

**UPPER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY
SEPTEMBER 13, 2023**

The meeting of the Upper Providence Township Sewer Authority was held on Wednesday, September 13, 2023. It was called to order at 7:32 p.m. by Chairman, Matthew B. Hayes.

Those present: Mr. Ernest Angelos, Solicitor
Mr. Matthew Burns, Project Engineer
Mr. David Daniel
Mr. Vincent DelVacchio
Mr. Matthew B. Hayes
Mr. Kevin M. Matson, Operations Manager
Mr. Brian O'Neill, Jr.
Mr. Edwin Reardon
Mrs. Kelly Verna, Office Manager

Those not present: Mr. Brad Pappal

Others present: Ms. Ash Walde, 20 Sycamore Court

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Walde reported that she experienced a sewer backup in the finished basement of her home on August 26, 2023. She has lived there for seven years. Her home insurance will only cover \$5,000 of the damages, and she has received an estimate from ServPro for clean-up totaling \$40,285.44, which she cannot afford. This included initial and final mitigation and restoration and repair. She thanked Ms. Verna and Mr. Matson for their help and attention to her situation and would appreciate any help from the Sewer Authority.

MINUTES

MOTION: Mr. David Daniel moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of August 9, 2023 as presented. Seconded by Mr. Edwin Reardon. Motion carried unanimously. (MOTION 23-09-38)

INCOME AND EXPENSES

The check register (\$297,810.31) and the ten items (payrolls and Wells Fargo Bank, \$31,172.356) totaling \$328,982.66 were reviewed.

MOTION: Mr. Vincent DelVacchio moved to approve the September 13, 2023 check register and the ten items listed on the separate sheet for a total of \$328,982.66. Seconded by Mr. Edwin Reardon. Motion carried unanimously. (MOTION 23-09-39)

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

No reports.

OPERATIONS MANAGER’S REPORT

The following is a summary of grinder pump repair costs for 2023.

	<u>Calls</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
2023	138	\$62,713.47 Costs of pumps/cores - \$264,511.46 (88 cores)

There are 1,679 E-One grinder pumps in our system.

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

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Clear – no facilities	455	913	703	249
Field Marked	520	1125	1211	660
Other	<u>94</u>	<u>169</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>54</u>
Total for Year	1069	2207	2012	963
Response Rate	100%	99.95%	100%	100%
<u>Ticket Responses</u>		<u>Quantity</u>	<u>% of Total</u>	<u>% of Total</u>
			<u>Responded</u>	<u>Delivered</u>
Clear. No facilities or facilities not involved based on ticket information.		249	25.86	25.86
Field marked.		660	68.54	68.54
Insufficient information; do not dig.		47	4.88	4.88
Not marked due to no access.		4	0.42	0.42
Attended meeting. Reached agreement.		3	0.31	0.31
Total tickets delivered: 963 Total responses received: 963 Response rate: 100.00%				

Regarding sanitary sewer backup complaints, we have requests for responses from property owners at 20 Sycamore Court and 26 Dora Drive.

Mr. Matson referred to a September 12 memo to the board, including photos of the damage to Ms. Walde’s Sycamore Court home. Approximately 500 gallons of sewage, apparently the internal wastewater of the homeowner and not neighborhood sewage, overflowed into her finished basement on August 26. The home has a grinder pump and is part of the low-pressure sewer system. This is an unusual occurrence, and an employee of

Site Specific stated that the cause of the system failure was a faulty alarm switch, meaning that an overflow occurred and the panel did not go into alarm mode. It was suggested that a letter or some information from her insurance company would be helpful. A discussion followed. The Engineering Committee will meet to discuss cost, damage, responsibility, and guidelines and to recommend future actions. Ms. Walde will be advised of the results.

In a July 19 letter to Mr. Matson, Mr. Haley reported a sewer backup in his 26 Dora Drive home on August 7, 2023, the third since moving into his house. The backup was located in the main sewer line in the cul-de-sac and not in the lateral extending to his house. He had a back flow valve installed to prevent further backups. These backups have caused damage and substantial out-of-pocket expenses. His insurance company will not cover all the losses, and he does not feel he should have to cover the costs. Mr. Matson noted that the entire system is cleaned every four years, and he has given information to the residents about what can and cannot be put into the system. Following a discussion, it was suggested that we review the agreement which UPTSA has with the homeowners regarding pumps, maintenance, responsibility, etc.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

No committees met.

REPORTS OF CONSULTANTS

MR. MATTHEW BURNS, ENGINEER

Additional safety fencing has been installed at the Bortondale pump station site. The contractor is scheduled to install shoring and stone the week of September 18 and the pre-cast wet well is scheduled for installation the following week. The detour plan is scheduled to be in place on September 18.

Routine support and data collection continue with regard to PA One-call markouts.

Data is being collected on newly-installed pumps, when applicable, to be added to the sewer mapping web map.

The sewer cleaning project has been completed. The contractor, Mobile Dredging/Video Pipe, has submitted his invoice and televising footage deliverables, which have been reviewed by Kelly Engineers and Surveyors. It is their recommendation that payment of the first and final payment be made in the amount of \$43,984.81.

Mr. Hayes noted that an e-mail was received from the property owner next to the Bortondale pump station in which he asked for the station plans. He was provided with the site plans. It was suggested that he has been given a sufficient response to his request. Mr. Hayes added that he found the site clean and well maintained during his visit.

MR. ERNEST ANGELOS, SOLICITOR

Mr. Angelos noted that he did a quick review of the HRG agreement and would recommend some minor changes.

MISCELLANEOUS

Ms. Verna reported that MUNICIPALPAY will be up and running as soon as we get upgraded to Freedom Systems. They are just waiting for a test file from Freedom Systems and have everything else they need. She is already trained on two parts of the system.

The UPTSA office has officially moved to the conference room until the work on the new office is completed.

The Finance Committee will be meeting with Mr. Russ McIntosh regarding the budget.

Mr. O'Neill will be assigned to the Engineering Committee.

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Reference was made to the August 15, 2023 letter from HRG with regard to assistance in the preparation of UPTSA's 2024 budget at an estimated cost of \$8,000.

MOTION: Mr. Edwin Reardon moved to accept the agreement from HRG to provide assistance with the preparation of the UPTSA year 2024 budget. Seconded by Mr. David Daniel. Motion carried unanimously. (MOTION 23-09-40)

MOTION: Mr. David Daniel moved to adjourn the meeting of September 13, 2023. Seconded by Mr. Vincent DeVacchio. Motion carried unanimously. (MOTION 23-09-41)

The meeting ended at 8:55 p.m.

The next meeting will be on October 11, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

Mrs. Stella B. Thompson

UPPER PROVIDENCE TOWNSHIP SEWER AUTHORITY

SEPTEMBER 13, 2023 MOTIONS

- 38. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of August 9, 2023 as presented.**
- 39. Approval of the September 13, 2023 check register and ten items on the separate sheet (payrolls and Wells Fargo Bank) as presented.**
- 40. Accept the agreement from HRG to provide assistance in the preparation of the UPTSA year 2024 budget.**
- 41. Adjournment of the meeting of September 13, 2023.**