

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

July 20, 2023

Chairwoman Murphy called the regular meeting of the Mount Laurel Township Municipal Utilities Authority to order at 7:00 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:

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

Also in attendance were:

William Long	Consulting Engineer
George Morris	Solicitor
Russell Trice	Operations Engineer
Diane Ordille	Administrative Assistant
Jonathan Sears	Director of Finance
Pam Carolan	Executive Director
William Giegerich	Mount Laurel Township

Chairwoman Murphy 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 other public in attendance

Minutes

Following a motion made by Mr. Knight and seconded by Ms. Capri the Board unanimously approved the minutes for the June 15, 2023, regular meeting, with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, and Mr. Knight.

Total votes: 3 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstention, 2 absent

Developments/New Connections

No Development/New Connections this month

Operations

Water System Summary

Ms. Carolan reported 2 water main breaks since the last meeting. Ms. Carolan explained that both were out of the ordinary, so summaries were sent to board members in the preliminary board packet with the details of each (Timberline Dr in Rancocas Woods and Leadenhall Rd under a storm culvert).

Ms. Carolan added that there was also an issue at 112 S. St. Andrews Drive when a contractor making a service line repair hit the water service and the underdrain.

Ms. Carolan stated that there was a DEP inspection at the water treatment plant, wells and ASR. Ms. Carolan said the injection point for orthophosphate for the ASR needs to be relocated. Otherwise, everything else was good.

Sewer System Summary

Ms. Carolan reported that 6 pump stations were working outside of normal parameters.

Ms. Carolan stated that during the heavy rain event of July 4th, we experienced problems with the Ramblewood station and hauling contractors were called in to assist.

Ms. Carolan added that there was another rain event on July 9th, that required trucking.

Underdrain Summary

Ms. Carolan said that during the July 9th rain event, the township reached out and asked us to perform work on the old UD in Mill Run Court. Ms. Carolan stated that we were unable to clear the blockage, so the township brought in DiMeglio Construction to perform a repair.

John Francescone arrived.

Presentation of Engineer's Status Report

Mr. Long presented the report.

Active Projects in Construction

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, and 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. Contract awarded to JVS Industrial and Commercial Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$1,219,000.83 on April 20, 2023, with DEP approval. Schedule received from the contractor. Work has not yet started.

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

This project included electrical and control system replacement and upgrades at both the Atrium and the Hooton Road stations. The Atrium station work also included pump replacement and replacement of the emergency generator 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. Construction is 95% complete. Contractor is working on punchlist.

Hartford Road WPCF Orbal Aerator Repairs, M-180-360-001

No change in status. This project was for the repair of broken discs and hoods on some of the aerators located on the orbal tank and channel 2 was also 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. Cell #2 is back in service. Bearings and discs installed. Construction is complete. Preparing close-out documentation.

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. Project will be closed out next month.

Well No. 3 Redevelopment M-180-391

This project included 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. Construction is complete, spare parts delivered. Preparing close-out documentation.

Air Release Manhole Improvements 101 Hartford Rd & Isolation Valve Removal Pike Rd M-180-292

The project includes the replacement of the air relief valve at 101 Hartford Road and the removal of the valve and fittings for the Pike Road isolation valve. A contract No. 2022-14 in the amount of \$599,670.00 was awarded to J.F. Kiely Construction, Inc. at the March 2023 meeting. Schedule to be submitted by contractor.

Active Projects in Design

Pump Station Monitoring System, M-180-365

No change in status. This project includes updating 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. Design is 90% complete. Comments received from the Authority. Plans and specs being revised.

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 scheduled 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. Design of the AR replacement has started, but the project is basically on hold at this point.

Water Main on Hainesport-Mount Laurel Road County Bridge #B4.71 M-180-393

This project is for repair of a leaking 12" water main which is strapped to the side of the County bridge. Originally an emergency repair was planned but due to configuration a replacement is necessary. Bids received on July 13, 2023, and award is recommended for tonight to JVS Industrial and Commercial Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$109,000.83.

