WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

PUBLIC MEETING: May 26, 2026

In accordance with the requirements of the New Jersey Statutes regarding "Open Public Meetings", notice of public meetings for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 (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; Danielle Bannon, Member; Jeffrey Jankowiak, 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. Michael Good was absent. Jeffrey Jankowiak would vote in place of Michael Good.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Keith Ludwig made a motion to approve the minutes of April 27, 2026. Danielle Bannon seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board, with the exception of Joseph Mesi who abstained.

APPROVAL OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES:

Keith Ludwig made a motion to approve the closed session minutes of April 27, 2026. Danielle Bannon seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board, with the exception of Joseph Mesi who abstained.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:

Bob Schopf, of 73 Berlin Crosskeys Road, was present again to ask the Board for a decision in regards to his request to connect to Monroe Township sewer services since he cannot connect to WTMUA services. He stated he has a Williamstown mailing address, is steps from Monroe Township, and is not asking for special treatment in this situation. Mr. Behm stated that it will be discussed during the "New Business" portion of the meeting. Mr. Buckley stated that the Board has broad discretion to approve/deny this request and he will be asking for a resolution during the "New Business" portion of the meeting.

Vicki Binetti, representing the Rotary Club, Green Team and Environmental Commission requested assistance from the MUA with respect to a parcel of open space on Woodbury-Turnersville Road on which the Green Team and Rotary Club have planted 40+ trees, referred to as "Rotary Woods." She requested that the MUA assist with watering the area during the summer months, perhaps once per week. Mr. Behm stated that the Board would love to help the community and that Vicky reach out to Matt Walker to discuss details and provide more specifics on the quantity of water that would be needed. Ms. Binetti stated that the organizations would be grateful for any assistance the WTMUA could provide.

Councilman Jack Yerkes suggested the Green Team consider forming an adopt-a-tree program to assist with the watering of the trees.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Mr. Skibicki informed the Board that he has received sketches to review regarding the MBE Mark III project. He will review the sketches and if acceptable, request a formal resubmittal.

He updated the Board that the preconstruction meeting for the Bryant Road Tank Painting project was held on May 1, 2026 and the contractor is scheduled to start work in June 2026.

He informed the Board that the preconstruction meeting for the American Boulevard Tank Painting project will be scheduled for later in the summer with work to begin in the fall.

He informed the Board that Turnersville Equities, LLC has submitted drawings and is expected to begin work within the next ten days.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Buckley recommended putting out an RFP for a Licensed Operator set at a monthly rate, then it could convert to a back-up operator once Mr. Walker gets his license. The resolution would need to be amended if all are in agreement.

Mr. Buckley requested a closed session to discuss contract negotiations.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT:

Keith Ludwig moved **RESOLUTION #2026 – 068 APROVING THE EMERGENCY REPAIR OF 6" FIRE HYDRANT AT THE INTERSECTION OF BLACK HORSE PIKE AND FAIRMOUNT AVENUE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $23,000.00.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Keith Ludwig moved **RESOLUTION #2026 – 069 APPROVING THE EMERGENCY REPAIR OF 4" SEWER LATERAL AT 904 PLYMOUTH PLACE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $18,000.00.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Keith Ludwig moved **RESOLUTION #2026 – 070 APPROVING THE EMERGENCY REPAIR OF 4" X 2" BLOWOFF AT 578 DEW COURT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED $12,000.00.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board, with the exception of Scott Behm who abstained.

Keith Ludwig moved **RESOLUTION #2026 – 071 TO ADVERTISE AND RECEIVE PROPOSALS FOR LICENSED OPERATOR/BACKUP LICENCED OPERATOR SERVIES ON A MONTH TO MONTH BASIS FOR THE YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 2027.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

The Board discussed the process for using cooperative buying groups for purchasing equipment. They discussed the possibility of using Sourcewell similarly to the way they use state contracts. Mr. Buckley will look into the matter.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Keith Ludwig moved **RESOLUTION #2026 – 072 AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF LOAN AGREEMENTS TO BE EXECUTED BY THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY AND EACH OF THE NEW JERSEY INFRASTRUCTURE BANK AND THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ACTING BY AND THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN ESCROW AGREEMENT, ALL PURSUANT TO THE STATE FISCAL YEAR 202[-] NEW JERSEY WATER BANK (SUCH YEAR DESIGNATED AT DELIVERY).** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Keith Ludwig moved **RESOLUTION #2026 – 073 AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF LOAN AGREEMENTS TO BE EXECUTED BY THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY AND EACH OF THE NEW JERSEY INFRASTRUCTURE BANK AND THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ACTING BY AND THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF AN ESCROW AGREEMENT, ALL PURSUANT TO THE STATE FISCAL YEAR 202[-] NEW JERSEY WATER BANK (SUCH YEAR DESIGNATED AT DELIVERY).** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Keith Ludwig moved **RESOLUTION #2026 – 074 DETERMINING THE FORM AND OTHER DETAILS OF ITS "NOTE RELATING TO THE WATER BANK FINANCING PROGRAM OF THE NEW JERSEY INFRASTRUCTURE BANK", TO BE ISSUED IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF UP TO $1,676,912.00, AND PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF SUCH NOTE TO THE NEW JERSEY INFRASTRUCTURE BANK, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION**

