

## **Regular Meeting of the Mantua Township MUA June 15, 2021**

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The Regular meeting of the Mantua Township Municipal Utilities Authority was held on Tuesday, June 15, 2021 in the Township Building located at 401 Main Street, Mantua, New Jersey.

Chairman Tim Sheehan called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. He asked that everyone rise for the flag salute.

Mr. Sheehan delivered the Sunshine Notice, 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 Members**

Tim Sheehan, Chairman  
Mario Dilisciandro, Vice Chairman  
Dan Hauss, Treasurer  
John Parks, Secretary

#### **Professionals**

John A. Alice, Esquire  
Mark Brunermer, Sickels & Associates  
David Palgutta, Sickels & Associates

#### **Authority Personnel**

William Krebs, Executive Director  
Paul Pheasant, Superintendent  
Susan Novick, Recording Secretary

### **PUBLIC PORTION**

Mr. Sheehan called for a motion to open the meeting to the public.

MOTION by Mr. Dilisciandro, second by Mr. Parks to open the meeting to public comment. Motion carried by voice vote, all in favor.

Seeing no one present, Mr. Sheehan asked for a motion to close.

MOTION by Mr. Dilisciandro, second by Mr. Parks to open the meeting to public comment. Motion carried by voice vote, all in favor.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

MOTION by Mr. Dilisciandro, second by Mr. Parks to approve the minutes of the Board meeting held on May 15, 2021.

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

Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Correspondence was referred to later, but not discussed at this time in the meeting.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:**

Mr. Hauss provided the current balance in each bank account. Bills to be approved for payment from the operations account totaled \$560,814.33. Escrow charges to be approved for payment totaled \$1,426.00.

MOTION by Mr. Dilisciandro, second by Mr. Parks to accept the Treasurer’s Report and approve the payment of \$560,814.33 in bills from the Operations Account and the payment of \$1,426.00 in charges from the Escrow Account.

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

Motion carried.

**LEGAL REPORT:**

Mr. Alice spoke with the Township Solicitor because he was aware that a request to have certain aspects of the Villages of Mantua taken over by the Township had been already been addressed and decided. Referring to a letter from Alice Hoffmeyer, Esq., written in August of 2013, (item #1 on the Correspondence List) Mr. Alice advised that the Villages were designed, planned and built with the expectation that the development would remain privately owned. Although the letter does not specifically address the Village’s sewer pump and force main, the reasoning is equally applicable. Mr. Alice also prepared three resolutions for consideration by the Board.

**ENGINEER’S REPORT:**

Mr. Palgutta reported there have been no notable changes on the Country Gardens development and Factory at Total Turf project.

Nothing has been heard from the planner, engineers or project manager for the Fossil Park.

The Austin St. Pump Station project and the Royal Oaks Pump Station project are both on hold while the plans are under review by DEP.

A proposal for a survey of the infrastructure in Center City has been submitted and is included on the correspondence list for this evening.

Barnsboro Sewer Extension – Restoration of the site has started. The electrician is on site and will remain onsite to complete the work. It is expected to take about 4.5 days.

Work on the SCADA controls should be completed in August. The generator is still outstanding. The lead time is unknown.

The Chairman remarked upon the absence of communication from the applicants for the Rowan Fossil Park, despite the Engineer’s efforts to obtain information from, and coordinate with, their engineers. Mr. Krebs confirmed that the extent of the Authority’s involvement is still unknown. He will provide the Chairman with contact information for the people managing or working on the Fossil Park.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:**

Mr. Krebs reported that the crew is reading water meters. They are also preparing to install a fire hydrant, and replace a water main and several services on McCarthy Ave.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:**

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

MOTION by Mr. Dilisciandro, 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:	Parks	Yes
	Hauss	Yes
	Dilisciandro	Yes
	Sheehan	Yes

Motion carried.

