

Upper Mount Bethel Votes 3-2 To Approve Municipal Water Authority

By Riverpoint

U. MOUNT BETHEL TWP., Pa. – The Upper Mount Bethel Township Board of Supervisors approved the creation of the township’s first-ever municipal authority Monday night at the Mount Bethel Vol. Fire Co. The authority will oversee proposed sewer and wastewater operations. The vote was 3-2.

River Pointe Logistics, whose development team includes developer Lou Pektor, has presented plans to build a sewage and water treatment plant.

River Pointe Logistics is one of three distinct projects of the larger River Pointe Commerce Park, which is comprised of 13 warehouse-sized buildings at more than 6 million square feet on roughly 800 acres. The other two projects besides River Pointe Logistics are known as RPL East and 303 New Demi Road.

The vote came after a more than two-hour hearing, vigorous public comments against the proposed authority, and statements by supervisors.

Those against the formation of the authority said there was insufficient information to render such a decision. They argued that a feasibility study had yet to be completed and that tenants for the proposed development had yet to be established.

Proponents for the authority argued that the study was already completed years ago, and the proposition of establishing a municipal authority in Upper Mount Bethel had also been discussed for many other years.

“We went ahead with our planning assuming there would be an authority,” attorney Marc Kaplin, representing River Pointe Logistics, told supervisors during the hearing.

The proposed plant would have

“The service area is set by the Act 537 plan,” Charlie Myers from Barry Isett & Associates, said Monday night. “...Based on the planning, the project as presented is just for the 100,000 odd gallons per day.

During a March 2 hearing on the matter, Frederick Ebert of Ebert Engineering said, “This is more than we anticipate for demand.” He added the plan would “have no stream discharge.”

Ebert said that night that he anticipates 96,500 gallons for the property’s tenants, and 2,000 gallons per minute for fire protection. He added the water supplying the plant will come from 10 different wells.

“The system will eventually be dedicated debt free to the authority,” Kaplin said. “...Fred (Ebert) will design the system, and the authority will have its own engineer sewer system and water system...We will build the system at our cost, on our property.”

The developer will be responsible for the costs until nine of the proposed 13 buildings are up and running. At that point, the system would be dedicated to the authority, Kaplin said.

Myers told supervisors Monday night that construction on the plant would take about one year.

Residents who spoke against establishing the authority said it was premature at best, and a bad move for Upper Mount Bethel Township at worst.

Others said it was obvious how the project and the authority’s creation would benefit the developer, but they said they failed to see how it would benefit Upper Mount Bethel Township residents.

Safety was cited as another concern. Another item of contention was a lack of a completed feasibility study.

“When money runs out, they can walk away from it,” resident Charles Cole said. “...We can’t.”

Challenges The EMS Industry Is Facing

By Robert F. Mateff Sr. Chief Executive Officer

SLATE BELT - As we wind down from a busy summer, we are preparing for an even busier fall season ahead. From standing by at local high school football games in case of an emergency to parades and trunk-or-treat events, our crews will be seen all over the region. Please say hi if you happen to see them out there.

On Friday, September 8, I had the opportunity to talk to our state legislators to discuss some of the challenges the EMS industry is facing. I want to thank them for their willingness to listen, learn, and discuss the challenges we face daily in the field. We are excited to continue this important dialogue and work collaboratively to find solutions that benefit all in the EMS industry.

I am sure you have heard in the news that a couple ambulance companies have closed their doors. I want to assure you that Cetronia Ambulance Corps is fiscally sound. One of those reasons is because of the wonderful residents and businesses that donate to our nonprofit organization annually.

In the beginning of October, all residents and businesses in our emergency coverage area will be receiving our annual appeal mailing. The featured story about Lincoln is simply amazing. We hope that you take the time to read it, and if you are able, please consider making a donation to our lifesaving mission. We can’t do what we do without YOU!

Health on Wheels Cetronia Open Golf Tournament Friday, September 29, 2023

Our annual golf tournament is not just about swings and birdies; it’s about making a positive impact in our community.

The tournament will be held at Olde Homestead Golf Club in New Tripoli, Pa. In addition to awards and prizes, we will also have 50/50 Raffle and Mulligan opportunities.

Each \$175 player package includes greens fee & cart with GPS, light breakfast, unlimited range balls, lunch with TWO-HOUR OPEN BAR, \$10 in food & beverage tickets to be used throughout the day.

Health on Wheels Family Fest & Pickleball Paddle Battle Saturday, October 28, 2023

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, and family-friendly activities!

Family Fest is FREE entry and will be held at Grange Park in Allentown! Join us for ambulance tours, hands-only CPR, trunk-or-treat, face painting, arts & crafts, food, bake sale, 50/50 raffle, music, & more. Go to <https://www.cetronia.org/> for more info.

