

## BOROUGH OF KUTZTOWN

A Community Committed to Tradition and Progress Incorporated ~ 1815



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## **Press Release**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, May 31, 2017

Contact: Gabriel Khalife, Borough Manager, 610-683-6131

## Award of Arbitrators

We have received the award of damages granted to the Borough of Kutztown and Kutztown Municipal Authority by the Arbitrators in binding arbitration, for Maxatawny Township's breach of its inter-municipal agreement with the Borough of Kutztown to form the Saucony Creek Regional Authority. The Arbitrators' decision awards in excess of Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000.00) to Kutztown as compensation for the losses Kutztown suffered as a result of the breach of the agreement by Maxatawny Township and the Maxatawny Township Municipal Authority, including the reimbursement of Kutztown's attorney fees by Maxatawny. A copy of the award is attached. An award of damages to Kutztown is in accord with the position consistently maintained by Kutztown in this dispute since 2012. The dissenting opinion highlights certain points which Kutztown believes have merit. Nevertheless, Kutztown is happy this matter is now concluded.

We hope that Maxatawny will accept the results of the arbitration – which Maxatawny requested – and comply with the award without further litigation, including remitting the required ongoing payments for the use of the Borough's interceptor line.

It is the sincere desire of the Borough of Kutztown that the two municipalities will put this dispute behind them and begin to work together in the best interests of their respective citizens and the region. This litigation regarding the failure of Maxatawny to honor its commitments and form the Saucony Creek Regional Authority created a time consuming and expensive situation for both municipalities. Hopefully, the leaders in each of our municipalities will be able to move beyond this dispute and work toward important public goals of importance for all of our citizens, taxpayers and utility rate payers, in both Kutztown and Maxatawny Township.

Despite the difficulties and delays, Kutztown remains convinced that intergovernmental cooperation is the best way to secure the future prosperity of our communities.