

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 January 13, 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 in a Zoom video conference. The roll call of Commissioners reflected all present.

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

Modified Operations – Covid Response

Mr. Killion advised that the public portion of MPWC HQ is closed, summarized actions taken and indicated that status is assessed weekly. Mr. Patrick Brennan opinioned that the C.O.O. and staff make such operational decisions as they deem appropriate and need not seek Commission approval for changes to operations.

Annual Contracts

Mr. Spafford indicated that contracts are ready for signature.

Antenna Leases

Mr. McConnell explained that the MPWC received the amount of last year's rent for National Hwy. from T-Mobile which they explained to him was their practice when they knew they would be holding over. He recommends that we accept this as an offer to extend the existing lease on the National Highway tank as a one-year extension which we are free to do after two bids with no responses for that expired lease. Additionally, the MPWC received a letter today advising that T-Mobile is seeking to upgrade its equipment on the Woodbine tank where they have not responded regarding their lease which expires this February. Mr. McConnell requests going out for bid on that immediately on that lease as well as for the Verizon antenna on the Park Avenue tank. Verizon has already expressed an interest in bidding early for a new lease which expires in November. There was a brief discussion regarding the schedule of bids on expiring antenna contracts and the Commissioners supported counsel's proposals.

Assembly Bill 1075

As of this meeting date, the bill was removed and has apparently not been pre-filed. Mr. Ted Brennan suggests that he arrange a meeting for the MPWC contingent to meet with Assemblywoman Lampitt and Majority Leader Greenwald to discuss. Mr. Ted Brennan stated it is unclear how quickly the bill will move forward but setting up a meeting within the next month to discuss impact would be highly prudent to get ahead of it.



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Approval of the Minutes

A motion by Mr. P. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Warwick to approve the Business Meeting Minutes of December 9, 2021. A unanimous roll call vote of all present.

Payment of the Bills

A motion by Mr. P. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Ali to approve payment of the bill list dated January 13, 2022, for \$1,082,720.99, the P-Card in the amount of \$784.80, and also the wire transfers for both the HRA and FSA accounts totaling \$200,154.60. A unanimous roll call vote of all present.

A motion by Mr. P. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Warwick to approve payment of the bills for Pennsauken Township in the amount of \$1,520.00. 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 Remington & Vernick in the amount of \$4,148.00. 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.

Staff Reports

Mr. Killion reviewed items noted in his report.

Mr. Spafford summarized the status of the Woodbine Plant project and indicated that he intended to bring the plant online for the second quarter at the very beginning April. Construction is in its final stages and the project is expected to come in right on budget. Mr. Spafford also advised that the Collingswood interconnect issues have been resolved.

Mr. McConnell asked the Commission to amend the November business meeting minutes to reflect that the actual action taken at the November meeting was the qualification of Mr. Wiltsey/Obermayer in lieu of Dillworth Paxson rather than an actual contract award at that time. Mr. McConnell also asks for the Commission to award at this time a Non-Fair & Open Contract for Obermeyer as the QPA has advised that all necessary documents were timely received.

Old Business

A motion by Mr. P. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Warwick to amend the business meeting minutes of November 15, 2021 as referenced. A unanimous roll call vote of all Commissioners present.

New Business

A motion by Mr. P. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Ali to award a Professional Contract to Brett Wiltsey, Esq. of Obermeyer Rebmann firm under a Non-Fair & Open contract to handle the bond work for National Highway Project Financing. A unanimous roll call vote of all Commissioners present.



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A motion by Mr. P. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Warwick to accept T-Mobile's offer as a one-year extension their current antennae lease at National Highway. A unanimous roll call vote of all members present.

Project Status Table:

The Commissioners will begin to consider a date for their next Strategic Planning session and possibly plan for facilities tours with the host communities.

Commissioners Reports:

Mr. Warwick wished the Commissioners and staff a Happy & Healthy New Year.

Mr. Ted Brennan thanked staff for the time and energy they put into working on Bill 1075, and also a Happy New Year.

Mr. Pat Brennan led a discussion on the budget status report and summarized the financial outcome of the year as success in spite of challenges. There was a discussion on funding for the National Highway plant and the Commission is hopeful for some funding relief to become available.

Mr. Scavuzzo echoed everyone's sentiments of a happy & healthy new year.

Adjournment

A motion by Mr. Warwick and 2nd by Mr. Ali to adjourn at 4:58 PM. Received a unanimous voice vote of all members present.

Submitted By:

Brandy Eisenmann Jack Killion Karl McConnell