Nick Petroni advised Mr. Krebs that he will be closing his accounting firm, Petroni & Associates, at the end of 2021. Denise Nevico is an employee of Petroni, as well as the Authority’s fee accountant. Ms. Nevico is a valuable member of the Authority’s team; it would be prudent to keep her on board is possible. Mr. Krebs spoke with Ms. Nevico about her plans. She will be taking a job with the Monroe Township MUA. She is interested in continuing to work for the MTMUA under a shared services agreement. Mr. Krebs also contacted Wendy Mahoney, Executive Director of Monroe Township’s MUA, to discuss a shared service agreement. A meeting with Ms. Mahoney and Monroe’s Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) has been schedule. A shared service could be a win-win for both authorities. A copy of the Annual Consumer Confidence Report was provided to each Board member. The water quality test results look good, as usual. Every category of contaminant is at or below the limits set by DEP and EPA. The Report is posted on the website for customers to see; copies are available in the office.

MOTION by Mr. Dilisciandro, second by Mr. Parks to adopt Resolution #2021-34, terminating plans to install a water main on Creek Lane.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION by Mr. Dilisciandro, second by Mr. Parks, to adopt Resolution #2021-35, approving and accepting Proposal No. 2021-57, prepared and submitted by Sickels and

Associates, Inc., for a survey of the water and sewer infrastructure in the Centre City neighborhood, at a cost of \$18,700.00.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION by Mr. Dilisciandro, second by Mr. Parks, to adopt Resolution #2021-36, appointing Kevin Howarth to the position of Assistant Executive Director, effective on or about July 1, 2021.

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

Motion carried.

**PUBLIC PORTION**

Mr. Sheehan noticed a resident come into the meeting room and called for a motion to open the meeting to the public.

MOTION by Mr. Dilisciandro, second by Mr. Parks to open the meeting to public comment. Motion carried by voice vote, all in favor.

Linda McAdams, President of the Villages at Mantua Homeowners Association (HOA) stated that she did not receive the promised contact information for the owners of properties where the Villages might be able to connect to sewer. Mr. Krebs advised that the information was provided by email and receipt was confirmed. He will see that the email is sent again. Ms. McAdams is still seeking help to resolve a potential sewer problem for the Villages. She made two points for the Board to consider. The HOA has difficulty accepting the burden of deciding how to address the sewer problem, and paying for the solution, because the sewer force main that Township officials approved is ridiculously long and bound to fail at some point. In addition, the State and the Township allowed Kohls and Home Depot to pave over the force main. Presumably, the extra layer of paving will make it more difficult to access and repair the force main. Ms. McAdams stated that DOT is looking at replacing the bridge on Route 45 that crosses the creek just north of the Villages. She believes once that is done it will be possible to reroute their sewer main to tie into the main on Chestnut Street. While she is pursuing that option, the quicker solution would be to tie into the private sewer near Planet Fitness. [Planet Fitness is in the Toll House Plaza, owned by Bellina Development.] Ms. McAdams asked whether the Township and/or the Authority could take over a portion of the pipe owned by Bellina for the purpose of allowing the Villages to reroute their main and tie into the sewer near Planet Fitness.

Mr. Alice responded. The Township and Authority have no right to condemn a portion of a privately owner sewer to allow additional connections to that sewer. His question is what the HOA’s professionals recommend. What is their solution? He encouraged Ms. McAdams to work with and through the engineers and attorneys hired by the HOA.

MOTION by Mr. Dilisciandro, second by Mr. Parks to close the meeting to public comment. Motion carried by voice vote, all in favor.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

There was no new business.

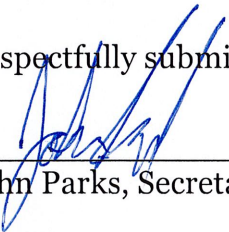
**OLD BUSINESS:**

There was no old business raised.


**ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION by Mr. Dilisciandro, second by Mr. Parks to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 p.m. Motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted:

  
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John Parks, Secretary

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Novick, Recording Secretary  
Approved at the meeting held on July 20, 2021