

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

January 19, 2023

Chairwoman Coco-Capri called the regular meeting of the Mount Laurel Township Municipal Utilities Authority to order at 7:01 p.m. via in person and 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
Alexis Smith	Solicitor
George Morris	Solicitor
Pamela Carolan	Executive Director
Russell Trice	Operations Engineer
Charles Bernheimer	Operations Director
Brian Scott	Human Resources Director
Diane Ordille	Administrative Assistant

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 - General**

No public in attendance

**Minutes**

Following a motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Knight, the Board unanimously approved the minutes for the December 15, 2022, regular meeting, with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Mr. Smith, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Francescone.

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

Following a motion made by Mr. Knight and seconded by Mr. Francescone, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2023-01-01 Resolution Approving Release of Certain Closed Session Authority Board Meeting Minutes from the Months of July 2021 through June 2022, with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Mr. Smith, Mr. Knight, Mr. Francescone and Ms. Murphy

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

**Developments/New Connections**

There were no developments or new connections.

## **Operations**

### **Water System Summary**

Mr. Bernheimer reported the water treatment plant is still in the process of preventative maintenance and the plant is partially online which is normal for this time of year.

Mr. Bernheimer said that Well No. 3 rehabilitation project is still ongoing.

Mr. Bernheimer stated that during plant maintenance, clarifier one was taken offline, and drive issues are being addressed. In addition, there is a capital project that consists of filter valve actuators replacement.

Mr. Bernheimer mentioned that that ASR recharge began on December 5<sup>th</sup> during our NJAWC off peak purchase period, has a goal of 175 MG for storage during this cycle.

Mr. Bernheimer stated that the number of hydrants out of service are 11 public and 6 privates.

Mr. Bernheimer advised that there have been 0 water main leaks since the last meeting and there is still the ongoing leak on the county bridge and that Alaimo has in design.

Mr. Bernheimer supplied the water supply summary for 2022 showing the milestones including fully utilizing the 2022 water allocation and meeting all contractual requirements for water purchases.

### **Sewer System Summary**

Mr. Bernheimer reported that there are 5 pump stations working outside of normal parameters.

Mr. Bernheimer mentioned that on 12/24 employees responded to a sewer leak in the vicinity of LukOil on Route 38, that turned out to be their private ejector line leaking.

Mr. Bernheimer provided an update that the Orbal aerator repair project is still not complete and Orbal 2 remains offline; we continue to meet all effluent permit limits.

## **Presentation of Engineer's Status Report**

Mr. Long presented the report.

### **Active Projects in Construction**

#### **Atrium & Hooton Pump Station Upgrades, M-180-347-001**

No change in status. This project includes electrical and control system replacement and upgrades at both the Atrium and the Hooton Road stations. The Atrium station work also includes pump replacement and replacement of the emergency generator with which also connects to the adjacent Horizon Way Water Booster Station. Financing will be via a NJIB loan. On December 16, 2021, a contract in the amount of \$1,177,150.00 was awarded to Eagle Construction Services. Overall construction is 75% complete.

Waiting for equipment delivery, controls now scheduled for January delivery and emergency generators still on schedule for February 2023.

#### **Devonshire Pump Station Upgrade, M-180-353-001**

No change in status. This project included 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 is substantially complete with contractor addressing punch list items, close out documentation to be submitted. Still issue with one alarm, some modifications needed.

#### **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 channel 2 will also be cleaned. This project will be financed

via NJIB loan. Contract # 2018-03 awarded to Eagle Construction Services in the amount of \$752,514.00 on August 18, 2022. All disks installed, bearings to be delivered in April.

Union Mill Farms Force Main Replacement, M-180-376-001

No change in status. This project included installation of a new force main that redirects the pump station discharge out of the primary force main in Union Mill Road and into the gravity sewer collection system for Holiday Village East Pump Station. Financing will be via an NJIB loan. Contract No. 2019-02 was awarded to Earle Asphalt Company in the amount of \$409,713.13 during the October 21, 2021, meeting. During construction, a line stop failed on June 30, 2022, which caused a sewage spill. We are preparing the proposed change order for reimbursement to the Authority for costs related to the June 22 incident. Construction is now complete.

Well No. 3 Redevelopment M-180-391

This project will include removal and rehabilitation of the existing pump and well piping, redevelopment of the well and installation of Authority supplied pump and well piping. Contract awarded to A.C. Schultes in the amount of \$128,500.00 during the October 20, 2022, meeting. Televised tomorrow and install permanent pump next week. Construction is about 50% complete.

