

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 Call May 14, 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 of record. Salute to the Flag; the Open Public Meetings Act Compliance Statement was read.

Items to be discussed:

Operations - Progress Report - Defining the New Normal - Safety Protocols

Mr. Saraceni expressed pride and thanks to the leadership and personnel of the MPWC for their outstanding efforts during these trying times.

Woodbine Avenue - Financing - LFB Hearing - May 13, 2020 - Results

Mr. Saraceni said that he and Mr. Spafford attended the LFB Hearing on May 13th with Jeff Winitsky and the MPWC's application for financing was approved. The MPWC is still awaiting permit approval from the DEP. Mr. Pat Brennan advised that the Commission will investigate all options for interest rate for bonds.

Salary Committee Meeting – Committee Recommendations Presented 5/7/20

Mr. Scavuzzo said that he and Mr. Brennan were presented with salary recommendations by staff on May 7th and that those recommendations were sent to the Commissioners for review. Mr. Scavuzzo or Mr. Pat Brennan are available if there are questions. Recommendations will be considered at the June Commission meeting to become effective on July 1, 2020.

Browning Road Backwash Tank – Bid

Mr. Spafford stated that 6 bid packages were requested, but only one (1) bid was received by Mid Atlantic Storage with a bid of \$122,805.00.

RFP - Professional Services - To Be Issued by Month's end

Mr. Saraceni advised that he is currently reviewing criteria for the RFP's which will shortly be advertised and that approval of the RFP's will take place at the July Re-organization meeting. Mr. Pat Brennan requested that he be notified when they will be published, to which Mr. Saraceni confirmed.



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Primary Election – July 7th – Request for Westfield Avenue as a Polling Site

Mr. Saraceni discussed issues caused by the pandemic regarding the use of the Westfield office as a polling site. The C.O.O. will confer with the County Board of Elections and report back to the Commission.

Special Emergency Meetings - Preferences moving forward

It was agreed by all that the bi-weekly Commission Special Meetings would be discontinued unless special circumstances arose.

Public Portion:

The President Opened the Meeting to anyone from the public who chose to identify themselves and speak. No one did so; and the public portion was closed on a voice vote.

Approval of Minutes:

Mr. Pat Brennan motioned, 2nd by Mr. Johnson to approve the Business Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2020 and the teleconference Special Meeting of April 23, 2020. A unanimous roll call vote.

Payment of the Bills:

Mr. Pat Brennan motioned, 2nd by Mr. Piperno to approve the bill list dated May 14, 2020 in the amount of \$285,500.15, payment of the P-Card in the amount of \$2,001.89 dated May 14, 2020 and payment of \$5,000.00 for high school scholarships dated May 14, 2020. **A unanimous roll call vote.**

Mr. Pat Brennan motioned, 2nd by Mr. Piperno to approve payment of bill dated May 14, 2020 to Pennsauken in the amount of \$99,295.13. All affirmative roll call votes, except Mr. Joseph Scavuzzo recused himself.

Mr. Pat Brennan motioned, 2nd by Mr. Piperno to approve payment of bill dated May 14, 2020 to Merchantville in the amount of \$13,480.32 and to Remington and Vernick in the amount of \$6,022.50. All affirmative roll call votes, except Mr. Ted Brennan recused himself.

Staff Reports

Mr. Saraceni advised the Commissioners the concerns of staff regarding hiring Summer Help this year. After a discussion, it was decided that due to Covid-19, the MPWC would not employ Summer Help this year.

Mr. Pat Brennan inquired as to how many radio meters are left to be changed, to which Mr. Spafford responded that there are approximately 150..

New Business

Mr. Pat Brennan motioned, 2nd by Mr. Ted Brennan to approve the bid by Mid Atlantic Storage in the amount of \$122,805.00 for the Browning Rd. Backwash Tank. **A unanimous roll call vote.**



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New Services

Mr. Pat Brennan motioned, 2nd by Mr. Piperno to approve new services at: 7 Oakview Avenue – Cherry Hill-New 1" Residential Service, 9625 River Road – Pennsauken -1" Commercial (Recycling) Service - including a main extension and 800 Hylton Road – Board of Education-Construction of a new Concession Stand – tie in to existing 6" main. A unanimous roll call vote.

Commissioners Report

All Commissioners wished the MPWC staff and their families to stay well.

Mr. Pat Brennan commented on the vibrant status of the MPWC finances due to the commitment of the Commissioners to control costs and to operate in a fiscally responsible manner. His remarked upon the progress made since 2017 in moving the organization forward both financially as well as operationally.

Mr. Scavuzzo thanked staff for all their hard work during this difficult time.

Adjournment

A motion by Mr. Pat Brennan to adjourn at 4:42 PM. A unanimous voice vote.

Submitted By:

Carol Feriozzi & Michael Saraceni