

OLD BRIDGE MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
April 16, 2014

Call to Order: The Regular Meeting of April 16, 2014 was called to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance by Arthur Haney, Chairman.

Announcement: Chairman Haney announced that this meeting is being held in conformance with the Open Public Meetings Act. Notice has been given to the newspapers and notice of the meeting has been posted in public places.

Roll Call: Present:
Arthur Haney, Chairman
Richard Greene, Vice Chairman
Edward Testino, Secretary
Anita Greenberg, Treasurer
Rocco Donatelli, Assistant Secretary
Frank Weber, 1st Alternate Assistant Treasurer
Brian Cahill, 2nd Alternate

Absent:
None

Also present:
Michael Roy, P.E.
Stephen A. Florek II, Comptroller
James Cleary, Esq.
Anne Zaccardi, Esq.

Executive Director's
Report: Guy Donatelli, Executive Director

Monthly Water Distribution and Drinking Water Analysis
Executive Director Donatelli discussed the Drinking Water Analysis-Monthly Coliform Summary Report Form from Precision Analytical Labs and the Monthly Water Distribution for March 2014.

Middlesex Rate Case
Executive Director Donatelli stated that as discussed a "Cost of Servicer Expert" has been hired. The Township of Marlboro will share fifty percent of the cost of the expert.

Vehicle Purchase – Sewer and Water Divisions

Executive Director Donatelli stated that two 2014 Ford Expeditions totaling \$69,500.00 will be purchased for the Sewer Division, and three 2015 Ford F-250 Pickup Trucks with snow plows totaling \$105,100.00 will be purchased for the Water Division. The purchase of these vehicles has been provided for in the budget, and the vehicles to be replaced will be surplus on govdeals.com.

Mr. Weber inquired what the Ford Expeditions would be used for.

Mr. Lunkenheimer stated he and his deputy will be utilizing the vehicles.

Mr. Weber questioned whether there was a need for a vehicle that large considering the amount of fuel consumed.

Mr. Lunkenheimer stated that the vehicles are used to carry a large amount of equipment.

Mr. Weber calculated that fuel consumption over the next ten years would amount to \$50,000.00. He suggested partnering with the Board of Education and the Township of Old Bridge to utilize compressed natural gas.

Mr. Haney informed Mr. Weber that the use of natural gas some years ago had only limited success. There was a considerable amount of power reduction in the vehicles.

Executive Director Donatelli stated that many of the vehicles do not convert easily to natural gas.

Mr. Florek stated that one of the vehicles recently auctioned was a natural gas vehicle.

Mr. Haney stated that several years ago a program was initiated to replenish the fleet of vehicles before they became dilapidated. Due to the terrain which the vehicles encounter, the Expedition was proven to be the most effective in terms of the power output.

A motion to approve the purchase of two 2014 Ford Expeditions totaling \$69,500.00 for the Sewer Division and three 2015 Ford F-250 Pickup Trucks with snow plows totaling \$105,100.00 for the Water Division was made by Mr. Testino and seconded by Mr. Weber.

The roll call was as follows:

AYES: Greenberg, Greene, Testino, Weber, Haney

NAYS: None

NO PARTICIPATION: Donatelli

5 Ayes 0 Nays 1 No Participation 0 Absent

NJWEA May Conference

Executive Director Donatelli stated that Michael Roy would be moderating a three-hour educational session at the May Conference for the New Jersey Water Environment Association. The presentation entitled “Instrumentation in the Wastewater Industry” will cover the newly installed SCADA system. There will also be speakers from R3M Engineering and Moorehouse Engineering. CEU’s are available for licensed operators and professional engineers.

Mr. Roy added the following commentary:

If any of the Commissioners will be in attendance at the NJWEA Conference, I recommend that they attend this Instrumentation Session on Wednesday at 11 am. It will go for one hour with a break for lunch and then resume after lunch for two hours. We will be going into details on the newly implemented SCADA system for the Old Bridge MUA sewer collection system. It will be very educational and will set our Authority up as an example throughout the State of a high tech monitoring system that is reliable, efficient and will provide cost savings because less man-hours will be spent checking on the Authority’s 36 sewer pump stations seven days a week.

