

Regular Meeting of the Mantua Township MUA November 16, 2021

The Regular meeting of the Mantua Township Municipal Utilities Authority was held on Tuesday, November 16, 2021, in the Township building located at 401 Main Street, Mantua, New Jersey.

Vice-Chairman Mario Dilisciandro called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. He asked that everyone rise for the flag salute.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Dilisciandro read the Sunshine Notice, advising that the Authority provided Public Notice of the meeting as required by New Jersey law regarding Open Public Meetings. The schedule of meetings for the year was advertised in the Courier Post and South Jersey Times. The meeting schedule is also posted on the Authority's website, and in the offices of the Mantua Township Clerk and the Municipal Utilities Authority.

Roll call was taken.

PRESENT:

Authority Board Members

Mario Dilisciandro, Vice-Chairman
Dan Hauss, Treasurer
John Parks, Secretary
Victor Torino, Board Member

Professionals

John A. Alice, Esquire
David Palgutta, PE, CME, Sickels & Associates, Inc.

Authority Personnel

William Krebs, Executive Director
Susan Novick, Recording Secretary

PUBLIC PORTION

As no one from the was public present, the meeting was not opened to public comment.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION by Mr. Parks, second by Mr. Hauss to approve the minutes of the Board meeting held on October 21, 2021.
Motion passed by voice vote.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was a single item of correspondence. It was addressed by the Engineer during his report.

TREASURER’S REPORT:

Mr. Hauss provided the current balance in each bank account. Bills to be approved for payment from the operations account totaled \$267,236.44. Escrow charges to be approved for payment totaled \$2,188.75.

MOTION by Mr. Hauss, second by Mr. Torino to accept the Treasurer’s Report and approve the payment of \$267,236.44 in bills from the Operations Account and approve the payment of \$2,188.75 in charges from the Escrow Account.

Roll Call Vote:	Torino	Yes
	Hauss	Yes
	Parks	Yes
	Dilisciandro	Yes

Motion carried.

LEGAL REPORT:

Mr. Alice has been drafting a lease agreement between the Township and the Authority, regarding the office building located next door, at 397 Main Street. He and the Authority’s Executive Director have worked through some revisions. There are a couple details that still need to be ironed out between the parties. Mr. Alice also prepared a resolution authorizing the Authority to negotiate and execute the lease. He advised that the resolution could be adopted in anticipation of the lease being finalized in the near future.

MOTION by Mr. Parks, second by Mr. Hauss to adopt Resolution #2021-62, authorizing the Executive Director to execute a lease with Mantua Township for the MUA building located at 397 Main Street.

Roll Call Vote:	Torino	Yes
	Parks	Yes
	Hauss	Yes
	Dilisciandro	Yes

Motion carried.

ENGINEER’S REPORT:

Mr. Palgutta advised that the memo on the Correspondence List is a review, or summary, of the Change Orders for the Barnsboro Sewer Extension project. The DEP requires submission of the memo before disbursing any loan funds related to change orders. Mr. Palgutta recently met with the DEP at the site of the new pump station for the final walk through of the sewer project. Although the generator ordered for the pump station has not yet arrived, there is a temporary generator in place that is more than sufficient. The DEP representatives were pleased. They confirmed that DEP has no objection to residents connecting to the new sewer main.

The engineers had been pressing the DEP for SED approvals on the Royal Oaks Pump Station and Austin Street Pump Station projects. The approvals have been received. The engineers can now submit the final set of documents for technical review. Mr. Palgutta anticipates receiving final DEP approval on both projects in December.

Finally, as per the discussion at the last Board meeting, Mr. Palgutta has been working with the Superintendent on a list of materials needed for the Rowan Fossil Park. The list is almost complete. He expects to finalize the materials list with the Superintendent next week. Mr. Palgutta requested the Board’s permission to advertise as soon as the list is done, rather than waiting to get approval at the December Board meeting.

MOTION by Mr. Parks, second by Mr. Hauss authorizing the Engineer to advertise for bids for procurement of materials needed for the Rowan Fossil Park project.

Roll Call Vote:	Torino	Yes
	Parks	Yes
	Hauss	Yes
	Dilisciandro	Yes

Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

Mr. Krebs reported there were 5 sewer lateral blockages, 3 water service leaks, and 2 water main breaks during the past month. Meters are being read now for the bills that will be issued in December. One resident has connected to the new sewer extension in Barnsboro. Another is scheduled to connect next week. Well 7 is still offline. It was shut down during the summer months. We are still working on pinpointing the problem, but we know the sprinkler systems in that part of town tend to dry up the well. Fortunately, having Well 7 offline is not affecting the Authority’s ability to meet the demand for water. The meter replacement program is moving ahead rapidly, partly due to the fact the homes are selling quickly. Every time a house sells, the water meter is inspected and upgraded as needed. The crew installed an 8” valve on the water behind PetSmart, formerly the Inversand property, so the water can be turned off before the old Inversand building is demolished. The crew came in at 4:30 a.m. to shut off the water in the area and complete the work before the start of the business day, so as not to inconvenience nearby businesses.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Mr. Krebs requested the Board’s permission to waive penalties on unpaid bills for another month, due to the pandemic.

MOTION by Mr. Parks, second by Mr. Parks authorizing the Executive Director to waive late fees and penalties on unpaid bills until the next Board meeting.

Roll Call Vote:	Torino	Yes
	Hauss	Yes
	Parks	Yes
	Dilisciandro	Yes

Motion carried.

The sewer flow from the hospital has dropped for the second month in a row, down to 1 million gallons for the month. Compared to this time last year, the Authority has pumped about 1 million gallons more water. The fiscal year just ended, and the Authority is up about \$50,000 over the same time last year, even though no penalties were imposed, and debts couldn't be collected through tax sale.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no discussion of new business.

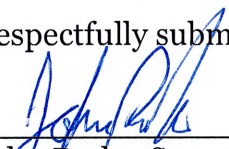
OLD BUSINESS:

No old business was raised.

ADJOURNMENT:

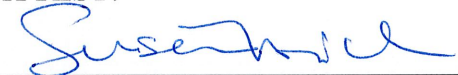
MOTION by Mr. Parks, second by Mr. Hauss to adjourn the meeting at 5:12 p.m.
Motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted:



John Parks, Secretary

ATTEST:



Susan Novick, Recording Secretary
Approved at the meeting held on December 21, 2021