AND DELIVERY OF SUCH NOTE BY THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY IN FAVOR OF THE NEW JERSEY INFRASTRUCTURE BANK, ALL PURSUANT TO THE WATER BANK CONSTRUCTION FINANCING PROGRAM OF THE NEW JERSEY INFRASTRUCTURE BANK. Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Keith Ludwig moved **RESOLUTION #2026 – 075 DETERMINING THE FORM AND OTHER DETAILS OF ITS "NOTE RELATING TO THE WATER BANK FINANCING PROGRAM OF THE NEW JERSEY INFRASTRUCTURE BANK", TO BE ISSUED IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF UP TO $941,942.00, AND PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF SUCH NOTE TO THE NEW JERSEY INFRASTRUCTURE BANK, AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF SUCH NOTE BY THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY IN FAVOR OF THE NEW JERSEY INFRASTRUCTURE BANK, ALL PURSUANT TO THE WATER BANK CONSTRUCTION FINANCING PROGRAM OF THE NEW JERSEY INFRASTRUCTURE BANK.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Keith Ludwig moved **RESOLUTION #2026 – 076 CERTIFYING REVIEW OF ANNUAL AUDIT.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Keith Ludwig moved **RESOLUTION #2026 – 077 AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A REFUND FOR EMERGENCY REPAIRS AT 25 EDGEWATER AVENUE IN THE AMOUNT OF $3,000.00.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Ms. Rogale informed the Board that legislation was enacted amending the NJ Family Leave Act effective July 17, 2026 and the employee manual would need to be updated to reflect that change. In addition, an optional Artificial Intelligence policy has been sent to the Solicitor to review as well.

Ms. Rogale informed the Board that representatives from their insurance broker presented a health benefits savings program to their employees. The program has the potential to save both the employees and the MUA money on health benefit costs. If the Board is interested, she will add a resolution to the next agenda and work on obtaining MOUs and other items required to enroll.

Ms. Rogale requested a closed session to discuss contract negotiations and personnel matters.

<u>ONGOING BUSINESS:</u>

Mr. Buckley updated the Board that he has been working with the township solicitor to come up with language to create a shared services agreement regarding snow removal/plows between the MUA and the Township.

NEW BUSINESS:

Scott Behm moved **RESOLUTION #2026 – 078 DENYING THE REQUEST OF BOB SCHOPF TO CONNECT TO MONROE MUA SEWER SERVICES BASED ON THE PRECEDENT IT SETS AND THE POTENTIAL LIABILITY FOR THE WTMUA.** Keith Ludwig seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Keith Ludwig moved **THE PAYROLL FUND RESOLUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF $177,419.40.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Keith Ludwig moved **THE OPERATING FUND RESOLUTION FOR 2025 IN THE AMOUNT OF $10,680.68 AND FOR 2026 IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,344,566.82.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Keith Ludwig moved **THE ESCROW FUND RESOLUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF $12,584.04.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

Keith Ludwig moved **THE GENERAL RESERVE FUND RESOLUTION IN THE AMOUNT OF $17,105.25.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

RECEIPT AND FILING OF THE MONTHLY BUDGET STATEMENTS: #27-03:

Keith Ludwig moved the **RECEIPT AND FILING OF THE MONTHLY BUDGET STATEMENTS #27-03.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the board.

CLOSED SESSION:

Keith Ludwig moved **RESOLUTION #2026 – 079 TO ENTER INTO A CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS AND PERSONNEL.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Keith Ludwig moved **RESOLUTION #2026 – 080 APPROVING THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UFCW LOCAL 360 PLANT AND THE WTMUA.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Keith Ludwig moved **RESOLUTION #2026 – 081 APPROVING THE SIDE LETTER OF AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN UFCW LOCAL 360 FOREMEN AND WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP MUA DATED MAY 13, 2026.** Joseph Mesi seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Keith Ludwig moved **RESOLUTION #2026 – 082 APPROVING THE HIRE OF CYNTHIA BURZACHIELLO AS ACCOUNT CLERK I AT A SALARY OF $48,659.47 PER YEAR WITH THE EFFECTIVE DATE TBD.** 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, 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