

**SEWER AUTHORITY  
UPPER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP  
APRIL 11, 2018**

The monthly meeting of the Upper Providence Township Sewer Authority was held on April 11, 2018 in the Township building. It was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Chairman Michael Byrne.

**Those attending:** Mr. Michael Byrne  
Mr. David Decker  
Ms. Patricia Hall, Office Manager  
Mr. Matthew B. Hayes  
Mr. James P. Kelly, P. E.  
Mr. Robert L. Pinto, Solicitor  
Mr. Richard T. Spielman, Jr., Operations Manager  
Mr. Walter J. Weinrich, Esq.

**Those not attending:** Ms. Eileen Joseph  
Mr. Eugene O'Brien

**Others attending:** Mr. John King

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. King explained why he could not currently connect to the sewer.

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of February 14, 2018 were reviewed.

**MOTION:** Mr. Walter J. Weinrich moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 14, 2018. Seconded by Mr. David Decker. Motion carried unanimously. (MOTION 18-04-13)

**INCOME AND EXPENSES**

Since we did not have a quorum at the March 14, 2018 meeting and could not make any motions, Mr. Byrne asked for a motion at tonight's meeting to ratify the payment of items on the March 14, 2018 Voucher List.

**MOTION:** Mr. Walter J. Weinrich moved to ratify the payment of items on the Voucher List for March 14, 2018. Seconded by Mr. David Decker. Motion carried unanimously. (MOTION 18-04-14)

Ms. Hall referred to Item #12 (KBX Golden, LLC) on the April 11, 2018 Voucher

List and explained that this included increased costs due to the winter storm.

**MOTION:** Mr. Walter J. Weinrich moved to approve the voucher list for April 11, 2018. Seconded by Mr. David Decker. Motion carried unanimously. (MOTION 18-04-15)

### **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

No reports.

### **OPERATIONS MANAGER'S REPORT**

Regarding the Ridley Creek/Crum Creek Sanitary Sewer Extension project, these permits have been approved and pumps issued: **Phase One** (227 customers) 209 permits and pumps; **Phase Two** (189 customers) 184 permits and pumps; **Phase Three** (121 customers) 120 permits and pumps; **Phase Four** (85 customers) 79 permits and 77 pumps; **Phase Five** (155 customers) 149 permits and 137 pumps, **Phase Six** (184 customers) 158 permits and pumps; **Phase Seven** (75 customers) 69 permits and 60 pumps; **Phase Eight** (134 customers) 126 permits and 125 pumps; **Phase Nine** (104 customers) 93 permits and 86 pumps. Percentage of customers connected is 88.9%, amount of main installed is 159,471 feet (30.2 miles), and service pipe is 29,260 feet (5.5 miles). A total of 118 pumps have not been issued.

No additional customers in the area of the isolated system pressure problem have connected in the past month. The holidays and the extremely cold weather are key factors. Mr. Spielman has spoken with the contractors and asked them to notify their customers that we would like to proceed with connections in this area. The four customers have been notified that they will begin to receive sewer bills for the billing period May through July even if they are not connected.

The nor'easter that struck our area, characterized as the third worst in PECO history, had a significant impact on our facilities. The most severe impact on the PECO system was Delaware County where service was interrupted for 46% of the customers. The cost of restoring and maintaining our pump stations was \$41,881.80. From the standpoint of cost and man-hours, this is the worst storm in Mr. Spielman's eighteen years with the Authority.

**Storm problems:** A large tree fell across the power lines serving the **Winter Street pump station**. The generator kept the station operating. Mr. Spielman has called a tree service to remove the tree blocking our driveway and has asked for an estimate to make repairs to the damaged station fence. A Comcast line is still down across the fence. While Comcast had been unresponsive to calls, a technician was at the station as Mr. Spielman was writing his report and had called for help to remove the

cable. More trees are down on the property and will be removed when a contractor is available. Mr. Spielman is scheduled to meet the contractor at the site next week.

A large tree fell, bringing down power lines across our property at Valley View station but not interrupting the power. The downed wires were energized and burning, thus preventing safe access to our station for several days. The Township road crew removed the tree after the wires had been put up.

Electric service to Letitia Lane, Bortondale and Media Station was interrupted due to fallen trees. The generator at Bortondale was alternately used by Media Station and a portable one was used at Letitia Lane. The broken electric service pole at Media Station has been replaced and Mr. Spielman has asked for an estimate for repairs of the station fence. Power was also interrupted at Toft Woods and Rose Tree Park with service being maintained by our generators.

Trees fell across wires and broke poles at the Braves Trail station, interrupting electric service and blocking access to the station. A DEP representative who visited the site noticed evidence of sewage exiting a storm drain next to our station. The storm drain is parallel to one of our gravity lines into the station. The televising of this main section was inconclusive. A die test will be performed to try to determine if outflow from our gravity main was the source of the sewage in the storm drain.

Mr. Spielman has asked Mr. Kelly to bring the board up-to-date on the sewer mapping project and to include on-going status reports on the project relative to both budget and work completed.

#### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

No reports.

#### REPORTS OF CONSULTANTS

##### MR. JAMES P. KELLY, ENGINEER

Twenty-five percent (25%) of the sanitary sewer mapping has been completed. Mr. Kelly has attached a map of the completed areas to his report. As authorized, this is a four-year project with an estimated budget of: Year 1- \$50,000; and Years 2, 3, and 4- \$40,000 each, with a total cost of \$170,000.00. A review of invoicing for the year 2017 indicates that \$40,327 has been paid toward this project, which is 23.5% of the overall budget.

A review of man-hours to collect the data reveals that we can cover approximately 2.5-3.0 times more area in the gravity system than the LPSS systems on any given

day. Considering we only collect manhole and curb vent information in the gravity areas vs. grinder pumps, control boxes, connection valves, flushing stations, air release valves, etc., this stands to reason. Additionally, data will be collected while the cleaning contractor is doing his work, which will allow us to take advantage of the field time and reduce the mapping expense.

One pump has been installed since last month.

**MR. ROBERT L. PINTO, SOLICITOR**

While he had no report, Mr. Pinto asked whether our insurance would cover the cost of damage to our station fence. Mr. Spielman said if the cost of the fence exceeds our \$1,000.00 deductible, we might get some coverage; however, since this could increase the cost of our premium, it might not be worth putting in a claim. Ms. Hall added that the Sewer Authority is part of the Township's insurance program.

**MISCELLANEOUS**

There was a discussion about the financial hardships that some residents face with respect to sewer connections and ways to alleviate this situation. Mr. Spielman will develop some figures for the next meeting and Mr. Weinrich volunteered to help also. Mr. Spielman noted that our current tapping fee is \$5700 per residence which, in total, comprises about 40% of the entire cost of a sewer project.

**MOTION:** Mr. David Decker moved to adjourn the meeting of April 11, 2018.  
Seconded by Mr. Walter J. Weinrich. Motion carried unanimously.  
(MOTION 18-04-16)

The meeting ended at 8:04 p.m.

The next meeting will be on May 9, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Stella B. Thompson  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

**UPPER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY**  
**MOTIONS FOR 2018**  
**APRIL**

- 13. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of February 14, 2018 as presented.**
- 14. Ratification of the payment of items on the March 14, 2018 Voucher List.**
- 15. Approval of the Voucher List of April 11, 2018 as presented.**
- 16. Adjournment of the meeting of April 11, 2018.**