I believe that you will find this presentation at the conference interesting because our SCADA System is unique in that it has a level of redundancy that is not seen in other systems. Most all other systems have a double redundancy that provides a back up server if the main computer server crashes. We have triple redundancy. With our system, in addition to having the second server ready in case of a computer crash, it has a third server on a laptop computer that is capable of being used in a mobile situation due to an emergency such as a hurricane or other sever weather.

The 36 sewer pump stations can be monitored from the passenger seat of a truck from anywhere in the Township.

Also, the system is designed as partly radio frequency signal and partly cellular signal. All of the information from the 36 sewer pump stations is collected via radio frequency signal to 6 hub sites that is then transmitted via cellular signal to the central monitoring station in Cliffwood Beach. Information from the 36 sewer pump stations can also be obtained physically at the 6 hub sites in the event that cellular signal is lost during a severe event.

We are sure the no one else has such a system in the State. It may be the first of its kind in the Country. I consider this Guy's baby. Because of his experience with SCADA monitoring in the Water Division, he recommended to Al Lunkenheimer that the Sewer Division be monitored by a SCADA system. He promoted the project, and now we have a reliable system that will save money today and in the future.

Mr. Greene suggested a field trip to view the system.

Mr. Haney responded that a tour would be arranged for the Mayor and his administration and members of the Township Council. He invited any Commissioners who have not witnessed the SCADA system or who would like to know more about any other aspects of the Authority to contact Michael Roy.

Higgins Road Tank Connection

Executive Director Donatelli stated that this project is underway. There will be activity on Rt. 516 as the pipeline is replaced. As an overview, Executive Director Donatelli stated that there is a tank on Higgins Road as well as one on Rt. 516. The Higgins Road three million gallon tank did not operate to its fullest capacity. By connecting the two tanks with pipes, they can be filled and drained together effectively achieving five million gallons of storage.

There is also a pipe on the discharge side of the booster station in Rt. 516 near Partridge Road that is going to be replaced. The work is scheduled to be performed in the evening sometime in July or August.

Blonder Tongue Sewer Pipe Collapse

Executive Director Donatelli stated that this was a significant collapse. The emergency services contractor will be replacing approximately twenty feet of fifteen-inch sewer pipe.

Mr. Greene (referring to the Monthly Water Distribution) asked for an explanation of the increase at Browntown and the decrease at Perrine Road.

Executive Director Donatelli explained that water was taken from the Old Bridge plant, and has nothing to do with the THM's. It was an administrative decision to move the source because work was being performed at the Old Bridge plant. Middlesex surface water was taken from the Oak Street interconnection as opposed to the Perrine Road interconnection.

Mr. Haney inquired about the cost of the Blonder Tongue sewer pipe collapse.

Executive Director Donatelli stated that he had not yet discussed this with Mr. Florek.

A motion to accept the Executive Director's Report was made by Dr. Greenberg and seconded by Mr. Testino.

The roll call was as follows:

AYES: Greenberg, Greene, Testino, Weber, Haney

NAYS: None

NO PARTICIPATION: Donatelli

5 Ayes 0 Nays 1 No Participation 0 Absent

Chairman's Report

Arthur M. Haney:

Mr. Haney congratulated Stephen Florek and thanked the Commissioners and the staff of the MUA for accepting the challenge for excellence in financial reporting. He noted that the MUA has achieved recognition in this area for the past ten years.

Previous Minutes:

Reorganization Meeting - February 5, 2014
Regular Meeting - February 19, 2014
Executive Session - February 19, 2014

A motion to approve the previous minutes was made by Mr. Testino and seconded by Mr. Donatelli.

