



MERCHANTVILLE-PENNSAUKEN WATER COMMISSION

6751 Westfield Avenue • Pennsauken, NJ 08110
Ph: 856.663.0043 • Fx: 856.486.7417 • www.mpwc.com

Mr. Joseph C. Scavuzzo
President

Mr. George R. Piperno
Vice-President

Mr. Ronald S. Johnson
Secretary

Mr. Patrick Brennan
Treasurer

Mr. Edward F. Brennan
Ass't Secretary/ Treasurer

Minutes of the MPWC Monthly Business Meeting August 13, 2020

ATTENDEES

Commissioners:

Mr. Joseph C. Scavuzzo, President
Mr. George R. Piperno, Vice President
Mr. Patrick Brennan, Treasurer
Mr. Ronald S. Johnson, Secretary
Mr. Edward Brennan, Asst. Secretary/Treasurer

Other Attendees:

Michael A. Saraceni, C.O.O.
Richard Spafford, P.E., Director of Engineering
Craig Campbell, Superintendent
Karl N. McConnell, General Counsel
Brandy Eisenmann, Customer Service Director
Carol Feriozzi, Personnel Administrator

The President called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM in a Zoom video conference. There was a roll call of Commissioners; Participants choosing to identify themselves were noted on record. After the Salute to the Flag, the Open Public Meetings Act Compliance Statement was read.

2019 Audit – Exit Conference – Draft Report

Mr. P. Brennan and Mr. Scavuzzo discussed the exit conference held via Zoom. Mr. Brennan reported that he was pleased as to “no findings” in the Audit. He asked that the Commissioners review the Draft audit for adoption at the September meeting. He offered help to the Commissioners if they had any questions. Mr. Scavuzzo commented that the lack of any finding is testament to a well-run water utility. Mr. Piperno raised a question and a discussion ensued.

Woodbine Avenue – Project/Bid Status

Mr. Spafford reported that the R & V engineer advised him to expect the plans and drawings tomorrow. Once he reviews them he hopes to advertise shortly thereafter.

PFOS/PFOA/PFNA Potential Claim Option

Mr. Saraceni informed the Commissioners that he was contacted by a law firm that specializes in representing water utilities with environmental damage claims from industrial contaminants in their water. Mr. Saraceni asked the Commissioners if the MPWC should pursue this for recovery. A discussion ensued and he was directed to wait to see if National Highway is eligible for spill fund money. Mr. Ted Brennan said that he recently spoke with the majority leader who indicated he would push for the funding for the MPWC.

National Highway – Treatment Options – Costs – See Engineer’s Report

Mr. Spafford discussed the alternative cost estimates he included in his report for temporary treatment options to keep operating National Highway wells. He indicated that the costs appeared to disfavor the NJAW purchase and that operationally he would not know if that would realistically work without first doing a shut-down of National Hwy for testing. MPWC has already received a temporary permit from the NJDEP for the temporary carbon treatment alternative.



MPWC

MERCHANTVILLE-PENNSAUKEN WATER COMMISSION

6751 Westfield Avenue • Pennsauken, NJ 08110
Ph: 856.663.0043 • Fx: 856.486.7417 • www.mpwc.com

Mr. Joseph C. Scavuzzo
President

Mr. George R. Piperno
Vice-President

Mr. Ronald S. Johnson
Secretary

Mr. Patrick Brennan
Treasurer

Mr. Edward F. Brennan
Ass't Secretary/ Treasurer

Mr. Spafford expects a new plant completion would take at least 2 years from January 2021. His recommendation is to seek authorization to bid for the temporary carbon treatment.

Suez Contract – Main Replacement – Status

Mr. McConnell informed the Commissioners that negotiations with Suez remain only about the termination clause on the main asset management contract. We are awaiting their response to a two year notice proposal which Mr. Spafford would recommend.

Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Pat Brennan motioned, 2nd by Mr. Johnson to approve the Business Meeting Minutes of July 9, 2020. **A unanimous roll call vote.**

Payment of the Bills

Mr. Pat Brennan motioned, 2nd by Mr. Piperno to approve payment of the bills dated August 13, 2020 in amount of \$350,607.28. **A unanimous roll call vote.**

Mr. Pat Brennan motioned, 2nd by Mr. Piperno to approve payment of bill for Pennsauken Township, dated August 13, 2020 in the amount of \$97,795.13. **Affirmative roll call vote, except Mr. Scavuzzo abstained.**

Mr. Pat Brennan motioned, 2nd by Mr. Piperno to approve payment of bill for Borough of Merchantville, dated August 13, 2020 in the amount of \$ 13,730.32 and payment to R&V dated August 13, 2020 in the amount of \$3,074.40. **Affirmative roll call vote, except Mr. Ted Brennan abstained.**

Mr. Pat Brennan motioned, 2nd by Mr. Piperno to approve P-Card payment in the amount of \$1,122.19. **A unanimous roll call vote.**

Meeting Open to the Public:

The President indicated the meeting was open for public comment, but he received none. He then asked the moderator if any members of the public signed in to the conference and was told none had. The public portion was closed on a voice vote.

