

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MOUNT LAUREL TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY**

August 19, 2021

Chairwoman Coco-Capri called the regular meeting of the Mount Laurel Township Municipal Utilities Authority to order at 7:00 p.m. via videoconference. A sign with the call-in information was posted at the Elbo Lane Water Treatment Plant Facility Meeting Room and posted on the Authority’s official website.

Those in attendance were:

Cheryl Coco-Capri	Chair
Christopher Smith	Vice Chair
Elwood Knight	Secretary
John Francescone	Member
Carol Murphy	Member

Also in attendance were:

William Long	Consulting Engineer
George Morris	Solicitor
Pamela Carolan	Executive Director
Russell Trice	Operations Engineer
Jonathan Sears	Finance Director
Rachael Brandt	Administrative Assistant
Theresa Trumbetti	Stenographer

Chairwoman Capri announced that the notice requirements of the “Senator Byron M. Baer Open Public Meetings Act” have been satisfied. Annual notice has been transmitted to two newspapers; it has been prominently posted on the Municipal Bulletin Board and filed with the Mount Laurel Township Clerk.

Public Comment

There were no members of the public in attendance.

Minutes

Following a motion made by Mr. Knight and seconded by Ms. Murphy, the Board approved the minutes for the July 15, 2021, regular meeting, with affirmative votes from Mr. Smith, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight and Ms. Murphy. Mr. Francescone was absent for this vote.

Total votes: 4 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

Developments/New Connections

There are no Developments/New Connections this month.

Mr. Francescone arrived.

Operations

COVID-19 Update

Ms. Carolan said we are fully staffed, and we also went back to mask requirements for all – currently 50% of the staff is vaccinated.

Mr. Sears noted that July was a good collections month, and we forgave \$10,756 more in interest.

Water System Summary

Ms. Carolan reported that there were no water system leaks since the last meeting, and so far 2021 water use is 50MG more than through the same period last year, with May, June and August being the higher usage months.

Ms. Carolan noted that we have withdrawn all but 36MG or the 174MG stored in the ASR.

Ms. Carolan added that we will try to use all of it this year as it's the final year of the 3 year banking cycle.

Ms. Carolan reported that there are 4 fire hydrants out of service, with the one on Union Mill Rd having been out for two years because the water main which services it is off due to damage on the bridge by DPW. Repair cost is estimated at \$100K so we are waiting for the new main to be installed when the bridge is replaced; work was supposed to have been done in 2020.

Sewer System Summary

Ms. Carolan noted that there are 4 pumping stations operating out of normal parameters.

Ms. Carolan reported that the sewage treatment plant effluent flow meter stopped working and the UV and other parts of the treatment process pace on that flow meter, so work arounds are temporarily in place as it will not be repaired for several more months because of the long lead time for parts due to Covid.

Underdrains

Ms. Carolan reported that Ramblewood drain plugs are inspected quarterly and there are over 500 of them, to make sure the plugs are intact – if they are displaced, we will jet the line and replace the plug.

Presentation of Engineer's Status Report

Mr. Long presented the report.

Active Projects in Construction

Devonshire Pump Station Upgrade, M-180-353-00, SPS-RR-(E)

This project includes a major rehabilitation of the Devonshire Pump Station. A contract in the amount of \$759,000 was awarded to B & H Contracting, Inc. at the December 2020 meeting. Construction started on April 6, 2021. Project 75% complete. Demolition complete, building and emergency generator set. VFDs scheduled for delivery during week of August 17th. Waiting for PSE&G to connect main power. This may delay the project.

Hartford Road WPCF Tank Repairs, M-180-355-00, HR-TK-(A)

This project includes rehabilitation of the 2 primary clarifiers, secondary clarifier No. 2 and the sludge thickener tank at the sewage treatment plant. New clarifier drives, sludge and scum collection equipment, bar screens, electrical equipment, valves and other associated equipment or devices will be rehabilitated or replaced. Financing is via the NJIB. A contract in the amount of \$1,882,000 was awarded to BR Welding, Incorporated, on August 15, 2019. Change Order No. 2 for \$0 was approved by the Authority in June 2020 and extends the completion date by 125 days to October 31, 2020, following supply chain issues related to the State of Emergency. Change Order #6 was approved on May 20, 2021, resulting in an adjusted contract amount of \$1,871,118.17, 0.6% reduction of the original contract amount.

