

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 George Piperno Secretary Mr. Patrick Brennan Treasurer Mr. Anthony Perno Ass't Secretary/ Treasurer

Minutes of the Monthly Business Meeting November 9, 2023 ATTENDEES

Commissioners:

Mr. Joseph Scavuzzo, President Mr. Patrick Brennan, Treasurer Mr. Shakir Ali, Vice President Mr. George Piperno, Secretary

Other Attendees:

Mr. Jack Killion, C.O.O.
Mr. Richard F. Spafford, P.E., Engineering Director
Mr. Karl N. McConnell, General Counsel
Mr. James Garaguso, Distribution Superintendent
Mrs. Brandy Eisenmann, Customer Service Director
Mrs. Angela Waldon, Asst. Finance Director
Mrs. Jeannine Hershey,

Mr. Scavuzzo called the meeting to order at 4:05 PM.

A roll call of Commissioners: All Commissioners present, except Mr. Perno. Salute to the Flag; Open Public Meetings Act Compliance Statement was read.

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

Annual Maintenance Contracts

Staff requested permission to advertise for bids for any maintenance contracts due for renewal.

Salary Committee Recommendations

The Treasurer advised of the salary committee's intended activity and references the provided proposal for review and comment to be acted upon at next month's meeting.

Proposed Holiday Schedule

Staff presented the Commission with the proposed holidays for 2024.

Strategic Planning - Update

Mr. Killion referenced the Strategic Planning Playbook provided to Commissioners and the Strategic Planning Committee and summarized the past year's activities. A discussion ensued, which included Tara Dillon of DillonMarcus. The efforts of DillonMarcus and staff were recognized and appreciated by the Commission. The discussion continued and was centered around specific projects still in progress, including a marketing initiative.



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Approval of the Minutes

A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Ali to approve the Business Meeting Minutes of the October 12 2023 meeting. A unanimous roll call vote of all present.

Approval of the Bills

A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Ali to approve payment of Bill List dated November 9 2023 in the amount of \$920,925.55, and for Merchantville Borough in the amount of \$12,688.99, and the P-card in the amount of \$1,079.99. A unanimous roll call vote of all present.

<u>Staff Reports</u> The status of the Collingswood personnel and staff in light of the negotiated terms and the limits on scope of work to be done in near future was discussed. Staff described an update on the Rt 70 water main project and Mr. Spafford indicated that while the project seems to be moving forward, the DOT has not contacted him to discuss costs as of yet.

New Business

A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Piperno to authorize staff to go out for bids on the annual maintenance contracts. A unanimous roll call vote of all present.

A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2^{nd} by Mr. Piperno to approve the 2024 holiday schedule. A unanimous roll call vote of all present.

A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Ali to approve new services as follows:

- Two 1" domestic services and one 2" domestic service at 7377 N. Crescent Blvd.
- One 1.5" domestic service and one 4" fire service at 6306 Browning Rd.
- Approval of one 1" domestic service at 8273 Corbett Rd.
- Approval of one 2" domestic service and one 6" fire service at 2209 Clement Ave.

A unanimous roll call vote of all present.

Commissioner Reports

Mr. Piperno suggested that along with the salary committee's recommendations for staff, that an increase in Commissioner salary be considered as well, as it has been several years since there has been one. Mr. Brennan commented on the excellent management and spending of MPWC funds over the last year, noting that the Woodbine Plant is paid off and there is still a substantial excess of revenue over same time last year.



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A motion was made by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Ali to move to Executive Session at 5:34 PM. Each member present voted in the affirmative in a Roll Call vote for matters involving Personnel and contract negotiation; the Commission will return to Public Session in approximately a half-hour and anticipates taking action when it does.

EXECUTIVE SESSION- separate minutes.

The Commissioners returned to public session at 5:55pm.

Mr. Brennan made a motion, 2^{nd} by Mr. Piperno, to pass a Resolution to award a Non-Fair & Open professional services contract to engage Timothy R. Bieg, Esq. of Madden & Madden as Special Counsel to draft an employment contract between the MPWC and R. Spafford, P.E. in order to provide each party the long-term stability and assurance of commitment of employment to each other. Unanimous approval of all Commissioners present.

Adjournment

At 5:58 pm the Commissioners on Motion by Mr. Brennan, approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Submitted By:

Brandy Eisenmann Karl McConnell Jack Killion