

Mr. Bernhard Kofoet
President

Mr. Patrick Brennan
Vice President

Mrs. Regina Davis
Secretary

Mr. G. Burton German
Treasurer

Mr. Joseph Scavuzzo
Ass't Secretary/Treasurer

**Minutes of the MPWC Monthly Business Meeting
April 10, 2014**

ATTENDEES:

Commissioners:

Mr. Bernhard Kofoet, President
Mr. Patrick Brennan, Vice President
Mr. G. Burton German, Treasurer
Mrs. Regina Davis, Secretary
Mr. Joseph Scavuzzo, Asst Secretary/Treasurer

Other Attendees:

Michael A. Saraceni, COO
Craig Campbell, Superintendent
Richard Spafford, P.E.
Brandy Eisenmann
Colleen O'Brien
Karl N. McConnell, General Counsel

The President called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

All Commissioners were present.

Salute to the Flag; the Open Public Meetings Act Compliance Statement was read.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED

Customer Account Disputes

Since the customers involved were not yet present, but were expected, the Commissioners agreed to hold this issue in order to give the customers more time to arrive.

Project Status

Mr. Spafford reported that the Plymouth/Hinchman Main Replacement Bids were opened on April 8th and came in under prediction. He recommended that South State Inc. be awarded as they were the low bidder. All of the painting is completed on the Park Avenue Tank and only site clean-up was to be done. Delaware Gardens Demolition was to be completely removed to 4 feet below grade as was called for in the project scope and per Pennsauken Township requirements. The project, however was put on hold as unexpected and deeper structures were discovered. Staff requested direction from the Commission if the rest of the underground footings and piping found, as well as the entire well should be removed given the cost of such a change order. The Commission all agreed that everything should be removed now since the land could possibly be used for any number of things in the future, especially with the new housing that is being built in the area.

Cherry Hill Tank- Special Counsel Status

Mr. McConnell reported that Special Counsel was suggesting that the Mediation would not likely resolve the issue before the end of June and therefore recommends the Commission begin an RFQ, "open and fair process", in order to appoint litigation counsel to commence suit.

National Highway- Conrail Lease Status

Earlier this month, the EPA contractor "capping" the adjoining Swope Oil "Superfund" site asked to use the National Highway land site as a staging area. Mr. McConnell researched the land that the Commission requested which the MPWC rents from Conrail. It was discovered that it is only a month-to-month lease and limits the Commission's use to solely for access.. Therefore, the MPWC did not have the right to permit it. Mr. McConnell requested authorization to speak with Conrail to possibly purchase the land or seek longer lease terms, such was authorized.

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Approval of the Minutes

Motion to approve the Business Meeting and Executive Session of March 13, 2014 was made by Mr. German, 2nd by Mr. Scavuzzo; **a unanimous roll call vote.**

Payment of Bills

Motion to approve payment of bills dated March 13, 2014, other than those payments pulled and addressed below. Motion: Mr. German, 2nd by Mrs. Davis; **a unanimous roll call vote.**

Motion to approve payment of bills for Hibrett Puratex, Municipal Maintenance, and Pennsauken Township, dated March 13, 2014. Motion: Mr. German, 2nd by Mrs. Davis; **a unanimous roll call vote, except Mr. Kofoet, who abstained.**

Correspondence

No discussion.

Public Comment

The meeting was opened for public comment.
None present.

Bid Openings

- The Bid for the Vehicle Lease was open to the public and there was only one bidder. Since the sole bidder was below the minimum advertised bid price for all three vehicles, staff recommended that the bid be rejected as non-compliant and open that the Commission authorizes a re-bid. Staff requested authority to sell the surplus property on the internet at www.GovDeals.com for the vehicles as well as a surplus bill sealer that was no longer in use.
- The Plymouth/Hinchman Main Replacement bid was open and Mr. Spafford recommended awarding to South State Inc. as they were the responsible and responsive low bidder for both the primary project as well as the alternate bid for CAD "as Builts".

Staff Reports

Mr. Saraceni asked to be permitted to research options for professional Marketing assistance and have Counsel research preparing an RFQ and stated research would be completed on scope of work before making a decision.

