legal Budget Line already. Mr. Hiriak indicated that it is attributed to the legal costs associated with the Treatment Plant NPDES Permit appeal.

REQUISITIONS:

Mr. Hiriak submitted the monthly requisitions in the amount of \$78,399.08.

On a motion by Mr. Ruddy, seconded by Mrs. Fields, all members voted "Aye" to approve the April 19, 2022 requisitions in the amount of \$78,399.08. None opposed. Motion approved 3-0.

STORMWATER:

Public Presentation

The Authority members discussed the upcoming first public presentation of the proposed Stormwater Management Plan and potential stormwater fee. It was decided that there will be 2 presentations in Freedom Hall for the public on May 24, 2022. The first will be from 12:30 PM to 1:30PM and the second will be from 7PM to 8PM. The staff will be advertising the presentation on the newspaper as well on all Township Social Media platforms. The stormwater article that ran in the prior edition of township Lines will run again in the upcoming edition as well as in our weekly E-newsletter. Mr. Walker will provide an overview of the plan as well as the proposed fee. Mrs. Kenney suggested that we also have posters with available for the public to view.

The Authority members viewed the stormwater/flooding video that was created by the UMGA TV Staff of localized flooding areas that occurred during the last several weather events. Comments were made to shorten certain segments as well as provide more identification of areas and explanation for viewers.

Mrs. Reilly requested that the Authority be prepared to go over the presentation at the May 17, 2022 meeting so all members agree on the content and program schedule. Mrs. Kenney asked if the presentation will address water quality. Mr. Ciottoni suggested that the focus of the presentation is the stormwater plan and fee. Since water quality is not addressed, it should be left out at this time.


Public Comment:

Jeff Mathews, 310 Ross Road addressed the Authority members regarding flooding issues he is experiencing on his property. He indicated that the Township staff has been out to look at the issues which are caused by the neighboring property behind his house and water runoff from Valley Forge Road. Mr. Hamaday provided the Authority an overview of the issue and what the Township is requiring the adjoining neighbor to do to correct the existing stormwater facility on their property. Unfortunately, Mr. Mathews is at the bottom of the hill and receives all the runoff from the upstream properties which the developer of his house addresses with a swale and inlet. Mr. Mathews would be responsible for maintenance on his property. Mr. Hamaday dis explain that runoff from Valley Forge Road is Penn Dot's issue and they have been historically non-responsive to complaints but that the Township would attempt to have a meeting with them.

Mrs. Reilly thanked Mr. Mathews for bringing this to the Authority's attention and indicated that the proposed Stormwater Management Plan and fee would allow the Authority to undertake stormwater projects. Mrs. Fields also indicated that a lot of the projects identified in the stormwater report may already be outdated. Mr. Hamaday indicated that those projects focus on stream bank stabilization and elimination of impacts to the transportation system not private property.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Authority, on a motion by Mrs. Fields, seconded by Mr. Ruddy, the meeting adjourned at 7:40PM.


DIANE REILLY
CHAIR