The roll call was as follows:

AYES: Donatelli, Greenberg, Greene, Testino, Haney

NAYS: None

5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent

Engineering Reports: Michael Roy, P.E.
Report on Developers for Approval:

**Legends Center Irrigation/Wal-Mart Real Estate
Business Trust**

1. W13-637, Minor Water – 5 EDCU’s

Mr. Roy’s comments are as follows:

1. Minor Review, Inspection and Connection fees have been paid.
2. The Authority granted Final Water Approval in 2011 to Legends Center that was approved without irrigation. The Applicant is now seeking approval for a five (5) EDCU irrigation system.
3. Based on the proposed number of units it was determined that the additional demand on the water distribution system is insignificant.
4. This work is also subject to approval by the Township Plumbing Sub-Code Official.
5. Technical requirements sufficient for Minor Water Approval has been satisfied.
6. A copy of this report has been supplied to the Contact Person of the Applicant as listed on the application form.
7. Recommend Minor Water Approval subject to the following conditions:
 1. Applicant shall pay all applicable fees.
 2. All proposed water lines to remain privately owned and maintained by the Applicant.

3. The Applicant shall construct the water improvements in accordance with the Approved Drawings, and permits issued by any Agency having jurisdiction.
4. Applicant to fully comply with the Rules and Regulations of the Authority and any Agency having jurisdiction.
5. This Minor Water Approval shall expire one (1) year from the date of the resolution if no construction has taken place within that one (1) year period.

A motion to approve Legends Center Irrigation/Wal-Mart Real Estate Business Trust W13-637, Minor Water was made by Mr. Weber and seconded by Dr. Greenberg.

The roll call was as follows:

AYES: Donatelli, Greenberg, Greene, Testino, Haney

NAYS: None

5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent

Superintendent's
Report:

Al Lunkenheimer, Superintendent Sewer Division

A motion to approve the Superintendent's Report as included in the Commissioners' packets was made Mr. Donatelli and seconded by Mr. Greenberg.

The roll call was as follows:

AYES: Donatelli, Greenberg, Greene, Testino, Haney

NAYS: None

5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent

1. Installation of THM Monitor - Change Order No. 1 Final Quantities

Mr. Roy stated that THMs (Trihalomethanes) are by-products of chlorine disinfection. The reason for the purchase of this monitor was due to the exceedance of a new EPA regulation requiring quarterly water testing to determine the amount of by-products of chlorine disinfection.

Because the limits were exceeded, the residents in the northern end of the township had to be notified. A public hearing took place in February 2013 at the Madison Park firehouse. The new EPA regulation set maximum contaminant levels for the disinfection by-products. The precursors to these by-products are organic chemicals that leech out of natural organic matter, e.g. leaves and grass. These organic chemicals are in abundance in surface water, but not so much in ground water.

Since our ground water does not have amount of this organic chemicals, Middlesex Water was the focus of the source of disinfection by-products. The water samples taken at Madison Park (which is 100% Middlesex Water) had the highest level of disinfection by-products as opposed to samples taken from other parts of the town that were 80% below these limits.

This THM monitoring equipment was demonstrated at a seminar, and recommended to the Commissioners that this equipment be purchased first through a lease agreement and subsequently by a public bid.

The Commissioners were unanimously in favor of purchasing this equipment because, although expensive, it continuously monitors the disinfection by-products (six times per day – every four hours). The EPA regulation merely requires quarterly testing. As a result, Middlesex Water reported that their numbers were low.

The results of the THM monitoring are transmitted to a modem through a Google drive that is sync'd to the MUA's office computers. The information is then downloaded to a spreadsheet with only a two-hour delay. With the information obtained from the THM monitor, the Authority is no longer in violation of the EPA's regulation.

The DEP did not want the MUA to shut down the Middlesex Water interconnection. After a chart from the THM monitor was shown to the DEP, they gave permission to shut down Middlesex Water.

