

Mr. Joseph Scavuzzo
PresidentMr. Shakir Ali
Vice PresidentMr. Frank Warwick
SecretaryMr. Patrick Brennan
TreasurerMr. Anthony Perno
Ass't Secretary/ Treasurer**Minutes of the MPWC Monthly Business Meeting
April 14, 2022****ATTENDEES****Commissioners:**

Mr. Joseph Scavuzzo, President
Mr. Shakir Ali, Vice President
Mr. Patrick Brennan, Treasurer
Mr. Frank Warwick, Secretary
Mr. Anthony Perno, 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, Distribution Superintendent

Mr. Scavuzzo called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM.
The roll call of Commissioners reflected all present.
Salute to the Flag; Open Public Meetings Act Compliance Statement read.

Bid Opening for Park Ave Tank Antennae License

Mr. McConnell informed the Commissioners that there were no bidders, and the antenna space will be re-bid.

Woodbine Tank Antennae License

Mr. McConnell seeks Commission approval to accept the T-Mobile proposal for a one-year contract extension for the Woodbine Tank Antennae. They have already tendered a one-year fee at last year's rate of \$47,928.00.

Apartment Bill Rate Language

As discussed at last month's meeting, Mr. Spafford provided the Commissioners with the revised language in order to clarify the apartment billing rate.

Offer of Employment-Plant Operator

Staff to offer employment to a candidate identified in the interview process for Plant Operator.

Financial Disclosure Statements

Commissioners were reminded to complete their annual financial disclosure statements before the end of April.

AFD & EPL Training for Commissioners

Mr. Killion reminded the Commissioners of the May 1 deadline to complete the annual training for credit.

DCA LIHWAP Program

Ms. Eisenmann informed the Commissioners of the restrictions and guidelines for collections under the DCA LIHWAP program after having attended a recent webinar.

Summer Help Recruitment

Staff is in the process of advertising for recruitment for the seasonal summer help program.

Customer Support Center Recruitment

Ms. Eisenmann informed the Commission that the Customer Support Center is recruiting to fill the department vacancy that has open after being created by a resignation last year.

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Ass't Secretary/ Treasurer**Salary Committee Meeting**

Mr. Killion reminded the Commissioners that staff would like to meet with the Salary Committee in the coming weeks. Mr. Scavuzzo summarized the timeline of activities surrounding annual evaluations for both hourly and salaried staff for new Commissioners.

Approval of the Minutes

A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Ali to approve the Business Meeting Minutes of March 10, 2022. **A unanimous roll call vote of all present.**

Payment of the Bills

A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Warwick to approve payment of the bill list dated March 10, 2022, for \$679,423.66, and the P-Card in the amount of \$329.97, and the wire transfer in the amount of \$357,346.00. **A unanimous roll call vote of all present.**

A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Perno to approve payment of the bills for Pennsauken Township in the amount of \$8,788.83. **A unanimous roll call vote of all present, except Mr. Scavuzzo and Mr. Ali abstained.**

Staff Reports

Mr. Killion reported that staff has been working on the MPWC Annual Report and it will be ready for distribution at the facilities tour at the end of the month. Mr. Killion noted that the MPWC raised \$600.00 in donations for Ukraine, matched with \$500.00 by Google for a total donation to UNICEF for Ukraine relief of \$1,100.00.

Mr. Garaguso reported that PSEG was finishing running their services on Park Avenue and that the county contractor would soon be removing their materials from the MPWC property. Mr. Brennan inquired about the spring flushing initiative and staffing of main breaks that occur during the flushing. Mr. Garaguso assured the Commissioners that the Techs have been able to provide service with little disruption, and that the flushing program is near ending for the season. It was commented that while pumpage was up in March comparing to last year would not be a fair comparison due to the pandemic.

Mr. Spafford reported that the Clement's Tank interior painting would begin with the tank being drained next week. The new Woodbine treatment plant is online and running. The project team is working through punch list items.

A meeting has been set for contract renegotiations with Collingswood.

Mr. McConnell reported that the Bond Counsel reported MPWC must obtain a credit rating for the Infrastructure Bank application for National Highway Plant upgrade project funding. Two options were recommended by Bond counsel, and following those, the MPWC requested two financial advisors provide quotes. Only one provided a quote, but it was below the quote threshold. Mr. McConnell recommends that the Commission retain Acacia Financial Group, Inc. to obtain a Moody's credit rating for the MPWC financing of the National Highway plant upgrades.



MERCHANTVILLE-PENNSAUKEN WATER COMMISSION

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Commission Action

A Resolution by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Warwick authorizing the one-year extension of the T-Mobile antenna contract for the Woodbine tank. **A unanimous roll call vote of all present. Resol.2022-07.**

A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Ali formally ratifying and authorizing Mr. Killion execution of the contracts for the MPWC's enrollment in the DCA LIHWAP program. **A unanimous roll call vote of all members present.**

A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Perno awarding a not to exceed \$6,500.00 contract and authorizing retention of Acacia Financial Group, Inc. to obtain a Moody's credit rating for the MPWC for IBank financing. **A unanimous roll call vote of all members present.** An engagement letter agreement was executed.

A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Ali adjust language to clarify the MPWC billing rate for apartments. **A unanimous roll call vote of all members present.**

Commissioners Reports:

Mr. Ali wished Commissioners and staff a happy Easter. Mr. Brennan informed Commission and staff that he would be on medical leave for a few weeks and looks forward to returning. Mr. Scavuzzo wished everyone a Happy Easter and reminded Commissioners to complete their Financial Disclosure forms. Mr. Scavuzzo and Mr. Brennan, as the current salary committee, would be discussing a date for availability to meet with staff to review the hourly employee recommendations.

Adjournment

A motion by Mr. Scavuzzo and 2nd by Mr. Perno to adjourn at 5.00 PM. **Received a unanimous voice vote of all members present.**

Submitted By:

Brandy Eisenmann
Jack Killion
Karl McConnell