

## 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 via Teleconference June 11, 2020

#### ATTENDEES/PARTICIPANTS

#### **Commissioners:**

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

#### Other Attendees:

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

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

#### NJDEP MCL – PFOS/PFOA – Impact and Actions

Mr. Spafford reported that DEP published its new regulation of 13/ppt for PFOS and 14/ppt for PFOA effective January 1, 2021. He will recommend the MPWC add a treatment plant at National Highway. Mr. Ted Brennan indicated that he would reach out to our legislators regarding the availability of spill fund money for the project. Mr. Spafford was authorized to start the application now for the pilot program while we gather information for such a project.

#### Field Work - 2019 Audit - Starting June 16, 2020

Mr. Saraceni advised the Commissioners that the 2019 Audit will begin on Tuesday, June 16, 2020. He said that prep work has already been completed remotely. Due to Covid-19, the auditors will be using the Commission Caucus room and they received a copy of our Westfield Avenue safety protocols which they have committed to follow.

#### **Woodbine Avenue Financing**

Mr. Saraceni advised the Commissioners to adopt and execute the Note Resolution for financing the Woodbine Avenue Project. Commissioner Pat Brennan clarified that the resolution providing up to \$2.5 million would be moved under new business.

# Professional Services RFP Posted – June 26th return date

Mr. Saraceni stated that the RFP deadline is June 26<sup>th</sup> @ 12:00 noon and the submissions will be ready for Commission review at the July 9<sup>th</sup> Reorganization.

# Neptune Software - Fixed Network Discussion

Mr. Spafford recommended the purchase of Neptune Software for fixed site antennae to automatically collect meter data.



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The cost is \$22,780.00 for the first year and approximately \$30,000.00 for the following years as they come online. A discussion ensued and it was requested by Commissioners that Mr. Spafford reach out to Neptune for more information. Mr. Spafford agreed.

**Approval of Minutes:** 

Mr. Pat Brennan motioned, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Piperno to approve the Business Meeting Minutes of May 14, 2020. A unanimous roll call vote.

Payment of the Bills:

Mr. Pat Brennan motioned, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Johnson to approve the transfer of funds for (2) 12-month CD's dated May 26, 2020 in the amount of \$1,000,000.00 each and the bill list dated June 11, 2020 in the amount of \$659,709.56. A unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Pat Brennan motioned, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Piperno to approve payment to R&V dated June 11, 2020 in the amount of \$1,572.50. All affirmative roll call votes, except Mr. Ted Brennan recused himself.

## Meeting Open to the Public

President Scavuzzo opened the meeting for public comment, but there was none. He questioned the moderator if any members of the public had signed onto the conference and none had done so. The public portion of the meeting was closed.

#### Staff Reports

Mr. Saraceni informed the Commissioners of an account issue regarding Camden Catholic High School and an undiscovered leak while it was closed by Governor's Executive Orders resulting in a large water bill. A discussion ensued regarding the circumstances surrounding the leak and excessive water loss. It was agreed that due to the circumstances, amplified by the challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic and the closure of the school that an adjustment would be authorized. Mr. Saraceni also said that the amount that will be forgiven may be reimbursable through the OEM.

Mr. Saraceni also informed the Commissioners of the current employee staffing and the impending potential of re-opening the office to the public. The Commission authorized Mr. Saraceni and staff to address any necessary preparations and to open the office when ready to do so. They asked only to be informed of the date and any new operational changes.

Mr. McConnell stated that he had completed the contract proposal with Suez and sent it to USGI who then asked for an extension of time to reply. Mr. McConnell said that it would be necessary to move the hearing date to September.

## New Business

Mr. Pat Brennan motioned, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Johnson to authorize the salary adjustments as proposed. A unanimous roll call vote.



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Mr. Pat Brennan motioned, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Ted Brennan to approve the Woodbine Avenue Resolution, as amended, regarding the Project Financing. **All affirmative roll call vote.** 

Mr. Pat Brennan motioned, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Johnson to waive a portion of the water bill to Camden Catholic High School due to the leak and large water loss, undetected during Government closure order due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. All affirmative roll call vote.

### **New Services**

Mr. Pat Brennan motioned, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Piperno to approve new services for:

- J & J Snack Foods 5090 Central Highway Pennsauken increase to 2" Service, and
- 2101 Marlton Pike West Cherry Hill service size increase 2" Domestic and a 6" Fire Service, and
- 2240 Marlton Pike West Cherry Hill Falcon Salons service increase (1" to 2").

### A unanimous roll call vote.

## **Commissioners Report**

All Commissioners wished for the staff and their families to stay safe and healthy.

Mr. Johnson commented that the staff are doing a fantastic job during the MPWC closure and said that we have a "super crew".

Mr. Ted Brennan also thanked staff for their work and commended them for working in the office and remotely and also thanked them for coordinating with the Commissioners

Mr. Scavuzzo thanked staff for their efforts.

## **Adjournment**

A motion by Mr. Pat Brennan to adjourn at 5:08 PM. A unanimous voice vote.

#### **Submitted By:**

Carol Feriozzi & Michael Saraceni