Because it is difficult to move water during the summer months, this is a temporary situation. The goal is for the MUA or Middlesex Water to find a permanent solution.

The THM monitor is the first of its kind in the State of New Jersey, and Mr. Roy has co-authored a related article that was published in the Water and Waste Digest.

Mr. Testino asked if the charts are being transmitted to Middlesex Water.

Mr. Roy responded that they were not, but split tests are being performed. Middlesex Water takes its water from the Raritan Canal, and they use a UV test that predicts how much disinfection by-products will be generated. They are aware when a “slug” is coming through and will alert the MUA.

Mr. Weber asked for a confirmation that the DEP is taking a more aggressive role with Middlesex Water.

Mr. Roy confirmed that they are. Middlesex Water is installing a new treatment plan that will be a combination of ozone and activated carbon filtration to remove the compounds.

Mr. Cahill did not understand the connection between Madison Park and Middlesex Water.

Mr. Roy explained that Madison Park receives 100% Middlesex Water. There is a separate pumping system that flows to the Sayrewoods tank (near Wal-Mart) that services the entire area and does not mix with ground water. Because of the abundance of organic chemicals in surface water, it mixes with chlorine and forms by-products.

Mr. Cahill asked if this has anything to do with the foliage in Madison Park.

Mr. Roy stated that leaves and grass flow into the Raritan Canal, the source of Middlesex Water. Organic chemicals leach out of this organic matter and are not removed in the conventional treatment process. There are special treatments (ozone and activated carbon filtration) that will remove the organic chemicals. The MUA is considering installing activated carbon filtration at the Perrine Road facility.

Mr. Testino asked about Middlesex Water providing the carbon filtration.

Executive Director Donatelli stated that Middlesex Water offered an outrageous estimate to do so.

Mr. Testino stated that Madison Park has had this problem for a long time, and until the THM monitor was purchased, the MUA was unable to prove it.

Mr. Roy stated that the THM monitor is worth its weight in gold.

Mr. Greene stated that it was anticipated that Middlesex Water would absorb some of the cost, but they backed down.

Mr. Haney added that this Authority was able to deliver water/sewer throughout the entire “Sandy” crisis. He congratulates all the employees for their efforts during this time.

Mr. Roy’s additional comments are as follows:

The Change Order No. 1 to Gayle Corporation for the referenced project includes the reduction in cost and the reason for the changes to the Contract Documents.

This Change Order consists of the reduction in the amount of allowance for miscellaneous work to install the THM Monitor that was less than the amount provided for in the Contract Documents.

The total cost of the Change Order is a **MINUS \$10,000** that is an eleven point seven percent (11.7%) decrease of the original contract amount of \$85,600.00 to a new contract amount of \$75,600.00.

The Change Order is ready to be considered for approval by the Authority.

A motion to approve Installation of THM Monitor - Change Order No. 1 Final Quantities was made by Mr. Testino and seconded by Dr. Greenberg.

The roll call was as follows:

AYES: Donatelli, Greenberg, Greene, Testino, Haney

NAYS: None

5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent

2. Crossroads Regional Interceptor Sewer – Change Order No 4

Mr. Roy reported that this Change Order No. 4 to Northeast Remsco Construction for the referenced project has been prepared by R3M Engineering, Inc. and includes the amount of increase in costs and the reason for the changes to the Contract Documents.

This Change Order consists of field changes to realign a storm drain that ran through a jacking pit excavation; extra work associated with an obstruction encountered while tunneling under Route 9; and the cost to leave timber mats in some wetland areas of the data center property to allow our personnel better access during future maintenance of the sewer.

The cost of this Change Order No. 4 is \$92,479.72, which is a one point two percent (1.2%) increase from the amended contract amount of \$7,404,397.53 to a new contract amount of \$7,496,877.25. Together with the previous Change Orders No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3, the total change orders to date represent a six point eight percent (6.8%) increase from the original contract amount.