Automatic Transfer Switch Installation-81 Elbo Lane M-180-394

No change in status. This project is to install an Automatic Transfer Switch (ATS) with the capability of connecting an existing portable generator to it when needed, at the Authority's Engineering Office Located at 81 Elbo Lane. Design has started.

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

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

No change in status. The hydraulic model has been completed and calibrated. Mott MacDonald used 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. Anticipate the final report early August.

Elbo Lane WTP HVAC Replacement (Engineer: Mott MacDonald)

No change in status. This project includes the replacement and rehabilitation of the HVAC system at the Elbo WTP. Financing will be via the NJIB. Plan is to submit to DEP in July. 90%-complete bid documents are anticipated to be received shortly with submission to NJDEP for loan approval.

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

No change in status. This project includes the replacement of the existing standby generator at Ramblewood Pump Station. A contract was awarded to Lee-Way Electrical in the amount of \$173,400.00 at the February 17, 2022, meeting. In anticipation of the generator's delivery in October 2023, the contractor has started demolition work on the old generator, conduit, and wiring.

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 dewatering building which was originally constructed in 1996. Colliers provided documents for review, the authority commented and expect to have for final review in the next couple of weeks. Design documents 80% complete.

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

This project included 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. Milling and paving of both taking place over the next couple of days.

Tricia Meadows Force Main (Engineer: ERI)

No change in status. 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. Davis Enterprises had no issues with the proposed work. ERI continues to work on the contract documents. The wetlands permit application has been submitted to NJDEP. Still waiting for approval.

Hartford Road WPCF Headworks Facility (Engineer: Mott MacDonald)

No change in status. 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 new headworks at both on and off-site locations. Received preliminary evaluation report. A workshop meeting was held on May 30th to discuss the equipment technology evaluation and conceptual

designs considered for the construction of the new grit and screenings removal facilities. Visits to local treatment plants that use the recommended equipment are being planned.

Closed Session

A motion was made Mr. Francescone, seconded by Ms. Capri, the Board unanimously approved to pass Resolution 2023-07-78 to close the meeting to discuss Litigation and Potential Litigation which are exempt from open meetings under the Sunshine Law, at 7:11 p.m., with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Francescone.

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

Litigation, Potential Litigation and Regulatory Matters – SEE CLOSED PORTION OF MEETING

The meeting was re-opened at 7:32 p.m., following a motion made by Mr. Francescone and seconded by Mr. Knight with unanimous agreement from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Francescone.

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

Contracts

Following a motion made by Mr. Francescone and seconded by Ms. Capri, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2023-07-79 Resolution Approving Change Order No. 4 to Provide a Time Extension Due to Delays in Equipment Availability for the Hartford Road WPCF Repairs Project, MUA Contract No. 2018-03, with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Francescone.

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

Following a motion made by Mr. Francescone and seconded by Ms. Capri, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2023-07-80 Resolution Approving Acceptance of Hartford Road WPCF Orbal Aerator Repairs Project and Initiating the Two-Year Maintenance Period, MUA Contract No. 2018-03, with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Francescone.

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

Following a motion made by Mr. Francescone and seconded by Ms. Capri, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2023-07-81 Resolution Recommending Acceptance of Well No. 3 Redevelopment and Pump Repair Project and Initiating the Two-Year Maintenance Bond Period, MUA Contract No. 2022-10, with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Francescone.

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

Following a motion made by Mr. Francescone and seconded by Ms. Capri, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2023-07-82 Resolution Authorizing the Authority to Enter into a Shared Services Agreement with the Board of County Commissioners of the County of Burlington to Perform Certain Work/Repairs, with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Francescone.

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

Mr. Sears explained that the county will come out and give a quote for pavement restoration that will include traffic control which will be helpful for us especially for work on County roadways.

Following a motion made by Mr. Francescone and seconded by Ms. Capri, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2023-07-83 Resolution Approving Award of Contract to Barton Cooney, LLC,

in the amount of \$136,294.20, for Printing and Mailing Services for Regular Monthly Billing Following Receipt of Competitive Bids, MUA Contract No. 2022-13, with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Francescone.

