

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES
AUTHORITY**

PUBLIC MEETING: August 28, 2023

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; Harry Adams, Member; Scott Behm, Member; and Robert Finnegan, Alternate Member. Also present were Elizabeth Rogale, Executive Director/CFO; Matt Walker, Assistant Superintendent; Dennis Yoder, Authority Engineer and Charles Fiore, Authority Solicitor. Angela Melroy, Alternate Member was absent. Charles Fiore participated via phone.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Scott Behm made a motion to approve the minutes of July 31, 2023. Harry Adams seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

APPROVAL OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES:

Matt Gorman made a motion to approve the closed session minutes of July 31, 2023. Harry Adams seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

ENGINEER’S REPORT:

Mr. Yoder updated the Board on the progress of current construction in progress and the NJDOT Route 42 project.

SOLICITOR’S REPORT:

Mr. Fiore updated the Board on the status of the inaccessible water box at 928 Woodstock Court. The owner has not responded to Mr. Fiore’s letter.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

Matt Gorman moved **RESOLUTION #2023 – 077 TO APPROVE THE EMERGENCY REPLACEMENT OF WELL #14 BOWL ASSEMBLY ON APRIL 15, 2023 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$38,602.00.** Scott Behm seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Walker requested a closed session to discuss personnel.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Matt Gorman moved **RESOLUTION #2023 – 078 TO APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE NEW JERSEY UTILITY AUTHORITY JOINT INSURANCE FUND.** Harry Adams seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Joe and Janice Vena of 6 Serenity Lane were present. Mr. Vena questioned the letter he and the other residents of Serenity Lane received from our Solicitor regarding the shared fire hydrant that is located on their private street. Mr. Vena does not believe the residents of Serenity Lane should be responsible for the unpaid hydrant bill or future billings. He questioned whether the hydrant could be treated the same as other residential hydrants located throughout the town. Mr. Fiore stated that he would look into any possible deed restrictions and would research the matter further.

ONGOING BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Rogale stated that it was recently discovered that a property that was shut off and taken out of billing years ago due to a stolen meter and copper piping, has been using water without a meter installed. Once the owner has an adapter or a meter horn installed, a meter will be installed, the account will be put back into billing and the owner will be billed the minimum water rate for the time period between when the account was taken out of billing and when the new meter is installed.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Dawn Passante moved **THE PAYROLL FUND RESOLUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$164,586.33.** Harry Adams seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Dawn Passante moved **THE OPERATING FUND RESOLUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,478,369.31.** Harry Adams seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Dawn Passante moved **THE ESCROW FUND RESOLUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,563.58.** Harry Adams seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Dawn Passante moved **THE GENERAL RESERVE FUND RESOLUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$195,473.17.** Harry Adams seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Dawn Passante moved **THE BONDING FUND RESOLUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$873,614.92**. Harry Adams seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

RECEIPT AND FILING OF THE MONTHLY BUDGET STATEMENTS: #24-6:

Matt Gorman moved the **RECEIPT AND FILING OF THE MONTHLY BUDGET STATEMENTS #24-6**. Harry Adams seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

CLOSED SESSION:

Matt Gorman moved **RESOLUTION #2023 – 079 TO ENTER INTO A CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS**. Harry Adams seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Matt Gorman moved **RESOLUTION #2023 – 080 TO HIRE CHRISTOPHER SMITH AS METER READER/LABORER AT A SALARY OF \$43,000.94 PER YEAR EFFECTIVE AUGUST 14, 2023**. Scott Behm 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 Harry Adams and then unanimously approved by the Board.

Respectfully Submitted

Matt Gorman
Secretary/Treasurer

Recorded and prepared by Elizabeth Rogale