This Change Order is ready to be considered for approval by the Authority, and will be subject to approval by the NJDEP.

The contractor, Northeast Remsco, has claims about other change conditions with which the Authority does not agree. An expert in tunneling construction is being bought in. He will have a report for the Commissioners when there is more information.

A motion to approve Crossroads Regional Interceptor Sewer - Change Order No 4 was made by Mr. Greene and seconded by Mr. Testino.

The roll call was as follows:

AYES: Donatelli, Greenberg, Greene, Testino, Haney

NAYS: None

5 Ayes 0 Nays 0 Absent

Financial Report: Stephen A. Florek II, Comptroller

Mr. Florek stated that revenues based upon projections and actuals to date will fall short of budget by approximately \$120,000 for the year. Due to cut backs in the water purchases, etc., there is an estimated shortfall in expenses in the amount of \$2,958,000. The Authority should finish the year on a positive note.

The NJEIT financing for the Rt.516 and Higgins Road Interconnection as well as replacement of 2300 feet of sixteen inch diameter pipe in Rt. 516, along with the purchase of six fire hydrants and numerous valves closed on April 10, 2014, and the planning and design funds are available for disbursement. Permanent closing will take place at the end of May 2014.

Mr. Florek announced that all OBMUA e-mails are not susceptible to the HeartBleed virus.

A motion to accept the Financial Report was made by Dr. Greenberg and seconded by Mr. Donatelli.

The roll call was as follows:

AYES: Donatelli, Greenberg, Greene, Weber, Haney

NAYS: None

ABSENT PODIUM: Testino

5 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Absent Podium 0 Absent

Legal Report: James Cleary, Esq.

Mr. Cleary stated that he received a letter from an attorney representing the Sommers Trust that is interested in acquiring an easement near the Joseph Court lot. The attorney claims that the area is land-locked with access only through property owned by the MUA. His suggestion is to sell rather than give the property to them.

Mr. Roy stated that the MUA owns two lots, one of which had a maintenance building that was recently demolished. There are another six acres of wetlands that are worthless. An easement would decrease the value of this buildable property.

Mr. Cleary stated that the attorney for Sommers would like to work something out with the Authority.

Mr. Greene's suggestion is for the MUA to keep the property.

Mr. Haney added that the plan was to sell the lot; Sommers can buy it.

Mr. Testino suggested coordinating with the Township.

Bills & Claims: A motion to approve Bills & Claims in the amount of \$1,594,523.07 was made by Dr. Greenberg and seconded by Mr. Donatelli.

The roll call was as follows:

AYES: Donatelli, Greenberg, Testino, Haney

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Greene

4 Ayes 0 Nays 1 Abstain 0 Absent

Old Business: **Brunetti Oaks at Glenwood Development – Status**
 To be discussed in Executive Session.

Construction of Improvements – Status

Mr. Roy reported that Texas Road is closed from Rt. 9 to the traffic light at the top of the hill. A sewer is being installed up to the pump station, and Birch Hill will tie into this. The work should be completed by Memorial Day.

New Business: None

Open to public: Mr. Vento (Vice President - Cedar Ridge Homeowners Association) stated that the association received estimated bills for water usage in the off season which is approximately two-thirds of what is spent for irrigation during the summer.

Mr. Florek stated someone should contact the MUA so that an estimate is put in the system at a low number so that there are no high bills when there is no usage.

Seeing no further hands Chairman Haney closed the public portion.

Executive Session: A motion to go into Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. was made by Dr. Greenberg and seconded by Mr. Haney.

The motion was approved by an ALL AYES vote.

The Regular Meeting reconvened at 8:35 p.m.

During Executive Session the following items were discussed:

- 1. Brunetti Litigation**
- 2. Manzo Litigation**

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn at 8:36 p.m. was made by Dr. Greenberg and seconded by Mr. Donatelli.

The motion was approved by an ALL AYES vote.

Respectfully submitted:

Edward Testino, Secretary