

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES
AUTHORITY**

PUBLIC MEETING: December 23, 2024

In accordance with the requirements of the New Jersey Statutes regarding “Open Public Meetings”, notice of public meetings for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 (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, Matt Gorman at 6:15 p.m. in the Board Room located at 152 Whitman Drive, Turnersville, New Jersey.

ROLL CALL: Present from the Board were Matt Gorman, Chairman; Scott Behm, Member; Joseph Mesi, Member; Robert Finnegan, Alternate Member. Also present were Elizabeth Rogale, Executive Director/CFO; Dennis Yoder, Authority Engineer and John Carleton, Authority Solicitor. Harry Adams and Dawn Passante were absent due to illness. Stephen Pakradooni was also absent. Robert Finnegan would vote in place of Harry Adams.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Scott Behm made a motion to approve the minutes of November 25, 2024. Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

APPROVAL OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES:

Scott Behm made a motion to approve the closed session minutes of November 25, 2024. Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Mr. Yerkes asked for an update on the MUA Office Complex progress. Mr. Yoder explained that when the facility was inspected by the Township for a TCO, the code official had not been aware that the office building had a basement. This was despite the fact that the Township had previously approved the building plans, which included the basement. The Township is now requiring that the MUA install a sprinkler system in the basement before a TCO is issued.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Scott Behm moved **RESOLUTION #2024 – 128 APPROVING THE FORM A APPLICATION FROM TURNERSVILLE EQUITIES, LLC FOR WATER AND SEWER SERVICES FOR MIXED USE AT BLOCK 112.01, LOTS 12 (3940 RTE 42), 12.01 (4020 RTE 42), 12.04 (3900 RTE 42) AND 13 (4050 RTE 42), BASED UPON THE ENGINEER'S REVIEW LETTER DATED DECEMBER 16, 2024.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Scott Behm moved **RESOLUTION #2024 – 129 APPROVING THE FORM D APPLICATION FOR WATER AND SEWER SERVICES FOR SAFSTOR AT 268 HURFFVILLE CROSSKEYS RD; BLOCK 86, LOT 1.02 BASED UPON THE ENGINEER'S REVIEW LETTER DATED DECEMBER 16, 2024.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Scott Behm moved **RESOLUTION #2024 – 130 AWARDED ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTRACT FOR THE SERVICE OF WELL 21 FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 TO REMINGTON & VERNICK ENGINEERS FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$13,500.00 AS NOTED IN THEIR DECEMBER 17, 2024 PROPOSAL LETTER.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Scott Behm moved **RESOLUTION #2024 – 131 AMENDING ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTRACT FOR THE OFFICE COMPLEX NOT TO EXCEED AMOUNT OF \$354,500.00 TO \$322,000.00 REDUCING THE AMOUNT BY \$32,500.00 AS PER THEIR LETTER DATED DECEMBER 17, 2024.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Scott Behm moved **RESOLUTION #2024 – 132 APPROPRIATING AN ADDITIONAL \$10,000 OF UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS FOR THE MUA OFFICE.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Scott Behm moved **RESOLUTION #2024 – 133 APPROVING CHANGE ORDER NO. 8 FOR THE OFFICE COMPLEX TO ARTHUR J. OGDEN, INC. INCREASING THE CONTRACT VALUE FROM \$6,425,244.80 TO \$6,500,735.00 AND EXTENDS THE CONTRACT SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION DATE TO JANUARY 31, 2025 AS PER THE ENGINEER'S LETTER DATED DECEMBER 17, 2024.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Scott Behm moved **RESOLUTION #2024 – 134 ENGINEERING SERVICES CONTRACT FOR LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT TO REMINGTON & VERNICK ENGINEERS FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$15,000.00 AS NOTED IN THEIR DECEMBER 18, 2024 PROPOSAL LETTER.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Yoder acknowledged that this would likely be his last meeting with the WTMUA and expressed his gratefulness for the decades of service with the WTMUA. He commended Ms. Rogale for her impeccable performance in the role of Executive Director/CFO.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Carleton briefly explained the billboard issue with Garden State. He stated that first an RFP would need to be issued, which would permit them to lease the property from the

WTMUA if their proposal was accepted. They will then seek the necessary approvals needed from the Township. The Board agreed to have the RFP prepared. Mr. Carleton wished everyone a happy holiday and expressed his admiration for Mr. Yoder.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT:

Scott Behm moved **RESOLUTION #2024 – 135 APPROVING THE EMERGENCY REPAIR OF AN 8" CI WATER MAIN AT 831 CANAL STREET IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$13,100.00.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Scott Behm moved **RESOLUTION #2024 – 136 APPROVING THE EMERGENCY REPAIR OF A 4” SEWER LATERAL AT 137 WHITMAN DRIVE IN THE AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$16,500.00.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Scott Behm moved **RESOLUTION #2024 – 137 REQUESTING TO ADVERTISE AND HOLD A PUBLIC RATE HEARING JANUARY 27, 2025.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Scott Behm moved **RESOLUTION #2024 – 138 ADOPTING THE 2025-2026 MEETING SCHEDULE.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Ms. Rogale requested a closed session to discuss contract negotiations.

ONGOING BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Robert Finnegan moved **THE PAYROLL FUND RESOLUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$176,330.01.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Robert Finnegan moved **THE OPERATING FUND RESOLUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$252,375.93.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Robert Finnegan moved **THE ESCROW FUND RESOLUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$4,117.37.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Robert Finnegan moved **THE GENERAL RESERVE FUND RESOLUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$497,557.74.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Robert Finnegan moved **THE BONDING FUND RESOLUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$77,441.53**. Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

RECEIPT AND FILING OF THE MONTHLY BUDGET STATEMENTS: #25-10:

Robert Finnegan moved the **RECEIPT AND FILING OF THE MONTHLY BUDGET STATEMENTS #25-10**. Matt Gorman seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

CLOSED SESSION:

Scott Behm moved **RESOLUTION #2024 – 139 TO ENTER INTO A CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS**. Joseph Mesi 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 Scott Behm and then unanimously approved by the Board.

Respectfully Submitted

Matt Gorman
Chairman

Recorded and prepared by Jennifer Rotella