

**UPPER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY
MAY 12, 2021**

The Upper Providence Township Sewer Authority meeting on Wednesday, May 12, 2021 via Zoom was called to order at 7:40 p.m. by Chairman, Michael Byrne.

Those present: Mr. Michael Byrne
Mr. David Daniel
Ms. Patricia Hall, Office Manager
Mr. Matthew B. Hayes
Mr. James P. Kelly, P. E.
Mr. Kevin Matson, P. E.
Mr. Robert L. Pinto, Solicitor
Mr. Robert Powell
Mr. Richard T. Spielman, Jr., Operations Manager

Those not present: Mr. Gregory M. Mallon, Esq.
Mr. Silas Jimenez

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of April 14, 2021 were reviewed.

MOTION: Mr. Kevin Matson moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 14, 2021 as presented. Seconded by Mr. Matthew B. Hayes. Motion carried unanimously. (MOTION 21-05-20)

INCOME AND EXPENSES

MOTION: Mr. Robert Powell moved to approve the Voucher List of May 12, 2021 as presented. Seconded by Mr. Matthew B. Hayes. Motion carried unanimously. (MOTION 21-05-21)

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

Mr. Byrne attended the Council meeting last month where he requested that, since it is not limited to any particular project of the Township, the money being given to Upper Providence by the Federal Government (\$1,032,000) be used for the Sewer Authority's Bortondale pump station project. He indicated that the amount that would be necessary could be as high as \$850,000. He also indicated that the Authority had some money in a 'rainy day fund' which we could use until the government money was received as long as we would be reimbursed. He noted that

the Authority did not authorize the use of this money toward the rebuild, but it would be available to cover costs in case of another catastrophic incident. Council is aware of what the Authority’s needs will be with regard to the station and Mr. Byrne’s request was favorably received by all members of Council. There were no reports from the other officers.

OPERATIONS MANAGER’S REPORT

Regarding the Ridley Creek/Crum Creek Sanitary Sewer Extension project, the following permits have been approved and pumps issued: Phase One (229 customers) 225 permits and 222 pumps; Phase Two (187 customers) 186 permits and 185 pumps; Phase Three (122 customers) 121 permits and pumps; Phase Four (85 customers) 82 permits and 81 pumps; Phase Five (153 customers) 150 permits and 147 pumps; Phase Six (175 customers) 173 permits and 168 pumps; Phase Seven (73 customers) 70 permits and 67 pumps; Phase Eight (134 customers) 131 permits and 130 pumps; Phase Nine (104 customers) 97 permits and 94 pumps. The amount of main installed is 159,471 feet (30.2 miles) and service pipe is 29,260 feet (5.5 miles). Percentage of residents connected is 95.2% and 46 pumps have not been issued. This total does not include 40 Toft Woods residents.

The following is a summary of grinder pump repair costs for 2021. This includes work performed in 2020 but billed in 2021.

<u>Calls</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>	<u>Agreement Savings</u>	<u>Billed to Customers in 2021</u>
78	\$40,590	\$18,022	\$2,994

Cores from stock pumps used for replacement savings, \$8,000.

Note: In 2020, 20 customers were billed \$12,156.39, of which \$8,204 has been paid. The total number of service calls in 2020 was 213. Of the 213 calls, 6 were the result of third party damage. Therefore, 14 customers, representing 6.5% of total calls, were billed a total of \$7,848.35.

Mr. Spielman has provided Mr. Pinto with a list of unpaid grinder repair costs caused by customer misuse.

The year-to-date summary for PA One Call activity showed:

Clear – no facilities	284
Field Marked	273
Other	<u>93</u>
	650

Mr. Kelly will provide an update on the status of the redesign of the Bortondale pump station. Mr. Spielman strongly urges that the bid for acquisition of material and construction of the new pump station include two additional backup pumps. Besides being a prudent emergency planning acquisition, this may enable us to obtain a better price on all the pumps for this station.

Mr. Matson asked about Item #9 on the Voucher List (an invoice from KBX Golden to rebuild the Bortondale pump station). Mr. Spielman noted that one of the new pumps had bad bearings, was sent out for new bearings and then reinstalled. This work has been completed and it is now a full station operating normally on all four pumps. He does not know the cost of this as yet. The invoice referred to above is for the cost of installing temporary meters to determine the flows at Bortondale.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

No reports.

REPORTS OF CONSULTANTS

MR. JAMES P. KELLY, ENGINEER

With regard to the mapping project, Districts 1 (Lemon Street), 2 (Valley View), 3 (Winter Street), 4 (Braves Trail), 5 (Media Station), 6 (Bortondale), 7 (Wooded Way LPSS), 8 (CDCA/Farnum Road), 9 (Ridley Creek LPSS South), 10A (Toft Woods), 11 (Crum Creek LPSS South), and 12 (Crum Creek LPSS North) are 100% complete. District 10 (Ridley Creek LPSS North) is 99% complete.

With regard to the PA One Call, Mr. Kelly has received the contract from USIC and has forwarded it to Mr. Pinto for his review. He also attached a copy to his engineer's report for the board's review. In preparation for this meeting, he spoke with Mr. Spielman. He also spoke with Mr. Pinto about awarding this work to USIC so that we can meet Mr. Spielman's deadline of June. This could be considered a professional service contracted to another outfit. In order to facilitate the necessary change, Mr. Kelly is recommending that the Sewer Authority accept the contract and award the work to USIC through the end of the year with the understanding that the contract and work are subject to review and award (or not award) at the regular reorganization meeting in January of 2022.

Mr. Pinto noted that he thinks this is a professional service and that the provision in the act says that for a contract which has a value of less than \$21,500, you don't have to advertise. He feels that for a six-month contract like this with a value of less than \$21,500, that would apply. It is his suggestion that Mr. Kelly write a memo stating that it is his opinion that the value of the six-month contract is less than

\$21,500, so it doesn't have to be put out to bid, and adding that he contacted several other companies who either didn't give a response or their rate was in excess of what this contract would provide. He should give a copy to Ms. Hall and keep a copy for his file.

Mr. Hayes questioned the meaning of a phrase in the pricing section of the proposal, "above pricing will have a restoration limit of no liability". Mr. Kelly will check into this. Mr. Byrne added that when we give them our set of mapping plans, they will know the exact skeleton of our system. In response to a question from Mr. Matson, Mr. Kelly will check intoUSIC's address.

MOTION: Mr. Kevin Matson moved to approve and execute the service agreement withUSIC for utility locating and marking based on a proposal dated April 13, 2021, subject to the review of our engineer and solicitor. Seconded by Mr. Robert Powell. Motion carried unanimously. (MOTION 21-05-22)

Mr. Kelly has submitted the plans for the Bortondale pump station to DEP for their review and comment. Due to their delayed timing, they have recommended that we award the contract in July in order to give them time for review and to avoid any conflicts. He expects to have the bids ready for the board's consideration at the July meeting. Our construction time-frame, September/October target area, should still be met and we are on schedule for that.

Mr. Byrne asked about any information on grants that might be available to the Authority or Township other than the money that the government has offered Upper Providence Township. Mr. Kelly said we are presenting Council tomorrow night with a grant (a matching grant up to \$100,000) for the sewer repair work. If Council is willing to accept and pass the resolution for that grant, then they would have to put up the matching funds.

Mr. Matson asked if it would be worthwhile to schedule a meeting with one of our local reps to see if there is a good grant strategy as far as potential sources of money. Mr. Kelly will look into this.

MR. ROBERT L. PINTO, SOLICITOR

Regarding communications with the Township about the availability of the federal funds, the Township solicitor called Mr. Pinto requesting a copy of the Middletown contract, which Mr. Pinto sent to him. He had two questions: Whether the Bortondale pump station was ever deeded to us ('no', as far as Mr. Pinto knows) and the contribution level for the force main (Middletown - 50%).

Mr. Pinto referred to the resolution (which has been distributed to the board members) authorizing the use of the Capital Reserve Fund for the rebuilding of the Bortondale pump station. Since it has not yet been passed, he suggested leaving it open until we can insert a limit on the amount of money which will be used from the fund. He does feel, however, that we should adopt the resolution before going out to bid.

Mr. Pinto mentioned the recent newspaper articles about the the sale of sewer systems and the fact that the public has formed groups to object to the sale of the systems to private companies. A discussion followed.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

None.

MISCELLANEOUS

KBX GOLDEN REPORT FOR APRIL, 2021

Mr. Brophy performed general pump station observations and repairs at: Bortondale – two calls for lag alarms and one to install a rebuilt high head pump; Braves Trail – lag alarm call where he broke up matting; Letitia Lane - power failure; and Media Station – one call for lag alarm and one to clean the wet well and skim off grease (300 gallons were taken to a DEP-approved dumping site).

He performed routine operations and maintenance at Crum Creek and Farnum Roads and at the following pump stations: Rose Tree Lower, Rose Tree Upper, Toft Woods, Valley View, and Winter Street. He also handled three emergency/other calls on Pine Drive and Carlton Place.

MOTION: Mr. Robert Powell moved to adjourn the meeting of May 12, 2021.
Seconded by Mr. Kevin Matson. Motion carried unanimously.
(MOTION 21-05-23)

The meeting ended at 8:25 p.m. The next meeting will be on June 9, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Stella B. Thompson

UPPER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY
MOTIONS FOR 2021
MAY

20. Approval of the minutes of April 14, 2021 as presented.
21. Approval of the Voucher List of May 12, 2021 as presented.
22. Approval and execution of the service agreement with USIC for utility locating and marking based on a proposal dated April 13, 2021, subject to the review of our engineer and solicitor.
23. Adjournment of the meeting of May 12, 2021.