

**MINUTES**  
**UPPER ALLEN TOWNSHIP STORMWATER AUTHORITY**  
**November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2024, - 6:00 P.M.**

**STORMWATER AUTHORITY BOARD**

James G. Cochran, Chairman (arrived late)  
Richard A. Castranio, Jr., Vice Chairman  
Kenneth M. Martin, Secretary  
Eric Y. Fairchild  
Phil J. Walsh

**TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS**

Scott W. Fraser, Township Manager  
Timothy Wendling, Asst. Twp. Mgr  
Stephen Feinour, Solicitor  
Jason Reichard, P.E., Twp Engineer  
Jennifer Boyer, Comm. Dev. Dir.  
Alexis Minana, Recording Secretary

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Cochran called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was recited. Mr. Fraser performed roll call—all authority members were present.

**CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chairman Cochran announced that this meeting would be live cast via Zoom; the video will be made available on the Township's YouTube channel after the fact.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

LuAnn Blesner, 2198 Spring Run Drive, commented on what she saw as rapid development on Aspen Drive, although she did say the Township has done things to mitigate stormwater on Aspen Park. She reports there are now children swimming in the retention basin there. She spoke on behalf of her neighbor at 2192 Spring Run Drive, an elderly woman, who experiences gravel washout onto her property. She conceded that the Township did clear up the mess at one point, but that she is certain the problem will recur. She said that, in 37 years, she had not seen flooding in their backyard like they have. She said she didn't feel the Township cared about the children, due to the hazards created by stormwater infrastructure. She felt that the Township also did not care about the wellbeing of her neighbor. "I just don't think you care. So, that's all I have to say."

Chairman Cochran inquired of the engineer about the Aspen Park basin; according to Mr. Reichard, there is a large double-barrel pipe where kids could in fact climb in. Chairman Cochran wondered if we ought to place a grate over it. Per Mr. Reichard, that is a possibility, but those grates require consistent maintenance to keep them clear. There are some upcoming long-term concepts for further flood control management downstream from Aspen Park.

Mr. Reichard was familiar with the issue at 2192 Spring Run Drive and stated that there had been an issue with mosquitoes which the Township combatted by putting smaller aggregate into the void space of the large rock on the driveway so the water wouldn't be exposed to the surface. This did help to allay the mosquito issue, but during the last storm event, pieces of material migrated down the property line.

At one point in time, the homeowners at 2192 were required to install end walls on their driveway as well as additional piping; according to Ms. Blesner, the wall and pipe specifications were mandated by the Township. Then, the pipe failed.

JoJo's was the most recent construction nearby. There are now two car washes and a Turkey Hill. According to Ms. Blesner, the issue with flooding has been growing with development. Per Chairman Cochran, you can't undo building that has already occurred. Mr. Reichard inspected the stormwater infrastructure after the last major storm event and found it working per plan, although he did observe about 18 inches of surcharged water within their parking lot, which all feeds a 12-inch diameter pipe that was flowing about 85% full—a highly restricted flow.

Mr. Reichard also visited ModWash and observed the discharge from that underground basin, which he reported to be negligible in comparison to the bypass flow that was tributary from Market Street. Flows from the 15 Overpass back up in that direction. Most of the flow was observed to be bypassing recent development.

There was no further public discussion.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The consent agenda included consideration of the minutes of October 16<sup>th</sup>; approval of bills in the amount of \$80,059.83; and approval of staff reports including the manager's report, the engineer's report and the solicitor's report. Mr. Martin **MOVED** to approve the consent agenda, **SECONDED** by Mr. Walsh.

Mr. Fairchild inquired about the use of A & M Landscaping in mowing retention ponds. He wanted to know how often the retention ponds are being mowed. Mr. Fraser replied that mowing was done about quarterly. Mr. Fairchild suggested the use of rain gardens in the ponds which would eliminate the need to mow—it could also keep children out of the water. Chairman Cochran explained that only certain ponds would have the ability to be turned into rain gardens. Per Mr. Reichard, the Township does not currently have plans for any new rain garden installations.

Mr. Fairchild then inquired about a bill from C.S. Davidson for the engineering work on the McCormick Road stormwater replacement. He asked Mr. Reichard if it is typical to do that extensive engineering on a repair like that and wondered if the Township could have done that work in-house. Mr. Fraser replied that the Township does not have an in-house engineer for this. Mr. Fairchild asked if the work itself could have been done by the Township. Mr. Fraser explained the work was well beyond the scope of in-house work.

Mr. Reichard commented that there is only a certain scale of work that the Township is willing and able to perform independently. In this case, there wasn't significant washout, and there was engineering involved to properly size that culvert or insurer that it was sized adequately to convey a standard 100 -year storm. There was effort, place, and evaluating what permits were required because of the proximity to the Yellow Breaches Creek. This project was roughly \$65,000, which

did require competitive bidding. The materials themselves have size in weights that exceed most of the equipment that the township would have readily available to even install that system.

Chairman Cochran called for a vote on the motion to approve the consent agenda: the vote passed unanimously.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The Stormwater Authority voted unanimously to post its budget for public review. It will be posted on the website the following day. It will appear in the Sentinel online and in print.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

#### **Webercrot**

The Township is not seeking action from the Authority at this time. It is continuing outreach to impacted homeowners.

Mr. Reichard provided the following update: C.S. Davidson and the Township are consolidating our efforts and focusing on the Webercrot development for a series of pipe extensions. C.S. Davidson is currently working on developing construction plans and contract drawings to attempt to bid on this project here in early spring. Township staff will be meeting with various residents who are directly impacted by our proposal for some of the improvements. There are three stages to the project: replacement of some sanitary sewer; replacement of stormwater facilities; paving of the roads.

There was no further discussion nor public comment. Mr. Martin made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 6:23 p.m., seconded by Mr. Walsh. It carried unanimously and the meeting adjourned.