Fall protection for secondary clarifier complete. Final inspection scheduled for August 12th. Fall prevention operation class to be scheduled with MUA staff. Construction is 99% complete.

Hartford Road WPCF Primary Clarifier Tank Repainting, M-180-355-002

This project was originally included in the tank repairs project (M-180-355-001); however, a problem with the bid indicated that specification revisions were needed. This project will be financed via the NJIB. Both primary clarifiers which were constructed in 1996 will be blasted and repainted. Contract number R2021-

03 was awarded to Allied Painting, Inc. in the amount of \$325,000 at the July 15, 2021, meeting. A preconstruction meeting was held on August 4, 2021. Construction scheduled to start on August 11th.

Hartford Road WPCF Lighting Replacement, M-180-364-001

This project was for the replacement of site lighting throughout the plant. Financing via NJIB. A contract in the amount of \$102,040.00 was awarded to ABS Electric, Inc. on September 17, 2020. Construction is complete. Close out documentation to be submitted.

Pump Station Site Work, M-180-371, SPS-B-(B)

This project included improvements at three pumping stations: Timbercrest, East Gate and Ethel Lawrence. The work included replacement of gates, fencing, relocation of driveways and asphalt paving. Contract No. 2020-08 was awarded to RE Pierson Construction in the amount of \$125,792.50 the March 2021 meeting. Construction is complete. Close out documentation to be submitted.

Piping, Heat Tracing, and Insulation Replacement at Hartford Rd WPCF, M-180-378-001, HR-MIS-(H)

This project was for the replacement of various heat tracing and insulation that was originally installed on exposed piping at the Hartford Road WPCF when the plant was expanded/upgraded in 1996. This project will be funded via a loan from the NJIB. A contract was awarded to Whitfield Schneider Enterprises in the amount of \$263,000 at the January 21, 2021, meeting. Construction is complete. Close out documentation to be submitted.

Door and Window Replacement – Various Locations, M-180-382

This project includes the replacements of doors and windows at various locations including Hartford Road WPCF, two (2) pump stations, 1201 South Church Street, and the Ark Road Booster Station. Contract 2020-05 was awarded to WJ Gross, Inc. in the amount of \$222,870.00 in November 2020. Person doors and windows being installed. Waiting for delivery of overhead doors. Construction is 75% complete.

Church Street Water Tank Painting, M-180-385-001

No change in status. This project will include blasting and painting of all interior surfaces and power wash, power tool clean and overcoat all exterior surfaces. In addition, and improved safety system will be installed including a handrail system, cable safety system and secure ladder gate. A contract in the amount of \$360,000 was awarded to Dynamic Sandblasting & Painting at the April 2021 meeting. Painting of the tank is scheduled for September 2021.

Active Projects in Design

Replacement of Part of Library Force Main and Millstream Force Main Connection, M-180-322

No change in status. The project includes replacing a section of the library force main, beginning at the pump station, through the adjacent wooded area to Route 295. The project includes cleaning and televising the force main crossing under Tour 295/NJTP. The project also includes replacement of the connection of the Millstream force main to the force main in Union Mill Rd. Engineer's estimates were submitted to the Authority for consideration of routing of the library force main.

Atrium & Hooten Pump Station Upgrades, M-180-347

No change in status. Still waiting on NJDEP approval. This project includes electrical and control system replacement and upgrades at both the Atrium and the Hooten Road stations. The Atrium station work will also include pump replacement and replacement of the emergency generator with which also connects to the adjacent Horizon Way Water Booster Station. This project was included in the first loan application for NJIB financing. Construction was originally scheduled to begin in FY20. The TWA permit was received from NJDEP on May 6, 2021. Plans and specification submitted to SED office. Project to be advertised as soon as NJDEP approval is granted.

Hartford Road WPCF Orbal Aerator Repairs, M-180-360

This project is for the repair of broken discs and hoods on some of the aerators located on the orbal tank. When the aerators are repaired, the Orbal cell channels will also be cleaned. This project was included in the first loan application for NJIB financing, construction was originally scheduled for FY 2020, bidding in March 2021. Design is about 95% complete. Authority staff supplied comments on the plans and specifications this week.