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

Mr. Sears reported that one cent per piece mailed is being saved or about \$2,000 per year, but also the mailing will be sent faster, and we will be able to use staff for other projects.

Following a motion made by Mr. Francescone and seconded by Ms. Capri, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2023-07-84 Resolution Recommending Award of Contract to JVS Industrial and Commercial Contractors, Inc., in the amount of \$109,000.83 for the Hainesport-Mount Laurel Road Water Main Replacement Project Following Receipt of Competitive Bids, MUA Contract No. 2023-02, with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Francescone.

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

Following a motion made by Mr. Francescone and seconded by Ms. Capri, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2023-07-85 Resolution Authorizing Execution of Energy Aggregation Contract Following Submission of Bids, with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Francescone.

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

Mr. Sears mentioned that this resolution gives Mr. Sears and Ms. Carolan the authorization to sign by the end of the day when the bids are received, as required.

Accounting and Financial

Following a motion made by Mr. Francescone and seconded by Ms. Capri, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2023-07-86 Resolution Authorizing A Loan Application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank for Elbo Lane WTP HVAC Equipment Replacement, Project PID-4676, with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Francescone.

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

Following a motion made by Mr. Francescone and seconded by Ms. Capri, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2023-07-87 Resolution Authorizing the Mount Laurel Municipal Utilities Authority Intention to Reimburse Itself for Certain Expenditures Relating to the Authority's Capital Improvement Program Out of the Proceeds of Bonds or Other Obligations to be Hereafter Issued by the Authority, with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Francescone.

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

Discussion took place regarding fire service charges and fire hydrant charges at 750 Centerton Road (owned by Mount Laurel Township). The Board unanimously agreed that the fees (about \$3500 annually) at this property for fire service should be waived while the Township owns the property.

Following a motion made by Mr. Francescone and seconded by Ms. Knight, the Board unanimously approved the Treasurers Report for May 2023 and Payment Plan Status Report for July 2023, with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Francescone.

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

There were no bills from the Acquisition and Construction Bill List

Following a motion made by Mr. Knight and seconded by Ms. Capri the Board unanimously approved Requisitions #5904 through #5916, in the amount of \$164,013.96 from the Renewal and Replacement list with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Francescone.
Total votes: 4 ayes, 0 nays, 0 abstentions, 1 absent

Comments:

Ms. Carolan said that yesterday there was an all-day training program at our facility for water and wastewater employees enrolled in AEA's EPDA program. Ms. Carolan continued that this is the 3rd time hosting this program session on drinking water treatment and distribution, and wastewater collection and pumping. Ms. Carolan added that we have four employees working here that graduated from the program.

Mr. Sears stated regarding the IBank loan bundles, the PLC monitoring is being removed from bundle 1 at our request, which means we can go to permanent financing on the original \$7.2 million. Mr. Sears added that we will do supplement financing on the PLC monitoring once we accept bids.

Mr. Sears reported that on July 19th we sold 216 SREC's at \$213 each totaling \$46,000.

Mr. Sears also mentioned that even though we're not regulated by the BPU, a law was passed that has looped us in and is requesting we complete a lengthy report on Covid lookback that involves a lot of financial data about customer bills, arrears and supply.

Mr. Sears noted that the water and sewer rate comparison was sent home to members.

Mr. Giegerich noted that on our development status report, the Union Mill/Walton warehouse is listed on hold, but a potential developer is taking it over; a meeting is scheduled for next week.

Ms. Murphy stated she is meeting with Public Transportation regarding the ramp on 295 and proposed warehouses. Ms. Murphy added that during that meeting she will touch base about Route 73 project.

Ms. Murphy thanked everyone and said Mr. Shae (1017 S. Church St.) wanted her to thank everyone on his behalf for accommodating his requests.

Mr. Morris added that on the DEP permitting issue with Union Mill Road, Ms. Murphy needs to be briefed because it's a big issue for the MUA even though it's a Township project; the water main has been shut down for several years..

Following a motion made by Mr. Francescone and seconded by Mr. Kehoe and with unanimous agreement from the members, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm.