

**UPPER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY
JUNE 12, 2019**

The monthly meeting of the Upper Providence Township Sewer Authority was held on Wednesday, June 12, 2019 in the Township building. It was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman, Michael Byrne.

Those attending: Mr. Michael Byrne
Ms. Patricia Hall, Office Manager
Mr. James P. Kelly, P. E.
Mr. Gregory M. Mallon, Esq.
Mr. Kevin Matson, P. E.
Mr. Eugene O'Brien
Mr. Robert L. Pinto, Solicitor
Mr. Robert Powell
Mr. Richard T. Spielman, Jr., Operations Manager
Mr. Walter J. Weinrich, Esq.

Those not attending: Mr. Matthew B. Hayes

Others attending: Mr. David Decker

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

PRESENTATION

Mr. Byrne presented Mr. Decker with a gift certificate in appreciation for his years on the board and thanked him for his dedicated service. Mr. Decker acknowledged the gift and thanked the board, indicating that he never thought that he would have spent 12 years talking about sewers. He then said goodbye and left the meeting.

MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of May 8, 2019 were reviewed.

MOTION: Mr. Walter J. Weinrich moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of May 8, 2019 as presented. Seconded by Mr. Eugene O'Brien. Motion carried unanimously. (MOTION 19-06-26)

INCOME AND EXPENSES

Ms. Hall called attention to Item #3, Best Line Equipment \$63,843.92 (mobile generator), the invoice for which Mr. Kelly had approved, and Item #25, Wells

Fargo Bank principal payments for the 2009 note (\$245,000) and the 2012 note (\$237,000).

Mr. Spielman added that the postage for the certified letters amounted to \$680.00.

MOTION: Mr. Eugene O'Brien moved to approve the Voucher List of June 12, 2019 as presented. Seconded by Mr. Walter Weinrich. Motion carried unanimously. (MOTION 19-06-27)

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

No reports.

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 (227 customers) 211 permits and 212 pumps; Phase Two (189 customers) 185 permits and 184 pumps; Phase Three (122 customers) 120 permits and pumps; Phase Four (86 customers) 79 permits and 77 pumps; Phase Five (155 customers) 149 permits and 141 pumps; Phase Six (182 customers) 172 permits and 161 pumps; Phase Seven (75 customers) 70 permits and 65 pumps; Phase Eight (134 customers) 126 permits and 121 pumps; Phase Nine (104 customers) 93 permits and 87 pumps. The amount of main installed is 159,471 feet (30.2 miles), and service pipe is 29,260 feet. The percentage of residents connected is 91.1% and 106 pumps have not been issued. This total does not include 40 Toft Woods residents.

Mr. Spielman is in the process of preparing and mailing letters, both first class and registered mail, to all homes who are required to connect to new sewers but have not done so. The letters will be sent in the next few weeks.

We have received a proposed bill from PaDOT for work that took place in mid-2017. The bill is for valve and manhole adjustments during the repaving of North Ridley Creek Road. It is for \$5616.00 for 16 valves and 4 manhole lids based on our Master Casting Agreement with PaDOT. In addition to expressing his displeasure for the two-year delay in presenting the bill, Mr. Spielman has challenged the validity of the billing quantities. On June 11, 2019, a PaDOT representative and Mr. Spielman inspected the reported facility adjustment locations. This inspection resulted in the elimination of six locations where the valves were either non-existent or were incorrectly identified as sewer facilities. The new bill, when presented, will be for \$1500.00 less for a new total of \$4116.00. The revised bill was not received in time to include it on this month's voucher list.

In the future, Mr. Spielman has PaDOT's assurance that their inspector and he will inspect each job after milling and before repaving to determine the number and location of valves and manholes which require adjustment. He is hoping that this inspection will eliminate paved-over facilities, misidentified facilities, facilities damaged by the paving contractor, and the sloppy use of sealant.

Mr. Spielman has recently received notification from the PA Public Utility Commission informing this Authority of a fine of \$250.00 for a delayed utility mark-out on East Ridge Road. After a review of the specifics of the particular incident, which did not involve this Authority, and a number of communications with the PUC, the fine was withdrawn. The PUC has been authorized by state law to enforce PA One Call requirements and regulations.

During the annual budgeting reviews in November of 2018, our budgeting consultant expressed the opinion that our grinder pump repair costs were more than some of their other clients. At that time, Mr. Spielman requested the name(s) of clients that had a significant E-One grinder pump population and a contact that he could talk to to potentially identify better methods or procedures used by others. The only name that HRG could provide was the White Run Regional Municipal Authority. When asked, however, if they would mind talking to another authority about grinder pumps, they were not interested in doing so. Mr. Spielman also does not believe they used E-One pumps. He then asked Site Specific for the names of a few other authorities with a significant number of E-One grinder pumps.