Pump Station Monitoring System, M-180-365

This project includes updating of the alarm system at 30 of the Authority's 41 sewage pumping stations. In addition, condition monitoring will be included with the system. The Authority authorized start of design work with a completion of March 5, 2021, which was not met. Financing for this project was originally planned for NJIB bundle #1. Design is ongoing with all 30 pump stations visited. We received recommendations from Flygt representatives for upgrades at each pump station and are reviewing them. Plans and specifications to be completed by the end of September for Authority review.

Union Mill Farms Force Main Replacement, M-180-376

Still waiting on NJDEP approval. This project will include installation of a new force main that will redirect the pump station discharge out of the primary force main in Union Mill Road and into the gravity sewer collection system that discharges to the Holiday Village East Pump station. A buried plug valve will be installed in the new main at the approximate location of the existing blow off manhole. Financing will be via the NJIB. The TWA permit was received from NJDEP on May 7, 2021. Plans and specifications submitted to Received comments from NJDEP SED office, but still waiting on NJDEP Engineering review comments. Project to be advertised as soon as NJDEP approval is received.

Hydro Power Feasibility Study, M-180-381

No change in status. The study is ongoing. The Authority has requested the 2009 Hydro Power Feasibility Study be updated. A review of the available hydro turbine technologies is being conducted and the construction, O&M and subsidy costs are being updated.

Redevelopment of Well No. 7 (ASR), M-180-386

This project is for the periodic redevelopment of the well including removal and rehabilitation of the existing pump and well piping, redevelopment of the well and installation of Authority supplied pump and well piping. The project will be advertised tomorrow and awarded at the September meeting with construction in November and December.

Future Projects

Nottingham Way Water Main Replacement, M-180-366

No change in status. This project includes the replacement of approximately 500 LF of 6" water main. Survey work has been completed. Project schedule is dependent on the frequency of future water main breaks and the availability of federal infrastructure funding.

Completed Projects on Maintenance Bond

Replacement of Briggs Force Main and Connection and Library Force Main Connection, M-180-322-001
Construction completed on November 16, 2020. The maintenance bond will expire on November 16, 2022.

Hartford Road WPCF, Warehouse to Vehicle Storage Conversion, M-180-354

Contract 2017-10 was deemed substantially complete on December 17, 2020. The maintenance bond will expire on November 19, 2022.

Hartford Road WPCF Roof Replacement and Lightning Protection, M-180-363-1

Construction completed March 1, 2021. The maintenance bond will expire on March 1, 2023.

Saint David Drive Water Main Replacement – Phase 2, M-180-367

Contract 2019-13 to the Pioneer Pipe Contractors in the amount of \$523,526.00 was deemed complete effective December 31, 2020, and on maintenance bond that expires on December 31, 2022.

Hartford Road WPCF Plant Laboratory, M-180-370

Contract 2018-07 was deemed substantially complete on December 17, 2020. The maintenance bond will expire on November 21, 2021.

Emergency Shower and Eyewash Facility Installation, M-180-372-1

Contract 2018-18 to Whitfield Schneider Enterprises, Inc. in the amount of \$193,100.00 was deemed complete effective February 28, 2021, and on maintenance bond until February 28, 2023.

Hartford Road WPCF Filter Press Control Panel Replacements, M-180-374

Construction completed March 19, 2020, and on maintenance bond until March 19, 2022.

Hartford Road WPCF Door Replacement, M-180-375

Construction completed January 7, 2020, and maintenance bond expires January 7, 2022.

Repainting of Elbo Lane Clarifiers, M-180-383

Contract 2020-03 in the amount of \$189,700.00 to Brave Industrial Painting, LLC was deemed complete on January 27, 2021. Maintenance bond expires January 27, 2023.

Redevelopment of Well #6, M-180-384

Construction completed April 7, 2021. Maintenance bond expires April 7, 2023.

Mr. Trice reported on the following projects as they are being designed by firms other than Alaimo Associates:

Indigo Drive Water Main Replacement Phase 3 (Engineer: ERI, Inc.), W21-CC-(A)

The scope of the project included replacement of the existing water main and house services from Hydrangea to the end of the cul-de-sac. The roadway will be milled and paved from curb to curb. A contract in the amount of \$187,809.00 was awarded to RTW Construction, Inc at the August 2020 meeting. Installation of the water main, hydrants and services are complete, paving is done. Project close out information must be submitted. Change Order #2 was approved during the June 17, 2021, meeting, with an adjusted contract price of \$187,809. Construction is complete, waiting on final paperwork to close the job out.

