

**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES  
AUTHORITY**

**PUBLIC MEETING: June 27, 2011**

In accordance with the requirements of the New Jersey Statutes regarding "Open Public Meetings", notice of all public meetings for Fiscal Year 2011-2012 (with time and place of meeting) was legally advertised in the Gloucester County Times and the Sentinel of Gloucester County.

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Jill McCrea, at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room located at 152 Whitman Drive, Turnersville, New Jersey.

**ROLL CALL:** Present from the Board were Jill McCrea, Chairman; Harry Adams, Vice Chairman; Karen Ricci, Secretary/Treasurer; Paula Corbi, Member; Renee Iannace, Alternate Member; and Russell Price, Alternate Member. Also present were Angela Grassia, Executive Director; Matt Mallon, Superintendent; Dennis Yoder, Authority Engineer; Elizabeth Rogale, CFO, and John Armano, Authority Solicitor. Michael Russo, Member was absent. Mr. Price voted in place of Mr. Russo.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Harry Adams made a motion to approve the minutes of June 13, 2011. Russell Price seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

**GUESTS:**

Ms. Victoria Binetti, of 50 Berkshire Drive, Sewell, and also the Vice Chair of the Washington Township Environmental Commission, addressed the Board this evening regarding notoriety the MUA received a few months ago. The EPA and the states of NJ, Delaware, Pennsylvania and New York, along with the Delaware River Basin commission co-sponsored a forum on the Delaware River Basin and the value of the drinking water resources and problems regarding the Basin for the future. It was held at WHYY Studios and was broadcast live via web. She indicated Mayor Matt Lyons gave a presentation on the Well Head Protection program, which was very well received. It is still available to view on [www.delawarebasindrinkingwater.org](http://www.delawarebasindrinkingwater.org).

Ms. Binetti then asked the Board about the Water Quality Report, which showed higher levels of Radium than usual. She questioned which wells the radium was showing in and how the treatment plant is working. Mr. Mallon indicated the higher reading levels were coming from Well 18, which we have had offline for approximately 6 months. The readings are based on an annual average, so there will be higher levels shown occasionally. The media was replaced in Well 18 this week and additional resin was added as well to enhance the performance.

Ms. Binetti then stated she has been before the Board previously and expressed how she personally objects to the Board allowing the Township to use MUA surplus funds, especially since there had been a rate increase. Ms. McCrea indicated there was a sewer increase from the County, not the MUA. Ms. Binetti then asked what the definition of "Surplus Funds" is. The Board explained that it is money that is on hand which is not earmarked for the year. However, this money is projected to be spent on MUA projects, not something that will be saved to build assets. Ms. Binetti stated that distribution and collection systems, pump stations, etc. need significant capital improvement plans and she urged the Board to develop a long term plan to commit the funds. The Board reassured her that long term plans are currently in the development stage.

Mr. Leon Lakritz, 214 Hurffville Road and Chairman of the Environmental Commission addressed the Board. He indicated that when builders are reviewed, there is a concern regarding water pollution; he conveys to the builders that water is the first resource in this township and we don't want to go anywhere else for water. As a chemist, Mr. Lakritz indicated he is very concerned with the radioactive nuclei in the water. He indicated concern with the new well to be put in at Cohansey. He questioned what the capacity of the iron exchange facility is. Mr. Yoder reassured that the iron exchange facility was designed with the appropriate capacity.

#### **ENGINEER'S REPORT:**

##### **Lake Avenue Auxiliary Pump:**

Mr. Yoder requested a resolution for additional funds of \$100,000.00; the emergency generator has passed its life expectancy and needs to be replaced. Originally \$85,000.00 was budgeted. However, once the project started, it was discovered that there was more that needed to be done. He then asked for a separate resolution to award the contract to Level-1 Construction for \$165,000.00. Mr. Armano indicated he had received all the information and concurs with the recommendation. Jill McCrea moved **RESOLUTION #2011 – 063 TO APPROPRIATE AN ADDITIONAL \$100,000.00 OF UNRESTRICTED NET ASSETS FOR THE LAKE AVENUE AUXILIARY PUMP.** Karen Ricci seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Jill McCrea moved **RESOLUTION #2011 – 064 TO AWARD CONTRACT TO LEVEL-1 CONSTRUCTION FOR THE LAKE AVENUE AUXILIARY PUMP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$165,000.00.** Russell Price seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

##### **Well 21 and 28:**

Mr. Yoder indicated that an application has been submitted to the Bureau of Safe Drinking Water to permit the test wells as production wells. Well 28 was originally submitted as a 1,000 gpm well. There is a contaminated site in Monroe, which causes concern that pumping 1,000 gpm would cause the flow to move toward our direction;

based on this information, we changed the application to indicate 500 gpm so the project can move forward.

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:**

#### **Audit Report:**

Ms. Grassia requested the Board to accept the audit report. The Board indicated this was a very positive audit, one of the best they have seen. Jill McCrea moved **RESOLUTION #2011 – 065 TO ACCEPT THE AUDIT REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JANUARY 31, 2011.** Harry Adams seconded the report, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Ms. Grassia requested the Board approve the insurance premium renewal through Travelers. Jill McCrea moved **RESOLUTION #2011 – 066 TO APPROVE THE INSURANCE PREMIUM RENEWAL THROUGH TRAVELERS BROKERED BY HARDENBERGH INSURANCE GROUP AS AN EXTRAORDINARY UNSPECIFIABLE SERVICE.** Russell Price seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **Billboard:**

Mr. Yoder indicated he had spoken with someone regarding the billboard. There are certain distances needed between billboards and there are also blocking easements. It seems that our location would be approvable. However, there is an anti-billboard organization that is against cutting trees; this organization has been known to file lawsuits in court. Therefore, the DOT is not anxious to participate in cutting back the trees. Mr. Yoder suggested a consultant experienced in billboard planning to direct us at this point. Mr. Armano indicated he would send out information to the Board and Mr. Yoder. Mr. Yoder also suggested reaching out to cell phone providers and possibly installing an antenna on MUA property to sell to carriers. Mr. Armano indicated he would collect information on this as well.

### **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

The Board opened the meeting for public participation, but no one chose to address the Board.

### **CLOSED SESSION:**

Jill McCrea moved **RESOLUTION #2011 – 067 TO DISCUSS NEGOTIATION STATUS WITH THE UNION AS WELL AS BOARD MEETING DATES.** Harry Adams seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by the Board.

When the meeting reconvened, the Board discussed canceling one meeting in July and one in August. Ms. Rogale suggested cancelling the second meeting in each month as the first meeting of the month is when bills are paid. Jill McCrea moved **RESOLUTION #2011 – 068 TO CANCEL THE JULY 25<sup>TH</sup> MEETING AND THE AUGUST 29<sup>TH</sup> MEETING**. Russell Price 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, Russell Price made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Jill McCrea and then unanimously approved by the Board.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Ricci

Recorded and prepared by Geraldine Radio