

**Regular Meeting of the Mantua Township MUA  
September 15, 2020**

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In accordance with New Jersey law regarding “Open Public Meetings”, notice of the meetings for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 was published in the Courier Post and The South Jersey Times.

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Chairman Tim Sheehan in the meeting room of Mantua Township Municipal Building, 401 Main Street, Mantua, NJ.  
The Chairman asked everyone to rise for the flag salute.

**ROLL CALL:**

Members Present: Chairman Tim Sheehan, Vice-Chairman Mario Dilisciandro, Secretary John Parks, Treasurer Dan Hauss, Engineering Coordinator Vince Voltaggio  
Absent: Alternate Howard Bruner  
Also Present: John A. Alice, Solicitor  
David Palgutta, Engineer  
William Krebs, Executive Director  
Jeff Baker, Superintendent  
Susan Novick, Recording Secretary

**PUBLIC PORTION**

No one from the public attended the meeting.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

MOTION by Mr. Voltaggio, second by Mr. Dilisciandro, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held August 18, 2020.  
Motion carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

The correspondence was not discussed until later in the meeting.

**TREASURER’S REPORT – Dan Hauss:**

Mr. Hauss provided the current balance in each bank account. Bills to be approved for payment from the operations account totaled \$192,476.93. Escrow charges to be approved for payment totaled \$1,009.75.

MOTION by Mr. Voltaggio, second by Mr. Hauss to accept the Treasurer’s Report and approve the payment of bills from the Operations Account totaling \$192,476.93, and from the Escrow Account totaling \$1,009.75.

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

Motion carried.

**LEGAL REPORT – John A. Alice, Esq.:**

Mr. Alice reported that he met with the Executive Director and Superintendent. Together, they compiled a list of items that need attention, including compliance with the water quality accountability act; the question of who should establish the GPS locations of valves located on private properties, and who should be responsible for exercising those valves; the need for easements on Grandview Ave. and for the pump stations at White Oaks, and Royal Oaks, etc. Essentially, there are a number of odds and ends that need to be tied up. Mr. Alice will be working on those with Mr. Krebs and Mr. Baker, and he will update the Board at the next meeting.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT – Dave Palgutta:**

There was nothing new to report regarding Country Gardens.

Auto Zone – The contractor installed the long lateral that will serve the store. Water quality is being tested now. The contractor will probably be purchasing a water meter very shortly.

Rowan Fossil Park – Mr. Palgutta spoke with Jessie Dougherty, who is apparently heading the project. He aims to get the water flow tests and expected water demand to the MUA within the month. This ties in with the transfer of allocated water from Inversand, now the Rowan Fossil Park, to the Authority. The engineers will review the paperwork with the Executive Director and Superintendent, then locate the appropriate Rowan employee to sign the application, and submit it to DEP. At the last meeting, the Superintendent spoke about applying for a master permit to cover all the water main projects the Authority expects to do over the next five years. Mr. Baker has already identified the water mains that will need to be replaced or repaired during the next five years. Before the Authority can move forward with the Permit application, the Board needs to prioritize the projects. The permit will not be written in stone; once issued it can be amended as needed over the next few years. However, Board input will be required to get the ball rolling. Mr. Palgutta offered to assist the Authority as needed.

Barnsboro Sewer Extension – Following the last meeting, the engineers and legal counsel met with State DEP. DEP advised that a modification to the Treatment Works Approval [TWA] application was necessary. DEP usually takes 3 to 4 months to process modifications of this type. In this case, DEP agreed to process the application within 2 to 3 weeks from the date the modification application is received. The engineer requested and received DEP's permission to work with the contractor, pending authorization to award the contract. As of last week, there were no outstanding comments from DEP, and the end of the promised 2 to 3 week turn-around time is coming up shortly. The contractor is ready to roll once permission is received from DEP. He offered to call DEP himself, because he is starting to get other work and he wants to start the Barnsboro project before getting involved in anything else. There was some discussion of this idea. The Board decided against asking the contractor to contact DEP.

**SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT – Jeff Baker:**

As far as system maintenance, the backwash tank at the water treatment plant was emptied and thoroughly cleaned, a solenoid at the half-million gallon tank was replaced, the control valve at Well 3 was rebuilt, the crew is redoing the concrete pads around hydrants on Candlewood Drive, and the pump at Well 7 had to be pulled. The column pipe snapped and the drive shaft is heavily rotted, indicating the inside of the pump is most likely ruined. The crew is currently working on inventory and reading meters. Mr. Baker is also preparing for the semi-annual flushing. The results of the lead and copper tests came back. The results are very good; the Authority will not have to test again for 3 years. The preliminary results of the latest tests for asbestos look good. The Authority lost its asbestos waiver in 2011; Mr. Baker’s goal is to get the waiver back. To that end, he has submitted the necessary paperwork, and is in the process of having multiple water samples tested over the course of 3 years. Working with the residents this month has been interesting. A resident of Morris Avenue complained about his water bill. He later admitted that his garden hose was left on and he had a leaking toilet. Another resident called about a noise that sounded like rushing water. Although he thought the gas company had somehow damaged his water service, the noise was due to a bad toilet flapper. A customer from Barnsboro Rd. complained of rust, or metal particles, in his water. After extensive investigation, it was determined the home had both well water and MUA water. It appears that some of the plumbing in the house was connected to the wrong water source. The rust was in the well water. Mr. Baker will work with the engineer on drafting a regulation prohibiting well water from entering the foundation of a home that is connected to MUA water.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT – William Krebs:**

Mr. Krebs addressed two items of correspondence. The first was a letter from a resident who claims that his water bill is inaccurate. He bought his home in early June of this year and does not believe he could have used the amount of water for which he was charged. The Superintendent and staff spent a considerable amount of time meeting with the resident, taking meter readings to check for leaks and to confirm the rate of water consumption, explaining how consumption is calculated etc. The Board directed Mr. Alice to write the resident a letter confirming that the bill will stand. The second issue raised by correspondence is a request for help from the president of the Manor Water Association. Manor Water Association is a small private water company that serves residents on Lincoln Ave. and Monroe Ave., behind Home Depot. Manor Water doesn’t have a licensed operator any more. It is facing large fines for non-compliance with DEP standards, it is essentially out of funds and cannot see any way to continue operating. Mr. Krebs advised that the State DEP could order the MUA to absorb Manor Water. There was a brief discussion. No formal action was taken.

**RESOLUTIONS**

MOTION by Mr. Voltaggio, second by Mr. Hauss to adopt Resolution 2020-29, establishing salary ranges for Authority employees

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

Motion carried.

MOTION by Mr. Voltaggio, second by Mr. Dilisciandro to adopt Resolution 2020-30, authorizing the late introduction of the water and sewer budgets for fiscal year 2020-2021.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION by Mr. Voltaggio, second by Mr. Dilisciandro to adopt Resolution 2020-31, approving the water and sewer budgets for fiscal year 2020-2021.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION by Mr. Voltaggio, second by Mr. Dilisciandro to adopt Resolution 2020-32, authorizing a payment from the surplus of the Authority’s budget for fiscal year 2020, to Mantua Township, in the amount of \$94,786 from the Water Budget and \$98,438 from the Sewer Budget.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION by Mr. Voltaggio, second by Mr. Dilisciandro to adopt Resolution 2020-33, approving the hiring of Paul Pheasant as a full-time Maintenance Mechanic Class I.

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

Sheehan Yes

Motion carried.

MOTION by Mr. Voltaggio, second by Mr. Dilisciandro to adopt Resolution 2020-34, approving the hiring of Paul Leinhauser as a full-time Foreman and Licensed Backup System Operator.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION by Mr. Voltaggio, second by Mr. Dilisciandro to adopt Resolution 2020-35, approving a \$0.75 per hour merit pay increase for Ray Ledrich, effective October 6, 2020.

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

Motion carried.

MOTION by Mr. Voltaggio, second by Mr. Dilisciandro to adopt Resolution 2020-36, establishing a position for a full-time Foreman/Licensed Backup Operator.

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

Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

No new business was raised.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

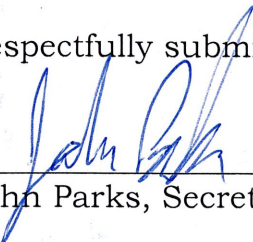
Mr. Krebs advised that he will waive late fees on unpaid bills in September.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

MOTION by Mr. Dilisciandro, second by Mr. Voltaggio to adjourn the meeting at 5:22 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

  
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John Parks, Secretary

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Novick, Recording Secretary

Recorded by Susan Novick

Approved at the meeting held on October 20, 2020