Active Projects in Design

Replacement of Part of Library Force Main and Millstream Force Main Connection, M-180-322-002

The project includes replacing a section of the existing PVC library force main with 10" HDPE (via directional drill), beginning at the pump station, through the adjacent wooded area to Route 295. The project includes cleaning and televising the force main crossing under Route 295/NJTP. The project also includes replacement of the connection of the Millstream force main to the primary force main in Union Mill Rd. Project will be financed via an NJIB loan. Received NJDEP TWA and SED approval. Final plans and specs to be uploaded for authorization to advertise by the NJDEP.

Pump Station Monitoring System, M-180-365

This project includes updating of the alarm system at 29 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 construction completion of March 2021, which was not met. Financing for this project was originally planned for NJIB bundle #1. Pump stations finalized (Amberfield added), design remains at 85% complete.

Air Release Manhole Improvements Union Mill Road M-180-390

No change in status. This project includes the replacement of a force main air relief valve at the intersection of Union Mill Road and the entrance to Signature Place. The project schedule is to coincide with the Township project to improve Union Mill Road. Priority and construction schedule will be done when UMR is closed for improvements which are now scheduled to begin in spring of 2024. Design has started.

Air Release Manhole Improvements 101 Hartford Road & Isolation Valve Removal Pike Road

The project includes the replacement of the air relief valve at 101 Hartford Road. The project also includes the removal of the valve and fittings for the Pike Road isolation valve. Met with the Authority to discuss plan submission. Design is about 90% complete.

Water Main on Hainesport-Mount Laurel Road County Bridge #B4.71

The Authority's 12" water main which is strapped to the side of the County's bridge has a small leak. Originally a repair was planned but due to configuration a replacement is necessary. Design plans and specs have started.

Automatic Transfer Switch Installation-81 Elbo Lane

This project is to install an Automatic Transfer Switch (ATS) at the Authority's Engineering Office Located at 81 Elbo Lane. Design hasn't begun but it was clarified that per last meeting's update, there is not an emergency generator on site, it is a portable generator.

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

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

This project was to replace 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. Contract awarded July 13, 2021, to Earle Asphalt Company in the amount of \$400,213.13. Project will be closed out at the February board meeting.

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

The hydraulic model has been completed and calibrated. Mott MacDonald is currently using the model to develop and analyze alternatives for alleviating operational problems experienced in the system and to evaluate alternatives identified by the Authority in the initial SOW. Mott MacDonald anticipates submitting a draft master plan report, which will include the modeling results, identification of system deficiencies, evaluation and recommendations for capacity relief projects and project cost estimates by January 27th.

Elbo Lane WTP HVAC Replacement (Engineer: Mott MacDonald)

No change in status. This project is to replace or rehabilitate the HVAC system at the Elbo WTP. Mott MacDonald's revised schedule indicates that the 90% complete bid documents will be submitted to the Authority for review in late April 2023.

Ramblewood Pump Station Generator Replacement (Engineer: Remington & Vernick)

No change in status. This project is to replace the existing standby generator at the Ramblewood Pump Station. A contract was awarded to Lee-Way Electrical in the amount of \$173,400.00 at the February 17, 2022, meeting. Anticipate the generator being delivered August 2023.

HRWPCF Sludge Dewatering Equipment Replacement (Engineer: Colliers)

No change in status. This project includes the replacement of the sludge handling and dewatering equipment in the sludge building which was originally constructed in 1996. Colliers Engineering and Design has been actively working on the Planning Document submission required by the IBank and on design and bid documents. Collier's initial project schedule anticipated having bid ready construction documents ready for submission to NJDEP for approval in January 2023. This project is included in the Capital Budget as UB FY21. On schedule and anticipate receiving plans next month to submit to DEP for approval.

**Chapel Hill Road and Trefoil Terrace Water Main Replacement (Engineer: ERI)**

This project includes the replacement of approximately 1,020 feet of 6” and 8” water main and 45 services on Chapel Hill Road and Trefoil Terrace. Contract No. 2022-07-84 was awarded to CTX Infrastructure in the amount of \$430,673.50 in July 2022. Services installed on Trefoil, next week they’ll be installed on Chapel Hill Road.

**Tricia Meadows Force Main (Engineer: ERI)**

This project is for the replacement of a section of the Tricia Meadows force main from the vicinity of the PS to Moorestown-Mount Laurel Road. A meeting was held with Davis Enterprises on December 22nd to discuss the proposed work. We anticipate receiving preliminary plans for review next week. This work is included in the Capital Budget under heading 1-05-70-R302-FY23.

