

MINUTES

SUSQUEHANNA TOWNSHIP AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING February 2, 2021

Chairman Anthony Salomone called to order the Regular Meeting of the Susquehanna Township Authority on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 7:07 PM via video conference.

AUTHORITY MEMBERS PRESENT

Anthony Salomone
Sean Sanderson
Yves Pollart
Garry Brinton
Frank Lynch
Thomas Ward

AUTHORITY PERSONNEL PRESENT

David Kratzer, Township Manager
Alycia Knoll, Finance/HR Manager
Stan Laskowski, Caldwell & Kearns
Joel Kostelac, GHD
Melissa Foltz, Finance and HR Assistant
Madison Smith, Stormwater Coordinator

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting of January 5, 2021

Motion to approve the Regular Meeting of January 5, 2021 by Mr. Ward; Second by Mr. Sanderson to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 5, 2021. The motion was approved unanimously.

Reorganization Meeting of January 5, 2021

Motion to approve the Reorganization Meeting of January 5, 2021 by Mr. Brinton; Second by Mr. Sanderson to approve the minutes of the Reorganization Meeting of January 5, 2021. The motion was approved unanimously.

CITIZENS COMMENTS

None

TREASURER'S REPORT

Motion by Mr. Brinton; Second by Mr. Sanderson to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of January 2021. The Report was approved unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Planning & Construction

No Report

Budget & Finance

No Report

Personnel & Insurance

No Report

Pension

No Report

Rates & Regulations

Mr. Pollart and Mr. Kostelac reported to the Board that the Rates & Regulations Committee reviewed proposed changes to the Rates and Regulations Resolution, specifically Section 7 of the policy. The major change consists of the Authority repairing sewer laterals at their own expense if the laterals are found to be in bad disrepair. If it is discovered later that the damages or problem were the cause of the property owner, then the Authority would have the right to pursue costs from the owner. Changing the ownership model will also change the maintenance model but give the Authority some flexibility. Blockages or structural failure will be the Authority's responsibility. Roots and negligence will be the property owner's responsibility. The Authority's responsibility stops at the curb line or sidewalk. Owner's will be required to sign a hold harmless document releasing the Authority of future claims for repairs once the initial problem is resolved under Section 7. Motion by Mr. Pollart approving Resolution 2021-02 with Section 7 and changes from the meeting; Solicitor Laskowski made a motion to reflect the resolution is included as presented. Mr. Pollart so noted, stating and affirming. Mr. Lynch Seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Liaison to Board of Commissioners

No Report

Liaison to Planning Commission

No Report

REPORTS OF AUTHORITY STAFF

Manager

Written report submitted for the month of January 2021. No questions or comments.

Mr. Kratzer had nothing additional to report to the Board. Ms. Smith noted that the Stormwater permit issues with Beaucrest are resolved and the citizen that was to attend the meeting with their concerns did not attend.

Solicitor

Mr. Laskowski presented the final draft of the Grease Trap Declaration of Understanding/Acceptance of Conditions for Solid Rock Missionary Baptist Church.

Engineer

Written report submitted for the month of January 2021 copy attached.

Spring Creek Drainage Basin – SE Extension – Mr. Kostelac recommended approval of Application for Payment #3 in the amount of \$238,777.20 for the Southeastern Sanitary Sewer Extension Project. Mr. Brinton motioned to approve Application for Payment #3 in the amount of \$238,777.20. Mr. Lynch seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Developments – Union Green – Progress and Linglestown TND – Mr. Kostelac reported this project is about twenty-five (25) percent complete. It will be late Spring early Summer before there can be any connections.

Public Works Director

Written report submitted for the month of January 2021 copy attached.

CORRESPONDENCE

Discussions about the PA State Police and PennDOT District Office letters of refusal to pay Stormwater. Ms. Smith stated that the PennDOT District Office has MS4 credits on their own stormwater system and collection, but their system connects to Susquehanna so there may need to be a discussion about possible credits with the Authority. Mr. Pollart questioned if

litigation is a possibility, does the Authority have a right to lien State properties for stormwater. Mr. Laskowski stated that litigation is a possibility, but it would be a long, tough process. There is litigation in the Commonwealth Courts right now deliberating if stormwater is a tax or fee for service. A decision will hopefully be announced later this year. If it is determined to be a tax, then the Authority can not collect. If it is determined to be a fee for service, then the Authority would have a chance to force collection. Mr. Laskowski suggested the Authority continue to accrue charges until the final decision is rendered from the Commonwealth Court.

Discussion on the Circle School letter of request for a deductive meter. Mr. Kostelac explained since the water from lawn watering, or pool filling, or one-time events such as those does not flow into the sewer, there is an allowance for deductive meters under Section 6.03. There are currently several deductive meters in use. Mr. Salomone requested that staff send correspondence explaining that retroactive credits will not be allowed, but if the school wishes to install a deductive meter at their own expense, they may use it going forward. Mr. Kostelac added that the Authority has the right to see and inspect the meter.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Sanderson inquired if the Authority would be working on preparing and providing an infrastructure map. Survey system providing type of material used or problem spots in the system. Mr. Salomone stated an asset management system would be addressed at the Planning and Construction meeting in early spring.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Board broke for a short Executive Session

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Brinton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 P.M. Mr. Lynch seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Signed: _____


Yves Pollart P.E., Secretary