

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

November 21, 2019

Chairwoman Coco-Capri called the regular meeting of the Mount Laurel Township Municipal Utilities Authority to order at 7:04 p.m. in the Elbo Lane Water Treatment Plant Facility Meeting Room.

Those in attendance were:

Cheryl Coco-Capri	Chairwoman
John Francescone	Vice Chairman
Dennis Riley	Secretary
Christopher Smith	Member
Elwood Knight	Member

Also in attendance were:

Richard Alaimo	Consulting Engineer
David Kahn	Consulting Engineer
Kelly Grant	Solicitor
Pamela Carolan	Executive Director
David Wiest	Finance Director
Robert Adler	Operations Engineer
Russell Trice	Operations Engineer
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 was no public comment

**Minutes**

Following a motion made by Mr. Riley and seconded by Mr. Knight, the Board unanimously approved the minutes for the October 17, 2019 regular meeting, with affirmative votes from Mr. Knight, Mr. Smith, Ms. Capri and Mr. Riley.

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

**Developments/New Connections**

Following a motion made by Mr. Knight and seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2019-11-122, Resolution Approving the Release of Sanitary Sewer and Water Distribution Performance Cash Bonds for Capitol Seniors Housing – 785 Centerton Road, with affirmative votes from Mr. Smith, Ms. Capri, Mr. Riley and Mr. Knight.

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

Following a motion made by Mr. Riley and seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2019-11-123, Resolution Approving the Release of Performance Bonds for the New Jersey State Police Barracks Project – 200 Mount Laurel Road, with affirmative votes from Mr. Smith, Ms. Capri, Mr. Riley and Mr. Knight.

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

Following a motion made by Mr. Knight and seconded by Mr. Riley, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2019-11-124, Resolution Approving the Reduction of the Sanitary Sewer and Water Distribution Performance Bonds for Phase 1A of the Signature Place Project – Briggs and Union Mill Roads, with affirmative votes from Mr. Smith, Ms. Capri, Mr. Riley and Mr. Knight.

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

Mr. Francescone arrived at 7:10 p.m.

## **Operations**

### **Water System Summary**

Ms. Carolan reported that there were 5 water leaks since the last meeting – at Michaelson’s Gate there was a leak underneath the creek; a resolution declaring an emergency for this repair is presented tonight

Ms. Carolan added that we are re-charging to the ASR

Ms. Carolan noted that flushing is finished and out of 1,646 hydrants, there are 6 out of service and 7 more will need replacing. There were problems with 109 hydrants and 27 have been corrected so far.

### **Wastewater System Summary**

Ms. Carolan reported that there are 2 pumping stations operating outside normal parameters and there were 3 force main breaks. The Library force main in the woods, Ramblewood near the solar facility and Moorestown-Mt. Laurel Road which was the Turnpike’s private connecton.

Ms. Carolan noted there are more problems with the polymer system for sludge dewatering – a replacement system will be added to the capital budget.

### **Underdrains**

Ms. Carolan noted that the underdrain verification status confirms lower level systems at Academy Drive from Union Mill to Cornwallis, and no underdrains in Academy near Innisfree.

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

Mr. Kahn presented the report.

### **Elbo Lane Force Main Replacement**

No change in status. This project includes the replacement of a section of the 20” primary force main generally from Church Street to beyond the Colonial Pipeline tank facility. The preliminary force main layout has been completed. The Authority has revised the timing for this project FY2022 to accommodate other projects on the force main system. This project will be financed via borrowing from the NJ Infrastructure Bank (NJIB) in a future bundle.

### **Replacement of Part of Library Force Main and Millstream Force Main Connection**

No change in status. This project includes replacement of a section of force main for the Library PS beginning at the pump station and extending beyond the Rt. 295/NJ Turnpike crossing and replacement of the connection of the Millstream force main to the primary force main on Union Mill Road. The Library force main and Millstream connection projects were combined in one NJ Infrastructure Bank (NJIB) loan application with the Briggs force main, Library connection and Union Mill Farms Force Main Redirection project. The Planning Document was submitted to DEP and we are awaiting comment or approval.

### **Replacement of Briggs Force Main and Connection and Library Force Main Connection**

This project includes replacement of Briggs Road force main from the pump station to the connection to the primary force main on Union Mill Road, and replacement of the Library force main connection to the primary. The Briggs force main, and Library connection projects were combined in one NJ Infrastructure

Bank (NJIB) loan application with the Library force main replacement, Millstream connection, and Union Mill Farms Force Main Redirection projects. Comments received from NJDEP are being incorporated into plan and specifications for resubmission. A TWA permit application has been submitted to NJDEP.

#### Atrium & Hooten Pump Station Upgrades

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 Booster Station. This project was included in the first loan application for NJIB financing; however, construction is not scheduled to start until FY2020.

Design is being finalized. Plans and specifications will be submitted to the Authority prior to NJDEP review.

