

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES
AUTHORITY**

PUBLIC MEETING: February 27, 2023 at 6:15 P.M.

In accordance with the requirements of the New Jersey Statutes regarding “Open Public Meetings”, notice of public meetings for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 (with time and place of meeting) was legally advertised in the Courier Post and The South Jersey Times.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Rich Silvesti at 6:15 p.m. in the Board Room located at 152 Whitman Drive, Turnersville, New Jersey.

ROLL CALL: Present from the Board were Rich Silvesti, Chairman; Dawn Passante, Vice Chairman; Matt Gorman, Secretary/Treasurer; Scott Behm, Member; Robert Finnegan, Alternate Member and Angela Melroy, Alternate Member. Also present were Elizabeth Rogale, Executive Director/CFO; Matt Walker, Assistant Superintendent; Dennis Yoder, Authority Engineer and Charles Fiore, Authority Solicitor. Harry Adams was absent due to illness. Robert Finnegan would vote in place of Harry Adams.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR SEWER AND WATER RATE INCREASE:

Rich Silvesti moved to open the public hearing for the sewer and water rate increases. Matt Gorman seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board. No one from the public was present.

Seeing no one from the public present, Rich Silvesti moved to close the public hearing for the sewer and water rate increases. Matt Gorman seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Matt Gorman moved **RESOLUTION #2023 – 020 AUTHORIZING AN INCREASE IN THE SEWER AND WATER RATES PER ATTACHED THE SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE MARCH 1, 2023.** Dawn Passante seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Scott Behm made a motion to approve the minutes of February 1, 2023. Robert Finnegan seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

ENGINEER’S REPORT:

Matt Gorman moved **RESOLUTION #2023 – 021 APPROVING THE FORM D APPLICATION FOR THE FIRE SERVICE AT 4 ENTERPRISE COURT.** Robert Finnegan seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Matt Gorman moved **RESOLUTION #2023 – 022 APPROVING THE FORM A APPLICATION FOR BELLA VISTA VILLAGE AT 200 DELSEA DRIVE; BLOCK 17, LOT 1 BASED UPON THE ENGINEER'S REVIEW LETTER**

DATED FEBRUARY 23, 2023. Robert Finnegan seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Yoder updated the board on the progress of active projects for the WTMUA.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Matt Gorman moved **RESOLUTION #2023 – 023 APPROVING THE ASSIGNMENT AGREEMENT FOR THE FAST-FOOD PROJECT AT 101 BLACKWOOD-BARNSBORO ROAD FROM 2019 BLACKWOOD WASHINGTON TO AMPLER DEVELOPMENT LLC.** Dawn Passante seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Matt Gorman moved **RESOLUTION #2023 – 024 APPROVING THE EMERGENCY REPAIR OF 12" WATER MAIN AT 200 HURFFVILLE ROAD IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$9,000.00.** Robert Finnegan seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Matt Gorman moved **RESOLUTION #2023 – 025 APPROVING THE EMERGENCY REPAIR OF 8" SEWER MAIN AT 18 GOODWIN PARKWAY IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$21,000.00.** Robert Finnegan seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Walker requested a closed session to discuss litigation and personnel matters.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Matt Gorman moved **RESOLUTION #2023 – 026 APPROVING THE METLIFE DENTAL RENEWAL PLAN FOR 2023-2024.** Scott Behm seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Matt Gorman moved **RESOLUTION #2023 – 027 TO APPOINT ELIZABETH ROGALE TO SERVE AS THE PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER (PACO) FOR 2023-2024.** Scott Behm seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Matt Gorman moved **RESOLUTION #2023 – 028 TO APPOINT ELIZABETH ROGALE TO SIGN PERMIT APPLICATIONS ON BEHALF OF THE MUA FOR 2023 – 2024.** Scott Behm seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Matt Gorman moved **RESOLUTION #2023 – 029 TO APPOINT ELIZABETH ROGALE, JODI DEERY AND KATE MEHER AS DANIEL'S LAW REDACTORS.** Scott Behm seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Matt Gorman moved **RESOLUTION #2023 – 030 TO APPOINT RICH SILVESTI, DAWN PASSANTE, MATT GORMAN, ELIZABETH ROGALE AND MATT WALKER AS AUTHORIZED SIGNERS OF THE AUTHORITY'S DEPOSITORY ACCOUNTS AT FULTON BANK.** Scott Behm seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Ms. Rogale requested a closed session to discuss personnel matters.

