

# MERCHANTVILLE-PENNSAUKEN WATER COMMISSION

6751 Westfield Avenue, Pennsauken, NJ 08110 Ph: 856.663,0043 • Fax: 856.486,7417 • www.mpwc.com

Mr. Joseph Scavuzzo President Mr. Patrick Brennan Vice President Mr. George Piperno Secretary Mr. G. Burton German Treasurer Mr. Ronald Johnson Ass't Secretary/Treasurer

## Minutes of the MPWC Monthly Business Meeting September 10, 2015

#### ATTENDEES:

#### Commissioners:

Mr. Joseph Scavuzzo, President Mr. Patrick Brennan, Vice President Mr. G. Burton German, Treasurer Mr. George Piperno, Secretary Mr. Ronald Johnson, Asst. Secretary/Treasurer

#### Other Attendees:

Michael A. Saraceni, COO Craig Campbell, Superintendent Richard Spafford, P.E. Karl N. McConnell, General Counsel Brandy Eisenmann Carol Feriozzi

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

MPWC-90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary-2016

Mr. Saraceni introduced Mr. Sean Fitzgerald of the Customer Relations Committee. Mr. Fitzgerald thanked the Commissioners for the opportunity to speak about the projects completed by Mr. Joseph Hutton. Mr. Hutton, while on transitional duty, worked on updating the Hydrant Flushing Program; the Customer Complaint Logs; and documenting, scanning and categorizing over 400 historical photos. Mr. Hutton also found many plaques and certificates. Mr. Fitzgerald also stated that once the MPWC plants are cleaned and painted, he would return the plaques and certificates to their corresponding plants to be displayed.

The Commissioners and staff thanked both Mr. Hutton and Mr. Fitzgerald for their hard work. It was agreed that the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary can be discussed during the Strategic Planning Meeting. Mr. Brennan asked Mr. German if he would give an oral history to the Customer Relations Committee at a later time, to which Mr. German agreed.

#### 2016 Draft Budget-Status

Mr. German stated that the draft budget currently proposed a 6% increase for 2016, and projects to delay 200,000 Radio Meter installs. He suggested that the increase should be 10% to maintain our current budget. Mr. Piperno and Mr. Brennan suggested a possible 8% increase. A discussion ensued regarding anticipated revenues and payments for 2016 and it was agreed that the budget will need to be revised. They agreed further that the Commissioners should meet in the coming weeks so that the 2016 Budget would be ready for the October Commission Meeting or a Special Meeting, if warranted, for final approval. The Commissioners expect high increases for Insurance Benefits in 2016.

With regards to the capital expenses, Mr. Brennan questioned any impending need to install a treatment plant at the Woodbine Avenue site. Mr. Spafford advised that the on-going study seems to indicate a plant is not needed, but it was agreed to await the final results from the pilot test and recommendations from staff.



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Homeland Security-Status

Mr. McConnell stated that he spoke to the Deputy Attorney General today, and he expressed he had not received any word from his client (Homeland Security) regarding installing equipment on the Woodbine Avenue elevated tank and therefore concluded that there was no time sensitive need.

Project Status-Cherry Hill Tank/Main Replacement

Mr. Spafford stated that the Cherry Hill Tank is back in service and the punch list is now being worked on. He stated that the mains on Evergreen and Essex were installed. He added that the final paving for Evergreen and Hinchman will be in 4-5 weeks and will require a large change order. Mr. Spafford stated that the paving for the trench on Essex was required to be wider than projected because of the unstable soil conditions found there.

## **Executive Session-None**

Approval of the Minutes

Motion to approve the Minutes of the Business Meeting of August 13, 2015 was made by Mr. German, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Brennan; a unanimous roll call vote.

Payment of Bills

Motion to approve payment of bills dated September 10, 2015 was made by Mr. German, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Piperno ; a unanimous roll call vote.

#### Correspondence -N/A

Meeting Open to the Public:

Meeting was open to the public at 6:43 PM. None present.

Bid Openings: There were no Bids received for the National Highway Tank Antennae lease.

### Staff Reports: Updates

Chief Operating Officer:

Mr. Saraceni gave an update on the Cardwell family and Frank Benzenhafer. He also told the Commissioners of the thank you cards that Mr. Spafford and Ms. Colleen O'Brien received from Vijay Israni.

The Commissioners settled on November 14 at 9am time for the Strategic Planning Meeting which Mr. Scardino will facilitate.

Mr. Saraceni conveyed a request by a customer to have automated handicapped doors installed in the front of the building. Mr. Spafford estimates a cost of \$5000.00. A discussion ensued and the Commissioners agreed to authorize Mr. Spafford to proceed with the retrofit.

Superintendent: Mr. Campbell reported a main break on Monday, September 7<sup>th</sup> on Route 130 and John Tipton Blvd in Pennsauken of 15 ½ feet of 12 inch main. One lane of Route 130 was closed down during the break. Emergency repaving was needed to meet the N.J Department of Transportation's requirements for restoration.