

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. Frank Warwick Secretary Mr. Patrick Brennan Treasurer Mr. Anthony Perno Ass't Secretary/ Treasurer

Minutes of the Monthly Business Meeting June 9, 2022 ATTENDEES

Commissioners:

Mr. Joseph Scavuzzo, President Mr. Shakir Ali, Vice President Mr. Frank Warwick, Secretary Mr. Patrick Brennan, Treasurer Mr. Anthony Perno, Ass't Secretary/Treasurer **Other Attendees:**

Jack Killion, C.O.O.
Richard Spafford, P.E., Director of Engineering
Karl N. McConnell, General Counsel
James Garaguso, Distribution Superintendent
Colleen O'Brien, Customer Support Supervisor

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

The Roll Call of Commissioners reflected: All Commissioners were present.

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

I-Bank & NJEIT Financing Status – National Highway Plan Project

Mr. Spafford reported that the application for financing is complete and the MPWC is only awaiting the action of the I Bank to proceed. Mr. Brennan asked what was being offered as to percent of a bond compared to a grant. Mr. Spafford responded that information is not decided until closing.

Permission to Bid Materials Supply Contract

Mr. Spafford advised that due to the COVID pandemic the shortages on all supplies are continuing and vendors continue to have difficulties getting supplies. In the beginning of the year the Commissioners agreed to allow us to go out for six (6) month contracts and therefore we will need to seek to go out to bid again.

Lead Service Replacement - Funding

Mr. Spafford informed the Commission that of the estimated 15,000 services in our franchise area of which approximately 10,000 have been identified, approximately 200 of those need to be replaced. Currently there is principal forgiveness for five (5) years. Mr. Spafford will be in contact with the DEP during this process. Mr. Perno asked who would be responsible for the funding of replacement. Mr. Spafford stated that he would be researching ways to incentivize this for the customer to fund the replacement of their own service line(s).

Annual Audit Field Work

Mr. Killion informed the Commission that the audit work has begun by the staff from Bowman & Company.

Salary Committee - Approval of Recommendations

Mr. Scavuzzo commented that there has been no response or changes from the rest of the Commissioners about the proposed recommendations of the Salary Committee.

Strategic Planning Session for Commissioners

A discussion ensued about planning meetings that have taken place in the past so that the Commissioners that have not attended are aware of what the goals have been for these meetings in the past.



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Contract Negotiations – Collingswood

Mr. Killion informed the Commissioners of the proposed new terms for the contract with Collingswood going into year five (5). Collingswood is looking to reduce the scope of work needed by the MPWC. That Borough proposed language which staff has drafted into a form of amendment if the Commission approves.

Approval of the Minutes

A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Warwick to approve the Business Meeting Minutes of May 12, 2022. **A unanimous roll call vote of all present; Mr. Brennan abstained.**

Payment of the Bills

A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Warwick to approve payment of the bill to Pennsauken Township dated May 12, 2022, for \$105,044.27. A unanimous roll call vote of all present; Mr. Ali and Mr. Scavuzzo abstained.

A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Warwick to approve payment of the scholarships dated June 1, 2022, in the amount of \$1,000.00; and payment for the P-Card in the amount of \$119.91. A unanimous roll call vote of all present.

A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Warwick to approve payment of the bill list dated June 9, 2022, for \$573,507.96. A unanimous roll call vote of all present; Mr. Ali and Mr. Scavuzzo abstained.

Staff Reports

Mr. Killion commented on the Moody's rating and was impressed to receive such a high rating. Mr. Brennan commented that the Board of Commissioners should read over the report to understand the quality of the rating received. He also emphasized the MPWC still has bigger burdens ahead.

Mr. Brennan inquired about the pumpage numbers for the month and their cause. Mr. Garaguso said that Garden State Park has added a few larger users, as well as more residential housing going into that area.

Mr. McConnell reported that there will be new resolutions for the re-organization meeting next month (July) memorializing the rules the MPWC has had for holding meetings; adopting required rules for holding meetings during a declared emergency, and to allow Commissioner remote attendance. Mr. McConnell had drafts he handed out to the Commissioners to review prior to the re-organization meeting.

Commission Business

A motion by Mr. Brenna and 2nd by Mr. Perno to authorize bids for supply materials. A unanimous roll call vote of all present.

A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Warwick to approve the Salary Committee Recommendations effective the first payroll after July 1, and to authorize execution by President and Secretary. A unanimous roll call vote of all present except for Mr. Brennan who recused himself from the matter.

A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Perno to approve the contract Amendment for the last year of the agreement with Collingswood and to authorize the President and Secretary to execute same. **A Unanimous roll call vote of all present.**



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Commissioner Reports

Mr. Warwick congratulated Staff on the high Moody's rating. Mr. Perno congratulated Staff of the same. Mr. Ali congratulated Staff as well and welcomed Mr. Brennan back. Mr. Brennan was happy to be back and thanked all for the well wishes. Mr. Scavuzzo wished all a Happy Father's Day.

Adjournment

A motion by Mr. Warwick and 2nd by Mr. Ali to adjourn at 4:48 PM. Received a unanimous voice vote of all members present.

Submitted By:

Colleen O'Brien Jack Killion Karl McConnell