Mr. Saraceni requested permission to have the MPWC closed for about 2 hours to have a company-wide meeting, Mr. German liked the idea and suggested it be done annually.

The Commissioners were asked to complete their online MSI training as the deadline was coming and there were some issues with accessing the site.

Mr. German commented on the growing number of vacant properties in the service area per Ms. Eisenmann's report. Ms. Eisenmann asked the Commission on preferred times for the Arbor Day tree plantings, it was agreed to 9:30am in Merchantville (50 W Maple Avenue) then followed at 10:00am in Pennsauken (Crescent Athletic Complex/The Pit). Mr. Spafford informed the Commission that the Park Avenue Tank was completely painted and site clean-up would continue until completion. Mr. McConnell requested to advertise for Bid at Woodbine Avenue for Antennae Leasing as the current contract would expire in September, the Commission agreed that Bid should be prepared/advertised before that time.

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Old Business:

Service Line Protection

Ms. Eisenmann has done some research on how Pennsauken Sewerage Authority's "relief" program worked for their customers. It is more of a loan system with PSA and the customer has 5 years to pay off the debit. Mr. Brennan thought that more research would be helpfully before making and decision on this. Mr. Scavuzzo mentioned that he had conversations with some of his neighborhoods who were unsure of what was the customer's responsibility and the MPWC's responsibility when it came to the service lines/mains and suggested more ways to explain this to the customers. Staff/C.O.O. were directed to research other utilities' programs and practices for these situations and report back to the Commission.

Summer Help/Customer Support Intern

Mr. Saraceni sent letters to the mayors about the positions without any feedback or comments. Currently have received only a few applications for Summer Help from those employed for the positions last year.

New Business:

Customer of 7503 Grant Avenue still not present, the Commission discussed the dispute and agreed that the bill would stand. Motion: Mr. German, 2nd by Mr. Brennan; **a unanimous roll call vote, except Mr. Scavuzzo, who abstained.**

Customer of 10 S Union Avenue still not present, the Commission discussed the dispute and agreed that the bill would stand. Motion: Mr. German, 2nd by Mr. Brennan; **a unanimous roll call vote.**

Resolution to reject any Vehicle Lease Bids and authorize an internet advertisement for bids on www.GovDeals.com for the three vehicles and the bill sealer. Motion: Mr. German, 2nd by Mrs. Davis; **a unanimous roll call vote.**

Award the Plymouth/Hinchman Main Replacement Project to South State Inc. in the amount of \$525,400.00 (including Alternate). Motion: Mr. German, 2nd by Mr. Scavuzzo; **a unanimous roll call vote.**

Resolution to approve the Staff recommended a change order #1 for in the amount of \$56,729.50 in order to completely remove the underground footings, walls, chambers and piping at Delaware Gardens Demolition project; Motion: Mr. German, 2nd by Mr. Scavuzzo; **a unanimous roll call vote.**

Approval for RFQ for Cherry Hill Tank Project. Motion: Mr. German, 2nd by Mrs. Davis; **a unanimous roll call vote.**

Project Status Table

No Discussion.

Commissioners Reports / Discussions / Comments

Mrs. Davis suggested inviting our customers to a short presentation about the history of the MPWC or how the treatment process is completed so that they are more informed on the actives of the MPWC. Mr. Brennan thought that we should also invite Channel 19 to come and record so that it may be broadcasted for other customers unable to make it. The Commission agreed that it was a great idea.

Mr. Scavuzzo had a few questions about flushing and if it showed in the pumpage reports prepared by Mr. Campbell; which is reflexed in the reports. Mr. Brennan suggested that the MPWC become more involved/attend meetings of the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission (DVRPC) and the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) just to at least have some knowledge of what the two agencies were doing,

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as it could affect the MPWC. Staff advised that they had occasionally attended the DRBC meetings when MPWC issues were on the agenda, but now make it a priority to become members/attend meetings.

Adjournment:

Motion by Mr. German and 2nd by Mr. Scavuzzo; **unanimous voice vote** at 7:25 PM.

Submitted by,
Colleen O'Brien & Michael Saraceni