**Hartford Road WPCF Headworks Facility (Engineer: Mott MacDonald)**

Mott MacDonald has been authorized to perform an evaluation of the existing comminutors and grit removal facilities at the Hartford Road WPCF. Mott MacDonald’s scope of work includes the evaluation of new screening and grit removal equipment technologies and the ability to construct a new headworks at both on and off-site locations. The equipment technology evaluation is scheduled to be completed by the end of March 2023 and a draft report completed by the end of May 2023.

**Closed Session**

A motion was made by Ms. Murphy, seconded by Mr. Francescone, the Board unanimously approved to pass Resolution 2023-01-02 to close the meeting to discuss Litigation and Potential Litigation which are exempt from open meetings under the Sunshine Law, at 7:34 p.m., with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Mr. Smith, Mr. Knight, Mr. Francescone and Ms. Murphy.

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

Potential Litigation – SEE CLOSED PORTION OF MEETING

The meeting was re-opened at 9:14 p.m., following a motion made by Mr. Francescone, and seconded by Mr. Smith and with unanimous agreement from Ms. Capri, Mr. Smith, Mr. Knight, Mr. Francescone and Ms. Murphy.

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

**Operations Cont’d.**

Motion regarding potential legal action – no action taken.

**Contracts**

Following a motion made by Mr. Knight and seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2023-01-03 Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract with Met Life Financial Company, in the amount of \$62,164.00 to Provide Dental Insurance Coverage Effective February 1, 2023, with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Mr. Smith, Mr. Knight, Mr. Francescone and Ms. Murphy.

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

Following a motion made by Mr. Francescone and seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2023-01-04 Resolution Authorizing the Award of a Contract with Met Life Insurance Company, in the amount of \$24,803.00, to Provide Life, Accidental Death and Dismemberment and Long-Term Disability Insurance Coverage Effective February 1, 2023, with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Mr. Smith, Mr. Knight, Mr. Francescone and Ms. Murphy.

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

Following a motion made by Mr. Knight and seconded by Ms. Murphy, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2023-01-05 Resolution Approving Release of Maintenance Bond for Painting of Elbo Lane Clarifiers, MUA Contract No. 2020-03, with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Mr. Smith, Mr. Knight, Mr. Francescone and Ms. Murphy.

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

Following a motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Francescone, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2023-01-06 Resolution Approving Change Order No. 2, with an Increase in the amount of \$131,715.00, for the Hartford Road WPCF Orbal Aerator Project, MUA Contract No. 2018-03, with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Mr. Smith, Mr. Knight, Mr. Francescone and Ms. Murphy.

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

### **Accounting and Financial**

Following a motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Knight, a Motion to Intervene in the New Jersey American Water Company's Proposed New Rate for the Replacement of their Customers Lead Service Lines, with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Mr. Smith, Mr. Knight, Mr. Francescone and Ms. Murphy.

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

Following a motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Francescone, the Board unanimously approved the Treasurer's Report for November 2022 and Payment Plan Status Report for January 2023, with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Mr. Smith, Mr. Knight, Mr. Francescone and Ms. Murphy.

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

Following a motion made by Mr. Knight and seconded by Ms. Murphy, the Board unanimously approved Requisition #639 in the amount of \$615,046.91 for the Accounts Payable voucher's list, with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Mr. Smith, Mr. Knight, Mr. Francescone and Ms. Murphy.

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

There were no bills from the Acquisition and Construction Bill List

Following a motion made by Ms. Murphy and seconded by Mr. Knight the Board unanimously approved Requisition #5772 through #5790, in the amount of \$375,760.80 from the Renewal and Replacement list with affirmative votes from Ms. Capri, Mr. Smith, Mr. Knight, Mr. Francescone and Ms. Murphy.

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

### **Comments:**

Ms. Carolan stated that this is Chris Smith's last board meeting. She thanked him for his service and said he was a pleasure to work with on the board.

Ms. Carolan went on to announce that we will have new board member, Jim Kehoe. He will be in person at the February meeting but will attend remotely for most of the summer.

Mr. Trice thanked Chris Smith for his service as a board member.

Mr. Scott, Ms. Ordille and Mr. Bernheimer all also thanked Chris Smith and wished him well.

Ms. Capri thanked Mr. Smith for his many years of service and how she looked to him for guidance in her earlier years.

Mr. Francescone and Mr. Morris also wished Mr. Smith well.

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Mr. Smith thanked everyone for their well wishes and said that he learned a great deal and he probably learned more about sewage than he wanted to!

Following a motion made by Mr. Smith seconded by Ms. Murphy, and with unanimous agreement from the members, the meeting was adjourned at 9:24 pm.