ONGOING BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

The Gloucester Township Business Administrator requested a potential interconnect (for emergency purposes only) and possible extension of sewer services for the Gloucester Township side of an apartment complex project located in both Washington and Gloucester Townships. Water services would not be provided. Issues with the location of the interconnect were discussed. The Board took a straw poll with respect to whether or not they were interested in granting the request. The Board decided not to pursue the issue any further.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Robert Finnegan moved **THE PAYROLL FUND RESOLUTION FOR 2022 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$89,267.73 AND FOR 2023 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$92,409.97.** Matt Gorman seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Robert Finnegan moved **THE OPERATING FUND RESOLUTION FOR 2022 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,358,259.00 AND FOR 2023 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$437,003.11.** Matt Gorman seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Robert Finnegan moved **THE ESCROW FUND RESOLUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,091.44.** Matt Gorman seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Robert Finnegan moved **THE GENERAL RESERVE FUND RESOLUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$21,820.08.** Matt Gorman seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Robert Finnegan moved **THE BONDING FUND RESOLUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,505.13.** Matt Gorman seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Robert Finnegan moved **THE UNEMPLOYMENT FUND RESOLUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,570.98.** Matt Gorman seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

RECEIPT AND FILING OF THE MONTHLY BUDGET STATEMENTS: #23-12:

Matt Gorman moved the **RECEIPT AND FILING OF THE MONTHLY BUDGET STATEMENTS #23-12**. Dawn Passante seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

The Board opened the meeting for public participation. Jack Yerkes spoke about potential development along Delsea Drive and asked a few questions regarding the location of MUA mains and pump stations.

CLOSED SESSION:

Matt Gorman moved **RESOLUTION #2023 – 031 TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL AND LEGAL MATTERS**. Robert Finnegan seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Robert Finnegan moved **RESOLUTION #2023 – 032 TO HIRE KELLY GUARNERE AS PLANT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT AT A SALARY OF \$46,306.30 PER YEAR EFFECTIVE MARCH 27, 2023**. Matt Gorman seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Robert Finnegan moved **RESOLUTION #2023 – 033 APPROVING MICHAEL WARD TO MOVE FROM UTILITYMAN III-LEVEL I TO SENIOR UTILITY MAN WITH A SALARY INCREASE FROM \$64,613.44 TO \$74,069.06 PER YEAR EFFECTIVE MARCH 6, 2023**. Matt Gorman seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Robert Finnegan moved **RESOLUTION #2023 – 034 APPROVING JUSTIN ELMORE TO MOVE FROM REPAIRMAN II TO REPAIRMAN III WITH A SALARY INCREASE FROM \$49,904.69 TO \$52,005.94 PER YEAR EFFECTIVE MARCH 6, 2023**. Matt Gorman seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Robert Finnegan moved **RESOLUTION #2023 – 035 APPROVING JAKE HENDRICKSON TO MOVE FROM REPAIRMAN III TO UTILITY MAN I WITH A SALARY INCREASE FROM \$52,005.94 TO \$55,157.81 PER YEAR EFFECTIVE MARCH 6, 2023**. Matt Gorman seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Matt Gorman moved **RESOLUTION #2023 – 036 APPROVING A SALARY INCREASE FOR KATE MEHER, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, FROM \$54,633.00 PER YEAR TO \$57,500.00 PER YEAR EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 27, 2023**. Dawn Passante seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

ADJOURNMENT:

Since there was no further business to come before the Authority at this time, Matt Gorman made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Robert Finnegan and then unanimously approved by the Board.

Respectfully Submitted

Matt Gorman
Secretary/Treasurer

Recorded and prepared by Jennifer Rotella