Force Main Air Release Valves (Engineer: ERI, Inc.)

The scope of the project includes rehabilitation of air relief valves on the high-pressure sanitary sewer force main and addition of air release valve vaults at other locations on the high-pressure force main. Bids were received on July 29, 2021. Only one (1) bid was received from T&T Commonwealth Construction Co., Inc. in the amount of \$986,687.00. This bid substantially exceeds the engineer's estimate of \$415,000. Rejection of the bid received and readvertisement of the project with the bid items prioritized and the inclusion of alternate bid items is recommended.

East Saint Andrews Drive Water Main Replacement (Engineer: ERI, Inc.)

This project includes the replacement of approximately 900 LF of 10” water main on E. St. Andrews Dr. and an upgrade of approximately 400 LF of 4” water main to 6” on Pebblebrook Lane. The contract was awarded to Earle Asphalt Company in the amount of \$400,213.13 at the Authority’s July 2021 board meeting. The preconstruction meeting was held, and the contractor anticipates mobilizing the week of September 13th.

Sanitary Sewer System Modelling, Capacity Assessment and Master Planning (Engineer: Mott MacDonald)

No change in status. The project schedule indicated that 22 flow meters would be installed at Authority PSs in February 2021 and flows would be recorded for 2 months. Winter is typically when the highest wastewater flows are experienced due to rain and snow events and a high ground water table. Installation of the flows meters was delayed by the metering company and the high flow season was missed. As a result, the flow metering will be postponed until November when the system flows typically increase. Mott MacDonald will continue with the development of the primary force main hydraulic model using the data available at this time. Final calibration of the model will be done after the flow monitoring data is collected.

Hartford Road WFCF-Dewatered Sludge Conveyance Equipment and Belt Press Evaluation (Engineer: Colliers Engineering & Design-formerly Maser Consulting)

This project is for an evaluation of the biosolids handling systems for repairs, replacement or modifications to the process and to develop cost estimates. The final report which was received on July 15th is being reviewed by Authority staff.

Closed Session

A motion was made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Francescone voted on and unanimously approved to pass Resolution 2021-08-91 to close the meeting to discuss Potential Litigation, Personnel and Collective Bargaining Agreement which are exempt from open meetings under the Sunshine Law, at 7:27 p.m.
Total votes: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

Potential Litigation, Personnel and Collective Bargaining Agreement – SEE CLOSED PORTION OF MEETING

The meeting was re-opened at 8:36 p.m., following a motion made by Mr. Smith, and seconded by Mr. Knight and with unanimous agreement from Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, Ms. Murphy, Mr. Smith and Mr. Francescone.
Total votes: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstention, 0 absent

Contracts

Following a motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Ms. Murphy, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2021-08-92, Resolution Approving Change Order No. 2, with an Increase of \$5.00, for the Sewage Pump Station Site Work Project, MUA Contract No. 2020-08, with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Mr. Francescone, Mr. Knight, Mr. Smith, and Ms. Murphy.
Total votes: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstention, 0 absent

Following a motion made by Mr. Knight and seconded by Mr. Francescone, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2021-08-93, Resolution Approving Change Order No. 3, with an Increase of \$7,626.22.00, for the HRWPCF Piping Heat Tracing and Insulation Project, MUA Contract No. 2019-04, with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Mr. Francescone, Mr. Knight, Mr. Smith and Ms. Murphy.
Total votes: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstention, 0 absent

Following a motion made by Ms. Murphy and seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2021-08-94, Resolution Approving Acceptance of the Indigo Drive Water Main Replacement-Phase 3 Project and Initiating the Two-Year Maintenance Period, MUA Contract No. 2020-02, with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Mr. Francescone, Mr. Knight, Mr. Smith and Ms. Murphy.

Total votes: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstention, 0 absent

Following a motion made by Mr. Francescone and seconded by Mr. Knight, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2021-08-95, Resolution Approving Acceptance of the Sewage Pump Station Site Work Project and Initiating the Two-Year Maintenance Period, MUA Contract No. 2020-08, with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Mr. Francescone, Mr. Knight, Mr. Smith and Ms. Murphy.

