

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

June 15, 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
Jim Kehoe	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
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 May 18, 2023, regular meeting, with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Kehoe.

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

**Developments/New Connections**

Following a motion made by Mr. Kehoe and seconded by Mr. Knight, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2023-06-71 Resolution Authorizing the Release of Off-Site and On-Site Water Maintenance Bonds Posted for the Bancroft School – New Campus, with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Kehoe.

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

Following a motion made by Mr. Kehoe and seconded by Mr. Knight, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2023-06-72 Resolution Authorizing the Release of Water and Sewer Performance Bonds Posted for Mi Pro Homes, LLC, Union Mill Tract, with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, and Mr. Kehoe.

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

John Francescone arrived.

## **Operations**

### **Water System Summary**

Mr. Trice reported that the Elbo Lane water treatment plant is in operation and NJAWC remains off for the peak period.

Mr. Trice added that the ASR well is in recovery mode.

Mr. Trice mentioned that water use was up due to dry weather; last week's use was over 6 MG per day.

Mr. Trice stated that there were 11 public and 7 private hydrants out of service.

Mr. Trice mentioned that 417 Acorn experienced another service line leak; they have service line insurance to cover the repair.

Mr. Trice reported that there has been 1 water main leak since the last meeting and still 1 ongoing leak on the Country Bridge No. B4.71.

### **Sewer System Summary**

Mr. Trice reported that 4 pump stations were operating outside of normal parameters.

Mr. Trice stated that a valve replacement project was completed at Birchfield pump station after a failed isolation valve on the station bypass line was replaced.

Mr. Trice said that the demolition of the Turnpike pump station, which was replaced by the Gables pump station is complete.

Mr. Trice reported there was a sewer force main break on the Elbo Lane curve. Mr. Trice added that there have been several breaks over the years and replacement was planned approximately 17 years ago but because of the County changing their plan on realigning the roadway, the project was put off due to costs.

Mr. Sears added that the cost for this repair was approximately \$30,000 with \$12,000 of it being trucking of waste.

Mr. Trice mentioned that the MUA participated in Parkway School's science day on June 7<sup>th</sup>. The sewer department took the camera truck and focused educating the children on fats and grease in the sewer system.

Following a motion made by Mr. Knight and seconded by Mr. Kehoe, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2023-06-73 Resolution Recommending the Water Systems PFAS Liability Protection Act, with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, Mr. Francescone and Mr. Kehoe.

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

## **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. A preconstruction meeting was held on June 1. Construction schedule to be submitted. Shop drawings being processed. Materials orders being placed.

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. Emergency generator delivered and installed at Atrium. Startup scheduled week of June 12. Construction is 95% complete.

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

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 95% complete.

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. Issues worked out with the insurance company (for reimbursement for line stop valve failure). Mr. Morris received the settlement agreement; he will review and comment.

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. Waiting for delivery of spare parts and preparing close-out documents.

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. A preconstruction meeting was held on April 13. Shop drawings being reviewed. Construction will start once the materials are received.

Active Projects in Design

Pump Station Monitoring System, M-180-365

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

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 a repair was planned but due to configuration a replacement is necessary. County and Authority comments addressed. Plans and specs resubmitted to the Authority for review. Project to be advertised the week of June 12, 2023.

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

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. The final report is expected to be completed in late July.

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. Design is 60% complete and anticipated to be 90% in June. Financing will be via the NJIB. Plan is to submit to DEP in July. 90% complete bid documents are anticipated to be received in June and final bid document submission to NJDEP for approval is anticipated to occur in July.

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

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. Waiting for updated scheduled from them.

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

No change in status. 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. The new mains are in service, all individual house services have been connected to new mains and the old mains have been taken out of service. Final paving will take place in late July after the trenches have had time to settle.

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.

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 new headworks at both on and off-site locations. Received preliminary evaluation report. A workshop meeting was held on May 30<sup>th</sup> 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. Kehoe, seconded by Mr. Francescone, the Board unanimously approved to pass Resolution 2023-06-74 to close the meeting to discuss Litigation and Potential Litigation which are exempt from open meetings under the Sunshine Law, at 7:15 p.m., with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, Mr. Francescone and Mr. Kehoe.

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

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

The meeting was re-opened at 7:23 p.m., following a motion made by Mr. Kehoe and seconded by Mr. Francescone with unanimous agreement from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, Mr. Francescone and Mr. Kehoe.

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

**Contracts**

Following a motion made by Mr. Knight and seconded by Ms. Capri, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2023-06-77 Resolution Authorizing Release of Maintenance Bond for Indigo Drive Water Main Replacement, Phase 3, MUA Contract No. 202-03, with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, Mr. Francescone and Mr. Kehoe.

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

**Accounting and Financial**

Following a motion made by Mr. Francescone and seconded by Mr. Kehoe the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2023-06-77 Resolution Authorizing Sale of Solar Renewable Energy Credits (SRECs), with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, Mr. Francescone and Mr. Kehoe.

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

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

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

Following a motion made by Mr. Knight and seconded by Mr. Kehoe, the Board unanimously approved Requisition #644 in the amount of \$273,248.80 for the Accounts Payable voucher's list, with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, Mr. Francescone and Mr. Kehoe.

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 Mr. Knight and seconded by Mr. Kehoe the Board unanimously approved Requisitions #5881 through #5903, in the amount of \$432,210.60 from the Renewal and Replacement list with affirmative votes from Ms. Murphy, Ms. Capri, Mr. Knight, Mr. Francescone and Mr. Kehoe.

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

**Comments:**

Mr. Sears mentioned that settlements were received from the contractors on both the Hartford Road Orbal Project ark flash and the Union Mill Road line stop valve failure.

Mr. Giegerich thanked Russell Trice for sending him helpful information regarding a proposed warehouse project on Gaither Drive.

Ms. Ordille commented that Ms. Carolan did a presentation for the Tri-County Sustainability Group with her focus being on how customers get their water, where the water comes from and how to read a water quality report.

Ms. Ordille added that we received a lot of positive feedback from the science day at Parkway school, that Mr. Trice mentioned during the operations report.

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.