So far, he has talked to a gentleman from East Marlborough who has about 800 pumps in service. He was very open to discussing how they handled their grinder maintenance and repair. Their basic procedures are: Pump alarms are responded to by two employees who take a replacement pump to the location and replace the malfunctioning pump; the removed pump is brought back to their shop where, if the pump is readily repairable, it is fixed and put in their stock for future replacement; and pumps that require extensive repair are sent to Site Specific for evaluation and possible repair, if economically justified.

Mr. Spielman asked for a number of financial benchmarks to compare their costs to ours, such as repair cost per pump service call and their annual repair cost per pump in service. He did state that their average repair cost per pump service call was \$1200.00. Our average so far for 2019 is \$556.65 per service call.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

No reports.

REPORTS OF CONSULTANTS

MR. JAMES P. KELLY, ENGINEER

Regarding the sanitary sewer mapping project, District 4 (Braves Trail pump station), District 5 (Media Station), District 6 (Bortondale), Districts 11 and 12 (Crum Creek LPSS North and South) are 100% complete. District 3 (Winter Street) is 75% complete; District 8 (CDCA/Farnum Road) is 50% complete; District 10 (Ridley Creek LPSS North) is 30% complete and District 12 (Lemon Street) is 25% complete. District 2 (Valley View); District 7 (Wooded Way LPSS); District 9 (Ridley Creek LPSS South); and District 10A Toft Woods) are 0% complete.

No pumps have been installed since last month.

Pursuant to the Authority's direction, the mobile generator has been delivered, and Mr. Kelly is recommending payment in full of \$63,843.92 to Best Line Equipment of West Chester, PA. (See Item #3 on the voucher list.) He attached a letter of recommendation and a copy of the invoice to his report.

Video Pipe Services has begun the routine cleaning of District 3 mains and root cutting. This is the final year of work included within this contract. The base bid amount included within the bid for this year's scope is \$12,684.40.

Regarding the Aqua Sewer Plant upgrade, most of the major concrete work has been completed on the lower half of the site including: Foundations and sidewalls for the operations building, secondary sludge pump building, and secondary clarifier No. 1; Ground floor and some steel work has been completed for the Secondary sludge pump building and the roof is scheduled to be installed at the end of this month; Water testing is currently being performed on the secondary clarifier No. 1; Secondary clarifier No. 2 is scheduled to begin next week and upon completion of this, the soil nail wall will be backfilled (approximately within six weeks); Ongoing operations include pipework installation, electrical work, and duct-bank installation; Demolition for upper half of site is anticipated to be scheduled for the end of next month; and there have been no complaints from the county conservation district.

MR. ROBERT L. PINTO, SOLICITOR

Mr. Pinto mentioned that there was a foreclosure sale of a house on Rose Tree Road. Ms. Hall noted that generally if we don't get paid, either the place did not sell or there wasn't enough money.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

None.

MISCELLANEOUS

Ms. Hall noted that the auditors, Leitzel and Economidis, will begin their audit this Monday, June 17.

She mentioned that the tour of the Delcora Treatment Plant is scheduled for June 18, 2019.

KBX REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF MAY

On May 12, Mr. Kevin Brophy responded to a power failure at the Media Station pump station and, upon his arrival, found that power had been restored. He also responded to power failures during a heavy rain event on May 29 at Winter Street, Valley View, Rose Tree Upper, and Braves Trail where he notified PECO and monitored the stations until power was restored.

He made five calls to the Bortondale pump station responding to a high water alarm and two lag alarms where he replaced the volute gasket and replaced the discharge pipe on the sump pump during a follow-up visit. He oversaw operations for quarterly sanitary sewer cleaning of a problem area of the mains at Farnum and Crum Creek Roads.

He included information and recommendations on the Bortondale, Media Station, Rose Tree Lower, and Toft Woods pumping stations.

MOTION: Mr. Eugene O'Brien moved to adjourn the meeting of June 12, 2019.
Seconded by Mr. Walter J. Weinrich. Motion carried unanimously.
(MOTION 19-06-28)

The meeting ended at 8:05 p.m.

The next meeting will be on July 10, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Stella B. Thompson

Approved _____

UPPER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY
MOTIONS FOR 2019
JUNE

- 26. Approval of the meeting minutes of May 8, 2019 as presented.**
- 27. Approval of the Voucher List of June 12, 2019 as presented.**
- 28. Adjournment of the meeting of June 12, 2019.**