

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES
AUTHORITY**

PUBLIC MEETING: May 27, 2025

In accordance with the requirements of the New Jersey Statutes regarding “Open Public Meetings”, notice of public meetings for Fiscal Year 2025-2026 (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, Scott Behm at 6:15 p.m. in the Board Room located at 216 Fries Mill Road, Turnersville, New Jersey.

ROLL CALL: Present from the Board were Scott Behm, Chairman; Joseph Mesi, Vice Chairman; Keith Ludwig, Secretary/Treasurer; Dawn Passante, Member; Danielle Bannon, Member; Michael Good, Alternate Member; and Robert Finnegan, Alternate Member. Also present were Elizabeth Rogale, Executive Director/CFO; Matt Walker, Assistant Superintendent; David Skibicki, Authority Engineer and Martin J. Buckley, Authority Solicitor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Keith Ludwig made a motion to approve the minutes of April 28, 2025. Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

APPROVAL OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES:

Keith Ludwig made a motion to approve the closed session minutes of April 28, 2025. Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

ENGINEER’S REPORT:

Joseph Mesi moved **RESOLUTION #2025 – 045 APPROVING THE FORM D APPLICATION FROM RAISING CANE’S FOR WATER AND SEWER AT 5241 ROUTE 42 (BLOCK 111.09, LOT 7.01), BASED UPON THE ENGINEER’S REVIEW LETTER DATED MAY 13, 2025.** Keith Ludwig seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Joseph Mesi moved **RESOLUTION #2025 – 046 APPROVING THE FORM A APPLICATION FROM CARMAX AUCTION FACILITY FOR WATER AND SEWER SERVICES AT 4121 & 4131 ROUTE 42 AND 174 FRIES MILL ROAD (BLOCK 115.02, LOTS 16 & 16.01 AND 9.01), BASED UPON THE ENGINEER’S REVIEW LETTER DATED MAY 21, 2025.** Keith Ludwig seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Joseph Mesi moved **RESOLUTION #2025 – 047 APPROVING THE FORM A APPLICATION FROM MBE MARK III ELECTRICAL, INC. FOR WATER AND SEWER SERVICES AT 129 DELSEA DRIVE (BLOCK 115, LOT 6), BASED**

UPON THE ENGINEER'S REVIEW LETTER DATED MAY 16, 2025. Keith Ludwig seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Joseph Mesi moved **RESOLUTION #2025 – 048 APPROVING THE EMERGENCY REPAIR OF 1" WATER SERVICE AT 212 WILSON ROAD IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$10,500.00.** Danielle Bannon seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Mr. Walker updated the Board that homeowners with galvanized pipes have been notified to schedule curb to line replacement. The Authority hopes to schedule at least 10 to be completed this year pending homeowners' cooperation. This is of no cost to the homeowners.

Mr. Walker also informed the Board that the Margaret E. Heggan public library requested a representative from the MUA to attend a meeting to discuss future responsibility between businesses over water and sewer mains after a leak was found in 2023. The library has been informed in the past that this area is considered private and not the responsibility of the WTMUA.

Mr. Walker stated that he was happy to field questions to explain concerns about the recent water quality report that was mailed to residents. Ms. Rogale prepared a statement to be sent to the Authority's Council Liaison, Jack Yerkes to reassure the public that there is no impact on public health as a result of the collection issues reported.

Mr. Walker asked the Board to consider approval to receive bids to renovate the employee break room inside the water tower on American Boulevard. The Board granted this request.

Mr. Walker talked to Ogren about the grass in front of the WTMUA building. It was seeded, but without irrigation, it did not take. Ogren proposed to wait until fall to reseed and build a base with a proper watering schedule.

Mr. Walker explained that there have been numerous issues with the front door of the WTMUA office building. It is out of the warranty period, but because this is a security issue, Mr. Walker is looking into options to fix the issue.

Mr. Walker requested a closed session to discuss personnel.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Joseph Mesi moved **RESOLUTION #2025 – 049 AWARDING AMENDED CONTRACT FOR OUTDOOR ADVERTISING TO GARDEN STATE**

OUTDOOR. Danielle Bannon seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Joseph Mesi moved **RESOLUTION #2025 – 050 APPROVING THE ODD/EVEN CALENDAR DAY SYSTEM FOR SUMMER WATER CONSERVATION.** Danielle Bannon seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Ms. Rogale requested a closed session to discuss contract negotiations, personnel, and potential litigation.

ONGOING BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Behm discussed a bill received by Remington and Vernick for GIS work for the month of March. The resolution awarding the 2025 GIS contract to Remington and Vernick on January 27th was rescinded on March 31st. The Board reviewed the \$44,000 bill and decided to request detailed hourly itemized billing reports, time sheets and work product from Remington & Vernick to support the cost of the bill in question.

Danielle Bannon asked questions regarding the efficiency/costs of several items including payroll, bank fees, Verizon and Comcast internet services, and supply orders.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Keith Ludwig moved **THE PAYROLL FUND RESOLUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$177,464.19.** Danielle Bannon seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Keith Ludwig moved **THE OPERATING FUND RESOLUTION FOR 2024 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$28,206.05 AND FOR 2025 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,510,776.00.** Danielle Bannon seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Keith Ludwig moved **THE ESCROW FUND RESOLUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$19,101.10.** Danielle Bannon seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Keith Ludwig moved **THE GENERAL RESERVE FUND RESOLUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$134,177.00.** Danielle Bannon seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

RECEIPT AND FILING OF THE MONTHLY BUDGET STATEMENTS: #26-3:

Keith Ludwig moved the **RECEIPT AND FILING OF THE MONTHLY BUDGET STATEMENTS #26-3.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

CLOSED SESSION:

Keith Ludwig moved **RESOLUTION #2024 – 051 TO ENTER INTO A CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS, PERSONNEL, AND POTENTIAL LITIGATION.** Danielle Bannon seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Joseph Mesi moved **RESOLUTION #2024 – 052 APPROVING MATTHEW ESPOSITO TO MOVE FROM METER READER/LABORER TO REPAIRMAN I WITH A SALARY INCREASE FROM \$45,808.23 TO \$49,671.58 PER YEAR EFFECTIVE DATE JUNE 2, 2025.** Danielle Bannon seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Danielle Bannon moved **RESOLUTION #2024 – 053 APPROVING THE HIRING OF MAXWELL LUDWIG AS METER READER/LABORER WITH A STARTING SALARY OF \$45,808.23 PER YEAR EFFECTIVE DATE TBD.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board, with the exception of Keith Ludwig who abstained.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

ADJOURNMENT:

Since there was no further business to come before the Authority at this time, Keith Ludwig made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Joseph Mesi and then unanimously approved by the Board.

Respectfully Submitted

Keith Ludwig
Secretary/Treasurer

Recorded and prepared by Jennifer Rotella