#### Devonshire Pump Station Upgrade

This project will include a major rehabilitation of the Devonshire Pump Station. The original pump station was constructed in 1977 as part of the Larchmont Village IV development. Although the station has been rehabilitated and upgraded a few times since it was constructed, major work is now required to the electrical and mechanical systems to keep the station operating acceptably.

The Devonshire Pump Station receives flow from some of the Larchmont sections and from the Timbercrest Pump Station and the Rancocas Woods Pump Station. It is anticipated that a proposed housing project in Rancocas Woods as well as existing commercial and residential properties currently on septic systems located on or near Creek Road may connect to the Devonshire Pump Station drainage area. Although the estimated wastewater flow that could be discharged to the Devonshire Pump Station is not yet known, it is assumed based on a flow metering study that the station will have sufficient capacity to handle these new connections. However, the design and sizing of the collection system along Creek Road should be sized to accommodate as many future connections as possible. Providing sewer to the properties along Creek Road may necessitate determining how to provide sewer to the remainder of the unsewered properties in Rancocas Woods.

Site work plans have been submitted to the Planning Board for review. Plans and specifications are being updated to incorporate full replacement of both pumps and appurtenances. Site visit with pump vendor was conducted on November 13.

#### Hartford Road WPCF Warehouse to Garage Conversion

The purpose of this project is to convert the old warehouse at the Hartford Road WPCF to a vehicle storage garage for several of the Authority's large sanitary vehicles which require tempered storage. This project was included in the first loan application for NJIB financing. At the April 2019 meeting, a contract was awarded J.H. Williams Enterprises in the amount of \$314,000. Construction is progressing. Project to be completed by November 28, 2019.

#### Hartford Road WPCF Tank Repairs

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.

This project was included in the first loan application for NJIB financing. The project was advertised on March 18, 2019 and the bid opening was held on May 9, 2019. The low bid was substantially higher than estimated so all bids were rejected at the May 16, 2019 meeting.

After rebid, a contract in the amount of \$1,882,000 was awarded to BR Welding, Incorporated, on August 15, 2019 with a completion date of June 28, 2020. Shop drawings for yard piping, concrete repair, and painting have been reviewed and returned to contractor.

#### Hartford Road WPCF Orbal Aerator Repairs

No change in status. 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.

The plans and specs are substantially complete. This project was included in the first loan application for NJIB financing, construction is scheduled for FY2020.

#### Hartford Road WPCF Roof Replacement and Lightning Protection

This project includes the replacement of roofs on seven (7) buildings and lightning protection at the WPCF. These roofs are the original roofs installed when the buildings were constructed in 1996. This project will be funded using NJIB financing, bundle 1; bidding will occur as soon as approvals are obtained with construction planned to begin in July 2020.

Authority comments have been incorporated into plans and specs, which have been resubmitted to Authority for review. Submission to NJDEP will take place after Authority approves the updates. A pre-demolition asbestos survey will take place to determine if removal of asbestos containing materials will be included as a bid item.

#### Hartford Road WPCF Lighting Replacement

No change in status. This project is for the replacement of site lighting throughout the plant. Design is complete. Engineering review to be finalized and then given to MUA for review before submission to NJDEP.

#### Nottingham Way Water Main Replacement

No change in status. This project includes the replacement of approximately 500 LF of 6" water main. Survey work has been completed. The project schedule will be dependent on the frequency of future water main breaks.

#### Saint David Drive Water Main Replacement – Phase 2

This project includes the replacement of approximately 2,200 LF of 12' and 8" water main. Plans have been approved by the Authority. Specifications are being finalized.

#### Hartford Road WPCF Plant Laboratory Relocation

No change in status. This project includes the conversion of an existing storage building that formerly contained a package water treatment plant for the on-site well into a laboratory for plant operating personnel's use. This project is included in bundle 1 of NJIB loan.

On April 18, 2019, a contract was awarded to J.H. Williams Enterprises in the amount of \$224,000. Construction is underway and the project should be completed by November 28, 2019.

Ms. Carolan noted that the Authority began moving in furniture last week.

#### Emergency Shower and Eyewash Facility Installation

This project includes the installation/replacement of emergency shower and eyewash equipment at 8 facilities. Some of the facilities do not currently have shower/eyewashes and some of the facilities do have shower/eyewashes; however, they do not use tepid water as is required by current regulations.

Purchase orders sent to PSE&G to conduct work. Authority comments have been incorporated into the plans and specifications and will be resubmitted for Authority review.

#### Hartford Road WPCF Filter Press Control Panel Replacements

This project includes the replacement of the filter press controls and filter press belt motors. This project is part of bundle 1 of the NJIB loan. A contract in the amount of \$183,750 was awarded to the low bidder, A.B.S. Electric, Incorporated on June 28, 2019. Construction is underway. Project to be completed by December 28, 2019.

#### Hartford Road WPCF Door Replacements

This project included the replacement of approximately 26 doors located at various buildings at the Hartford Road WPCF. The doors are the original metal doors installed on the buildings when the plant was constructed in 1996. Due to the environment, the doors corroded and were replaced with fiberglass doors which are corrosion resistant. Contract No. 2018-15 in the amount of \$217,000 was awarded to W.G. Gross, Inc. at the February 21, 2019 meeting. The project is complete. Closeout paperwork will be completed for December's Authority meeting.

