

**MPWC****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. Shakir Ali
Vice President

Mr. Edward Brennan
Secretary

Mr. Patrick Brennan
Treasurer

Mr. Frank Warwick
Ass't Secretary/ Treasurer

Minutes of the MPWC Monthly Business Meeting**August 12, 2021****ATTENDEES****Commissioners:**

Mr. Joseph Scavuzzo, President

Shakir Ali, Vice President

Mr. Edward Brennan, Secretary

Mr. Patrick Brennan, Treasurer

Mr. Frank Warwick, Asst. Secretary/Treasurer

Other Attendees:

Jack Killion, C.O.O.

Richard Spafford, P.E., Director of Engineering

Karl N. McConnell, General Counsel

Brandy Eisenmann, Customer Service Director

Carol Feriozzi, Personnel Administrator

Mr. Scavuzzo called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM

There was a roll call of Commissioners all were present. Mr. Pat Brennan was present via Zoom.

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

Craig Campbell - retirement - Resolution

Mr. Killion announced that Superintendent Craig Campbell will be retiring as of September 1, 2021, after 36 years of employment at the MPWC and Mr. McConnell prepared a resolution affording the post-retirement benefits without contribution.

BAN Loan-rollover or payoff

Mr. Killion advised that after discussing the BAN loan with the Treasurer and Financial Director it was agreed that the BAN Loan would be rolled over for another year.

Budget planning-ongoing

Mr. Killion said that Financial Director Peirce and Engineer Spafford have completed approximately 50% of the budget and the process is ongoing.

City of Camden lawsuit

Mr. Killion had forwarded from our General Counsel to the Commissioners an article and a copy of the complaint of the City of Camden against the companies who were the primary manufacturers and distributors of PFAS whose products contaminated their groundwater. He asked the Commissioners to again consider whether this Commission should join or bring such a lawsuit given the plants it was having to construct. A discussion ensued. Mr. Pat Brennan suggested that the Commissioners monitor the situation for now.

Lead service line legislation

Mr. Spafford advised that the new state law required all water companies to inventory all services and to replace lead and galvanized water lines whether it is the utilities or the landowners. The water purveyors have 60 days to identify the properties with such lines now singularly treated as "lead" water lines in 6 months and begin to replace them. The process must maintain a maximum pace of completion in under 10 years. Mr. Spafford explained that MPWC procedures have already been put in place in anticipation of this inventory becoming a requirement. The service cards were already being reviewed by staff and door hangars have begun to be distributed to alert and question homeowners. Miss Eisenmann related those customers had already been calling in response. There was discussion regarding possible funding coming through proposed federal legislation.

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Ass't Secretary/ Treasurer**Engagement Agreements from Conner-Strong & Buckelew- signatures needed**

Mr. Killion stated that there were two engagements letters from Conner Strong and Buckelew and requested that they be signed today.

Employee Manual Policies-Bereavement, Non-Work-Related Disability and Sick- approval

Mr. Killion asked that all three updates to the policies be approved by the Commissioners effective immediately and a meeting with the employees to discuss the revised Sick policy will be on Tuesday, August 17th.

Approval of the Minutes

A motion by Mr. P. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Ali to approve the Business Meeting Minutes of the July 8, 2021, a **unanimous roll call vote**.

Payment of the Bills

A motion by Mr. Pat Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Ted Brennan to approve payment of the bills dated July 26, 2021 for \$140.98, payment of the bills dated July 30, 2021, for HRA- ACH transfer for \$2500.00, payment of the bill list dated August 12, 2021, for \$1,634,322.09 and the P-Card for \$1050.00, a **unanimous roll call vote**.

A motion by Mr. Pat. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Ted Brennan to approve payment of the bills for Pennsauken Township in amount of \$102,120.79. **All voted in the affirmative in a roll call vote, except Mr. Scavuzzo & Mr. Ali who abstained.**

A motion by Mr. Pat Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Warwick to approve payment of the bills for Merchantville Borough in the amount of \$13,262.36 and Remington & Vernick in the amount of \$23,888.50. **All voted in the affirmative in a roll call vote, except Mr. E. Brennan abstained.**

Meeting Open to the Public:

The President opened the meeting for public comment. No public was present, so the session was closed.

Staff Reports

Mr. Killion informed the Commissioners that the MPWC Covid19 protocols have been reinstated. He reported on an upcoming meeting with Mr. Scott Davenport of Conner Strong & Buckelew to discuss renewal rates for Horizon. Renewals for Delta Dental and VSP are not due until January 1, 2024. Mr. Killion advised that our NJUA Fund representative Sean Fitzgerald is reviewing the Employment Policy Liability Handbook from the MELJIF, and he is awaiting Mr. Fitzgerald's suggestions on how to proceed. Mr. Killion shared that he is looking into upgrading the outside of the Westfield Ave. building. Mr. Killion inquired of Commissioners what they would like to see on his C.O.O. report in the future. Mr. Pat Brennan said to monitor the Department Head reports and Mr. Scavuzzo suggested putting any new information that hasn't already been reported on into the report.

Mr. Spafford reported that NJDEP issued violation notices for not sampling the wells at Woodbine and Collingswood even though DEP has confirmed these well have been off for months. DEP is in process of removing and correcting these violations.

Mr. McConnell advised that he and Mr. Spafford had negotiated for the SUEZ Main contract to commence year 1 as of August 1, 2021 and requested that this be formalized by approval and signature of the 2nd amendment to the Main Asset Management Public-Private Water Supply Contract today.

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Adoption of Policy Amendments

A motion was made by Mr. Ted Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Warwick to approve as submitted updates of Employee Policies: Bereavement; Non-Work -Related Disability; and Sick Leave; **a unanimous roll call vote.**

BAN Rollover

A motion made by Mr. Pat Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Ted Brennan to approve the BAN Loan 1 year rollover; **a unanimous roll call vote.**

Superintendent Campbell Retirement

A motion by Mr. Ted Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Ali to approve the Resolution approving voluntary retirement and lifetime medical and spouse coverage without contribution for Craig T. Campbell; **a unanimous roll call vote.**

Approval of Substance and Execution of 2nd Amendment as to Suez Main Agreement

A motion by Mr. Ted Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Warwick to approve the execution of a 2nd formative amendment to the Suez Main Agreement establishing year 1 as commencing August 1, 2021, **a unanimous roll call vote.**

Commissioners Reports:

Mr. Warwick shared that the Pennsauken school district is getting tested for lead next month and that he does not expect any issues.

Mr. Pat Brennan suggested that we may want to cross reference with HomeServe regarding inventory and line issues. He also inquired of the status of Neptune antennae. Mr. Spafford advised that he is still waiting on Neptune to provide their plan on how they will sort residential from businesses.

Mr. Ted Brennan stated that he will follow up on the City of Camden lawsuit.

Adjournment

A motion by Mr. Warwick and 2nd by Mr. Ali to adjourn at 5:04 PM. **A unanimous voice vote.**

Submitted By:

Jack Killion
Karl McConnell
Carol Feriozzi