

MERCHANTVILLE-PENNSAUKEN WATER COMMISSION

6751 Westfield Avenue

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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 February 10, 2022

ATTENDEES

Commissioners:

Mr. Joseph Scavuzzo, President Mr. 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
James Garaguso, Assistant Superintendent

Mr. Scavuzzo called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM. The roll call of Commissioners reflected all present. Salute to the Flag; Open Public Meetings Act Compliance Statement read.

Clement Ave and Woodbine Ave Tank Paintings

Staff is seeking approval to bid painting the interior of the Clement Avenue tank and the exterior of the Woodbine Avenue tank.

National Highway Plant Project - Bond Resolution

The project requires a Resolution declaring the Commission's intent to reimburse the already expended project costs from the financing to come.

Water Meter Antennas

Mr. Spafford reported on the usefulness of the completion of implementation of Neptune meter reading with 3 more antennas. Commissioners expressed their desire to move forward with adding the antennas to the system.

Lead Line Replacement Program

Mr. Spafford informed the Commissioners of the state's notification requirements, and that staff has already begun preparations to meet them by the deadline. The state's template letter sets a minimum and Commissioners and Mr. Spafford felt that adding to that would give our neighbors greater reassurance.

Commissioner Strategic Planning Session

The Commissioners discussed their desire to hold a planning session in the Spring, but that they all agreed that it made more sense to wait to see the details from the Federal and State government regarding financing of the Water Infrastructure and timing of same before trying to schedule that at this meeting.

Approval of the Minutes

A motion by Mr. P. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Ali to approve the Business Meeting Minutes of January 13, 2022. **A unanimous roll call vote of all present.**



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Payment of the Bills

A motion by Mr. P. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Warwick to approve payment of the bill list dated February 10, 2022, for \$579,915.79, the P-Card in the amount of \$84.48, and also the wire transfer for the NJEIT loans for \$71,273.79. **A unanimous roll call vote of all present.**

A motion by Mr. P. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. E. Brennan to approve payment of the bills for Pennsauken Township in the amount of \$104,644.27. A unanimous roll call vote of all present, except Mr. Scavuzzo and Mr. Ali abstained.

A motion by Mr. P. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Ali to approve payment of the bills for Merchantville Borough for \$13,707.45 and for R&V in the amount of \$2,390.25. A unanimous roll call vote of all present 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.

Bid Openings

Mr. McConnell indicated that there were no bidders for the Woodbine Sprint-Spectrum/T-Mobile antenna lease renewal. He indicated he will bid it again.

Staff Reports

Mr. Killion reviewed items noted in his report and advised that Plant Operator Brenda Pirillo would be resigning so that vacancy is posted internally. If it goes unfilled, letters will be sent to the Mayors before it is advertised outside.

The Commissioners discussed with staff the current main break season and it was noted that areas where other utility work had been done recently was playing a role in disrupting the MPWC water mains. Staff noted that the areas of prevalence of breaks are always considered when deciding on the priorities for the next area of work.

Mr. Spafford explained that a subcontractor Trojan had corrected a piping issue at their cost in the Woodbine plant and that the project was nearing completion. Staff will shortly begin preparations for a ribbon cutting. Mr. Spafford advised that a permanent plaque has been ordered for the Cherry Hill water tank.

Mr. McConnell reported that there were no bids submitted for the Woodbine antenna space and he would advertise it again, particularly in case T-Mobile seeks to offer an extension again. Dish Network has a contract with Crown Castle to go up on the Bethel Monopole but has not gotten back to MPWC yet so Counsel will come back when he has details. Finally, Counsel reported that Mr. Spafford and he were seeking approval in the future if presented with the opportunity to place antennae on the Bethel and Cherry Hill tanks since Mr. Spafford reported that by running the cables up the center of that style tank that the antennae can be almost invisible and less of an eyesore. The Commissioners indicated that if it would not present an appearance problem that the tanks could be used.



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New Business

A motion by Mr. P. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. E. Brennan authorizing staff to go out for bid on painting of the Clement and Woodbine Avenues water tanks. A unanimous roll call vote of all Commissioners present.

A motion by Mr. P. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. E. Brennan to begin the process of installing the next phase of water meter antennas. A unanimous roll call vote of all members present.

A motion by Mr. P. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Warwick to declaring the Commission's intent to reimburse project costs for the National Highway Plant project. A unanimous roll call vote of all members present. **Resol 2022-03**

Commissioners Reports:

Mr. Warwick notified the Commissioners and staff that the Pennsauken BOE just completed their lead water testing and noted that there are no galvanized or lead services in the system to the best of BOE knowledge.

Mr. Ted Brennan informed Commissioners and staff that he would be resigning as a Commissioner and that this would be his final meeting. Mr. Brennan has accepted an offer as a shareholder position at R&V and felt that serving as a Commissioner could present an appearance of a conflict. He complemented the Commissioners and staff on their professionalism, dedication to serving their neighbors and commitment to this organization and its mission. Mr. Brennan noted that he has enjoyed his time with the MPWC and will remain available as Mayor of Merchantville to assist the Commission in that capacity.

Mr. Ali congratulated Mr. Brennan on his new endeavor. Mr. Ali thanked and complimented Mr. Brennan for his contributions to the Commission.

Mr. Pat Brennan also wished Ted well and thanked him for his service to the Commission and noted that he's been a great asset and will be missed.

Mr. Scavuzzo echoed the sentiments of the other Commissioners and wished Mr. Brennan the best of luck in all of his future endeavors.

Adjournment

A motion by Mr. P. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Ali to adjourn at 4:51 PM. Received a unanimous voice vote of all members present.

Submitted By:

Brandy Eisenmann Jack Killion Karl McConnell