Staff Reports:

Mr. Saraceni reminded the Commissioners that several signatures were needed as stated in the email that he had sent to the Commissioners. Printed Audit report copies are available on the table for those Commissioners that are required to come in for signatures. The other Commissioners who want a printed a copy will be sent one. Commissioners E. Brennan and Piperno indicated that an electronic copy would be sufficient.

Mr. McConnell said that T-Mobile and Sprint have merged, and they want to renegotiate their lease for a lower cost because they said that the MPWC is at the high end for lease costs. It was agreed that T-Mobile should be held responsible to the current lease requirements which expires in 2022.

Mr. McConnell asked about the Commissioners preference for a target for the required Suez public hearing date in light of other rate and connection fee public hearings.

**MPWC****MERCHANTVILLE-PENNSAUKEN WATER COMMISSION**6751 Westfield Avenue • Pennsauken, NJ 08110
Ph: 856.663.0043 • Fx: 856.486.7417 • www.mpwc.comMr. Joseph C. Scavuzzo
PresidentMr. George R. Piperno
Vice-PresidentMr. Ronald S. Johnson
SecretaryMr. Patrick Brennan
TreasurerMr. Edward F. Brennan
Ass't Secretary/ Treasurer

The Commissioners and C.O.O. decided they want to review the proposed agreement before setting a date for advance 60 day notice to state agencies and public for the Commission to hold the public hearing to approve a Public-Private contract.

Mr. Piperno questioned whether the MPWC would have a rate increase this year. A discussion ensued and the Commissioners requested a spreadsheet to be prepared illustrating staff recommendations and a 2% increase for their consideration.

Old Business:**Neptune Software**

Mr. Spafford reported that he spoke to a technician from Rio who reached out to Neptune and he is still waiting on their response regarding software development to integrate with current MPWC software. Once the software design from Neptune is received, we will go forward with installation and training on the software.

Westfield Avenue Polling Site- November and Forward

Mr. Saraceni reported his communications with Mayor Killion. He later received related correspondence from the Township Clerk seeking to continue the site as a polling site going forward, which he discussed with Mr. Scavuzzo. The Commissioners expressed that their primary concerns were due to Covid-19 and for the safety of staff. The Commissioners all agreed that since all concerns were met at the Primary by the Board of Elections and staff would be off for November election day; that the facility should continue to be utilized. All Commissioners agreed.

Regulation 1040- Water Service Leak Adjustments

The Commissioners agreed to table this discussion until next month. Any revisions to this Regulation and proposed edits would be forwarded to Mr. Saraceni who could distribute revised copies to Commissioners.

New Business:

Mr. Pat Brennan motioned, 2nd by Mr. Johnson to authorize the bid for Carbon Pilot System for National Highway. **A unanimous roll call vote.**

New Services:

Mr. Pat Brennan motioned, 2nd by Mr. Piperno to approve new services for one 1" service at 728 Beechwood Ave. – Cherry Hill, one 1" service at 734 Beechwood Ave. – Cherry Hill and one 1" service at 705 Olive Street. – Cherry Hill. **A unanimous roll call vote.**

Commissioners Reports

Commissioner Johnson thanked staff for doing a fantastic job keeping operations going smoothly and sent his well wishes to staff and their families.

Mr. Ted Brennan thanked staff and Commissioners for their hard work especially with the Audit and to stay healthy and happy.



MPWC

MERCHANTVILLE-PENNSAUKEN WATER COMMISSION

6751 Westfield Avenue • Pennsauken, NJ 08110
Ph: 856.663.0043 • Fx: 856.486.7417 • www.mpwc.com

Mr. Joseph C. Scavuzzo
President

Mr. George R. Piperno
Vice-President

Mr. Ronald S. Johnson
Secretary

Mr. Patrick Brennan
Treasurer

Mr. Edward F. Brennan
Ass't Secretary/ Treasurer

Mr. Piperno echoed Mr. Johnson and Mr. Ted Brennan's sentiments. He asked how the MPWC collections were going given the Governor's moratorium on service turn-offs. A discussion ensued regarding the possible continuing impact on the Commission's future revenue. Staff will be monitoring the data closely.

Mr. Scavuzzo thanked staff for the preparation for the Audit and requested that the auditors be thanked also.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Piperno to adjourn at 5:00 PM. **A unanimous roll call vote.**

DRAFT