

Regular Meeting of the Mantua Township MUA July 16, 2024

The regular monthly meeting of the Mantua Township Municipal Utilities Authority was held on Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at 5:00 p.m., in the Township Building located at 401 Main Street, Mantua, New Jersey.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 by Chairman Mario Dilisciandro. The Chairman asked everyone to rise for the flag salute. He delivered the 'Sunshine Notice' as required by the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act.

ROLL CALL

Present: Chairman Mario Dilisciandro, Treasurer Kevin Howarth, Secretary John Parks, First Alternate Jason Snyder.

Also present: Solicitor John Alice, Engineer Dave Palgutta, Engineer Mark Brunermer, Co-Executive Directors William Krebs and Charles Jones, Superintendent Paul Pheasant, and Recording Secretary Susan Novick.

The Chair designated Mr. Snyder to participate in the meeting as a voting commissioner.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no residents in attendance at the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Secretary John Parks, second by Treasurer Kevin Howarth to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on June 18, 2024.

Roll call vote. Motion approved unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to be addressed this month.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Kevin Howarth reported the balance in each local bank account, as well as the total amounts to be paid from the operations fund and escrow fund. Operating expenses totaled \$499,948.75. Charges to Escrow accounts totaled \$2,352.00.

MOTION by Mr. Parks, second by Mr. Snyder to accept the Treasurer's Report and authorize the payment of \$499,948.75 in operating expenses and the payment of \$2,352.00 in escrow charges.

Roll call vote. Motion approved unanimously.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT

The solicitor had no news to report. He advised that current administrative issues would be addressed by the Executive Directors.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Engineer Dave Palgutta reported there has been a shift in priorities due to the recent failure of **Well 3**. He has already contacted the I-Bank and DEP to discuss the financing process, how to expedite it, and the best way to streamline all the pre-construction steps needed to plan and obtain approval for rehabilitation or replacement of the well.

Preparation of the Environmental Planning Documents for all phases of the **Center City Water and Sewer Improvements** is ongoing.

Mr. Palgutta confirmed that he received the Form A and Form B applications for a subdivision on Woodland Ave., as well as the Form F application for a Tractor Supply store on Bridgeton Pike/Route 45. He will be reviewing the applications this month.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Paul Pheasant reported that he updated the count of lead services in the Township and submitted same to the State. He formalized the shut-down of Well 3 with DEP, primarily so that DEP will not expect to see water testing results for Well 3. The damaged fire hydrant on Barnsboro Rd. has been replaced. A new valve and fire hydrant will be installed on Breakneck Rd. next month. Complete Controls has been on site, installing new "front end" equipment for the upgrade to the SCADA system. Mr. Pheasant is working with Complete Controls to estimate the cost of adding the remaining sewer stations to the upgraded SCADA system. There is a slow water leak in the Sewell ball fields. The crew will repair that leak next month.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS' REPORT

Executive Director Charles Jones confirmed that getting Well 3 back into production is the Authority's top priority. Sickels & Associates will be managing the project. Preliminary steps have already been taken. The goal is to get a replacement for Well 3 online next spring. Mr. Jones estimates that until Well 3 is replaced, the Authority will have to purchase almost twice as much water as usual.

Three candidates interviewed for an administrative assistant position in the office. After careful consideration, Anna Voltaggio was selected as the preferred candidate, pending approval by the Board. Interviews for the Mechanic's job are ongoing. Restoration of the office at 397 Main St. is complete. The Regional Municipal Court staff has moved back into the building.

A brief discussion after Mr. Jones's report established the following: Replacing Well 3 by Spring is an ambitious goal. It's more realistic to expect it will take 18 months. The cost of purchasing additional water, at least during the warmer months, is estimated at \$50 to

Executive Director Bill Krebs presented two quotes for generator maintenance that were obtained by the Superintendent and requested a motion.

MOTION by Mr. Parks, second by Mr. Howarth to approve quote 32000 and quote 32001, for annual generator maintenance by GenServe, at a base cost of \$1,650 for generators at the sewer lifts and \$2,220 for generators at the wells.

Roll call vote. Motion carried unanimously.

The various statistics regarding pumping for the past month and year to date confirm that the PRM aquifer is more productive than the MLW aquifer, despite the shut down of Well 3. There has been no word from DEP or representatives for Manor Water regarding that water system. Representatives from Neptune360 will be on site next week for staff training with the new meter reading software.

RESOLUTIONS

MOTION by Mr. Parks, second by Mr. Howarth to adopt Resolution 2024-41, establishing salary ranges for employees of the Authority.

Roll call vote. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION by Mr. Parks, second by Mr. Howarth to adopt Resolution 2024-42, authorizing and approving hiring Anna Voltaggio to be a full-time administrative assistant.

Roll call vote. Motion carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no discussion of old business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no discussion of new business.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Parks, second by Mr. Sheehan to adjourn the meetings at 5:35 p.m.

Motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted:



John Parks, Secretary

ATTEST:



Susan Novick, Recording Secretary

Approved at the meeting held on August 20, 2024