#### Union Mill Farms Force Main Replacement

No change in status. 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. An existing adjacent isolation valve for the primary will also be replaced. This project was combined in one NJIB loan application with the Replacement of Library Force Main, Millstream Force Main Connection, the Briggs Road Force Main Replacement and Connection and Library Force Main Connection.

The Planning Document has been submitted to the DEP and we are awaiting comment or approval. Other required submittals are being submitted to DEP.

#### Piping, Heat Tracing and Insulation Replacement at the Hartford Rd WPCF

No change in status. This project is 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 in 1996. This project will be funded via a loan from the NJIB. Plans and specifications have been given to the Authority for review before submission to the NJDEP.

#### Closed Session

A motion was made by Mr. Riley, seconded by Mr. Knight, voted on and unanimously approved to pass Resolution 2019-11-125 to close the meeting to discuss Regulatory Matters, Litigation and Potential Litigation, which are exempt from open meetings under the Sunshine Law, at 7:38 p.m.

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

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

The meeting was re-opened at 7:52 p.m., following a motion made by Mr. Smith, and seconded by Mr. Riley and with unanimous agreement from Ms. Capri, Mr. Riley, Mr. Knight, Mr. Francescone and Mr. Smith.

#### Contracts

Following a motion made by Mr. Knight and seconded by Mr. Francescone, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2019-11-126, Resolution Approving the Mount Laurel Township Municipal Utilities Authority to join the Hunterdon County ESC Co-Op, with affirmative votes from Mr. Smith,

Ms. Capri, Mr. Francescone, Mr. Riley and Mr. Knight.

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

Following a motion made by Mr. Riley and seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2019-11-127, Resolution Approving Award of Public Contract on Emergency Basis for Michaelson's Gate Water Main Replacement Under Creek, with affirmative votes from Mr. Smith, Ms. Capri, Mr. Francescone, Mr. Riley and Mr. Knight.

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

### **Accounting and Financial**

Following a motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Riley, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2019-11-128, Resolution Concerning Reviewing of Annual Audit Report and Group Affidavit, with affirmative votes from Mr. Smith, Ms. Capri, Mr. Francescone, Mr. Riley and Mr. Knight.

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

Mr. Wiest noted that the Authority makes a practice of annually adopting a resolution related to the Audit Corrective Action Plan. In years where a Corrective Action Plan is not legally required (which is the case for the fiscal year 2019 audit), the Authority chooses to adopt this resolution as a "place holder" to acknowledge its obligation to do so in the event a Corrective Action Plan is necessary.

Following a motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Knight, the Board unanimously approved Resolution No. 2019-11-129, Resolution Regarding Corrective Action Plan Adopted in Response to Annual Audit Report for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2019, with affirmative votes from Mr. Smith, Ms. Capri, Mr. Francescone, Mr. Riley and Mr. Knight.

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. 2019-11-130, Resolution Authorizing Sale of Solar Renewable Energy Credits (SRECs), with affirmative votes from Mr. Smith, Ms. Capri, Mr. Francescone, Mr. Riley and Mr. Knight.

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

Mr. Adler noted that we have 4 months of credits, worth approximately \$68,000.

Following a motion made by Mr. Riley and seconded by Mr. Smith, the Board unanimously approved the Treasurer's Report of September 2019 and Payment Plan Status Report for October 2019, with affirmative votes from Mr. Smith, Ms. Capri, Mr. Riley, Mr. Francescone and Mr. Knight.

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

Following a motion made by Mr. Knight and seconded by Mr. Francescone, the Board unanimously approved Requisition #601 in the amount of \$1,164,461.74 for the accounts payable vouchers with affirmative votes from Mr. Smith, Ms. Capri, Mr. Riley, Mr. Francescone and Mr. Knight.

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

Following a motion made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Riley, the Board unanimously approved Requisition #4554 in the amount of \$9,090.40 from the Acquisition and Construction list with affirmative votes from Mr. Smith, Ms. Capri, Mr. Riley, Mr. Francescone and Mr. Knight.

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

Following a motion made by Mr. Riley and seconded by Mr. Knight, the Board unanimously approved Requisition #4840 through #4876 in the amount of \$673,803.07 from the Renewal and Replacement list with affirmative votes from Mr. Smith, Ms. Capri, Mr. Riley, Mr. Francescone and Mr. Knight.

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

**Comments:**

Ms. Carolan noted that 25 Rowan College students toured water plant and the sewer plant on 10/22 and 11/5/19.

Mr. Wiest reported that the annual calculation of connection fees was done by the Auditor after completion of the FY19 audit. He explained the Authority must hold a public rate hearing prior to taking any action concerning changes to its current connection fees. The Board approved holding a public rate hearing prior to the December board meeting, followed immediately by the regular December board meeting.

Following a motion made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Riley, and with unanimous agreement from the members, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.