Total votes: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstention, 0 absent

Following a motion made by Ms. Murphy and seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2021-08-96, Resolution Authorizing Release of Maintenance Bond for Elbo Lane WTP David Replacement, MUA Contract No. 2018-04, with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Mr. Smith, Mr. Francescone, Mr. Knight and Ms. Murphy.

Total votes: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstention, 0 absent

Following a motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Francescone, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2021-08-97, Resolution Authorizing the Recommendation to Reject Bids for the Air Release Manhole Rehabilitation & Installation Project, MUA Contract No. 2020-06, with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Mr. Smith, Mr. Francescone, Mr. Knight and Ms. Murphy.

Total votes: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstention, 0 absent

Following a motion made by Mr. Knight and seconded by Ms. Murphy, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2021-08-98, Resolution Approving Award of Contract to Henkels & McCoy, Inc. as Lowest Responsible Bidder Following Receipt of Competitive Bids for the Emergency Repair Work, MUA Contract No. 2021-04, with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Mr. Smith, Mr. Francescone, Mr. Knight and Ms. Murphy.

Total votes: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstention, 0 absent

Following a motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Francescone, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2021-08-99, Resolution Approving Award of Contract to Crest Construction Group, LLC as a Responsible Bidder Following Receipt of Competitive Bids for the Emergency Repair Work, MUA Contract No. 2021-04, with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Mr. Smith, Mr. Francescone, Mr. Knight and Ms. Murphy.

Total votes: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstention, 0 absent

Following a motion made by Mr. Francescone and seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2021-08-100, Resolution Approving Award of Contract to Mount Construction Company, Inc. as a Responsible Bidder Following Receipt of Competitive Bids for the Emergency Repair Work, MUA Contract No. 2021-04, with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Mr. Smith, Mr. Knight, Mr. Francescone and Ms. Murphy.

Total votes: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstention, 0 absent

Accounting and Financial

Following a motion made by Mr. Knight and seconded by Mr. Francescone, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2021-08-101, Resolution Authorizing the Sale of Solar Renewable Energy

Credits (SRECS), with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Mr. Smith, Mr. Knight, Mr. Francescone and Ms. Murphy.

Total votes: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstention, 0 absent

Mr. Sears noted that 319 SREC are being sold and the Authority is anticipating them to sell for \$230 each.

Following a motion made by Ms. Murphy and seconded by Mr. Francescone, the Board unanimously approved the Treasurer's Report for June 2021 and Payment Plan Status Report for July 2021, with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Ms. Murphy, Mr. Knight, Mr. Smith and Mr. Francescone.

Total votes: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

Mr. Sears noted that this is the year end unaudited report and that next month he plans to highlight certain variances between it and the original budget.

Following a motion made by Ms. Murphy and seconded by Mr. Knight, the Board unanimously approved Requisition #622 in the amount of \$941,613.63 for the account's payable vouchers, with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Ms. Murphy, Mr. Knight, Mr. Smith and Mr. Francescone.

Total votes: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

There are no bills from the Acquisition and Construction List.

Following a motion made by Mr. Francescone and seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board unanimously approved Requisition #5421 through #5447, in the amount of \$261,198.91 from the Renewal and Replacement list with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Ms. Murphy, Mr. Knight, Mr. Smith and Mr. Francescone.

Total votes: 5 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions, 0 absent

Comments:

Ms. Carolan noted that there was a newspaper article about 1,4-Dioxane in drinking water, so we posted a fact sheet posted on our website. There currently is no limit from USEPA or NJDEP however the NJ Drinking Water Quality Institute is recommending that NJDEP institute a drinking water limit of 0.33ppb. The last time we tested our wells for this parameter was for UCMR3 and the results were that it was not detected. However, 1, 4-Dioxane has been detected in Willingboro MUA's water at 0.32ppp and in NJ American Water's water at 0.63ppb. As such, we have begun informational sampling as various supply sources.

Ms. Carolan added that NJAWC is constructing a remediation facility in Delran.

Following a motion made by Mr. Smith seconded by Mr. Knight, and with unanimous agreement from the members, the meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.