

MPWC

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

May 9, 2024

ATTENDEES

Commissioners:

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

Other Attendees:

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

Mr. Scavuzzo called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM.

A roll call of Commissioners reflected: All Commissioners present.

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

ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED:

Bid Opening – Cherry Hill Tank Interior Painting

Mr. Spafford distributed the summary of bidders for the project, noting that the low bidder is United Painters.

AWWA National Conference – MPWC Attendance

There was a discussion about the MPWC's attendance at the National AWWA Conferences in the past and the potential for resuming participation in the future. Commissioners agreed to consider adding this valuable training expense to the budget for next year.

PHS Scholarship Ceremony

Pennsauken High School submitted their invitation to the award's ceremony for scholarship recipients.

RMC Agreement for Signatures

Mrs. Waldron provided contracts for signature by Commissioners.

Salary Committee Recommendations

President Scavuzzo summarized the Salary Committee's meeting with staff regarding recommendations for hourly employees. Commissioners were instructed to review the provided recommendations and to contact Salary Committee members or staff ahead of next month's meeting.



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Memorial Day Ceremonies

Staff indicated that wreaths for events in both Merchantville and Pennsauken are prepared for the event. It is believed that Pennsauken's event would take place Sunday, May 26 and Merchantville's event would take place on Monday, May 27, 2024. Staff is awaiting information, time & location for Pennsauken's event.

Financial Disclosure Forms

Commissioners and senior staff were reminded to complete their annual financial disclosure statements.

EPL Training for Commissioners

Commissioners were reminded to complete their annual training.

Open Position – Customer Support Center

Staff indicated that they would begin the recruitment process for the opening in the Customer Support Center.

Approval of the Minutes

A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Warwick to approve the minutes of the business meeting April 11, 2024. **A unanimous roll call vote of all present.**

Approval of the Bills

A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Perno to approve payment of bills dated May 9, 2024 in the amount of \$1,187,077.03, and for the P-Card for \$1,028.89. **A unanimous roll call vote of all present.**

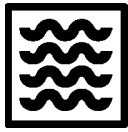
A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Perno to approve payment of bills for Pennsauken Township dated May 9, 2024 in the amount of \$106,006.25. **A unanimous roll call vote of all present, except Mr. Scavuzzo & Mr. Ali who abstained.**

A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Warwick to approve payment of bills for Merchantville Borough, dated May 9, 2024 in the amount of \$14,327.11. **A unanimous roll call vote of all present.**

Staff Reports

Mr. Spafford informed the Commissioners that Collingswood's latest lab results indicate that they would be needing a new treatment plant at Hillcrest. A meeting has been scheduled to discuss and determine the needs going forward. Mr. Spafford indicated that a new plant would require additional people and more money. Mr. Spafford will report back to the Commission after the initial meeting. The DEP is preparing to drill test holes along Rt 70 for the main replacement project. A discussion ensued regarding the MPWC's offer and understanding of financial responsibility. The Commission asked staff to be sure that the details are documented for the record.

Ms. Peirce announced that this would be her final Commission meeting prior to her upcoming retirement and thanked the Commission for her many years. Ms. Peirce noted that she is who she is today thanks to her time working for this commission.

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Mrs. Waldron informed the Commission that a Teams meeting took place with Imbue to further discuss the marketing proposal. Staff will send Imbue a scaled down project plan outline and budget so that a revised quote for services can be prepared. During the conversation it was noted that the MPWC should consider converting its old DVD promotional videos to digital format to be stored for long term use.

Bid Openings

A motion by Mr. Brennan and 2nd by Mr. Perno to award the bid for the interior painting of the Cherry Hill tank to the low bidder United Painters for \$245,000.00. **A unanimous roll call vote of all present.**

Commissioner Reports

Mr. Warwick wished Ms. Peirce well in her upcoming retirement. Mr. Perno echoed those sentiments and also wished a Happy Mother's Day to staff who celebrate. Mr. Ali joined in the well wishes of a Happy Mother's Day and retirement to Ms. Peirce. Mr. Brennan offered thanks to Ms. Peirce for all of her efforts and many years of service to the Commission. Mr. Brennan also noted that he'd sent an advertisement circulated by NJAW regarding their lead line replacement efforts and asked staff to take a look at it and to consider how we might further enhance our own efforts of informing the public of this project and the need to identify and replace service line materials. Mr. Perno wished a Happy Mother's Day and wonderful retirement to Ms. Peirce. Mr. Scavuzzo thanked Ms. Peirce for her years of dedicated service alongside of Mr. German and the Salary Committee. Despite being sad to see her go, he wishes her well and knows that all of the efforts put into succession planning will leave the finance department well prepared to operate successfully in the future. Mr. Scavuzzo mentioned that Pennsauken Township would be holding a Senior Citizen Appreciation Day and wondered if staff could staff a table with information that would be helpful and relevant to the Seniors with regard to any of our ongoing projects, efforts. Mr. Brennan suggested that staff schedule a meeting with the auditors ahead of the start of this year's audit to discuss finances and how best to plan for future projects and how to spend, borrow and invest in the best interests of the Commission and its customers.

Adjournment

A motion by Mr. Warwick and 2nd by Mr. Ali to adjourn at 5:03 PM. **A unanimous voice vote of all present.**

Submitted By:Brandy Eisenmann
Jack Killion