

**LACEY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
REORGANIZATION AND REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 3, 2021**

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

The Reorganization and Regular Meeting of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority was held on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 and was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by James Knoeller, Chairman. Other members present were Michael Masciale, Jack Nosti, Arthur Miklosey (via teleconference), Ralph Lanuto, and Alan Baker. Also present were Brian Waldron, auditor; Alan Dittenhofer, engineer; Deborah Kramer, office manager, and Edward A. Woolf, executive director. Nick Juliano, Lacey MUA/Township Committee liaison also attended the meeting.

**“SUNSHINE
LAW”
STATEMENT**

Mr. Knoeller read the following statement.

Notice of this meeting was adequately provided pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 231.

Such Notice was posted at both the Lacey Township Municipal Building and at the Office of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, Forked River, New Jersey.

Such Notice was forwarded to the following newspapers:

- a. Asbury Park Press
- b. Atlantic City Press

Such Notice was also forwarded to the Lacey Township Clerk for posting and filing.

REORGANIZATION

Chairman – A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Lanuto to appoint James Knoeller as Authority Chairman. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Knoeller-Abstain. Motion passed.

Vice Chairman – A motion was made by Mr. Lanuto and seconded by Mr. Miklosey to appoint Michael Masciale as Authority Vice Chairman. Roll call vote: Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Masciale-Abstain; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Secretary – A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Lanuto to appoint Jack Nosti as Authority Secretary. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Nosti-Abstain; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Treasurer – A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Nosti to appoint Ralph Lanuto as Authority Treasurer. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Lanuto-Abstain; Miklosey-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-07- AUTHORIZE REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE

A motion was made by Mr. Nosti and seconded by Mr. Masciale to adopt *Resolution No. 2021-07, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing Regular Meeting Schedule*. Roll call vote: Nosti-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**PROFESSIONAL
APPOINTMENTS**

Mr. Woolf stated the administrative staff of the Authority received and reviewed the submissions of qualifications for professional service contracts. The Fair and Open process was utilized in determining the most qualified professionals; therefore, he recommends the following professionals be appointed to the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-08 - APPOINT ENGINEER – REMINGTON AND VERNICK ENGINEERS

- A motion was made by Mr. Nosti and seconded by Mr. Masciale to adopt *Resolution No. 2021-08, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Appointing the Firm Remington and Vernick Engineers as Authority Consulting Engineers*. Roll call vote: Nosti-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-09 – APPOINT ATTORNEY – JERRY J. DASTI OF THE FIRM DASTI, MURPHY, MCGUCKIN, ULAKY, KOUTSOURIS & CONNORS, P.C.

– Mr. Nosti stated the Township has had a longstanding agreement where the attorney for the Township would not also be the attorney for the LMUA. Mr. Woolf outlined the criteria in making the decision in appointing an attorney. He stated the Authority utilizes the fair and open process where the Authority receives and opens sealed bids. The qualifications are then measured to what the Authority's standards are, which is experience and rate structure. Mr. Nosti stated he understands the fair and open process, however, the Township had an agreement for years and does not recommend breaking that agreement. Mr. Knoeller stated he is not aware of any type of agreement in this regard. Two competent attorneys submitted bids. One has more experience than the other, as well as a lower rate structure. The Authority has no choice but to appoint Jerry Dasti as the Authority's attorney. A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Miklosey to adopt *Resolution No. 2021-09, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Appointing Jerry J. Dasti of the Firm Dasti, Murphy, McGuckin, Ulaky, Koutsouris & Connors as Authority Attorney*. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Nosti-No; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-10 – APPOINT AUDITOR – HOLMAN, FRENIA & ALLISON, PC

– A motion was made by Mr. Lanuto and seconded by Mr. Nosti to adopt *Resolution No. 2021-10, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Appointing the Firm Holman, Frenia, & Allison P.C as Authority Auditor*. Roll call vote: Lanuto-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-11 – APPOINT LABOR COUNSEL – JERRY J. DASTI OF THE FIRM DASTI, MURPHY, MCGUCKIN, ULAKY, KOUTSOURIS & CONNORS – A motion was made by Mr. Miklosey and seconded by Mr. Lanuto to adopt *Resolution No. 2021-11, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Appointing Jerry J. Dasti, Esq. of the firm Dasti, Murphy, McGuckin, Ulaky, Koutsouris & Connors, P.C. as Authority Labor Counsel.* Roll call vote: Miklosey-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Nosti-No; Masciale-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-12 – APPOINT RISK MANAGEMENT CONSULTANT CONNOR STRONG COMPANIES, INC. – A motion was made by Mr. Nosti and seconded by Mr. Masciale to adopt *Resolution No. 2021-12, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Appointing Connor Strong Companies, Inc. as Authority Risk Management Consultant.* Roll call vote: Nosti-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-13 – APPOINT PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER – EDWARD A. WOOLF - A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Nosti to adopt *Resolution No. 2021-13, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Appointing Edward A. Woolf as Public Agency Compliance Officer, P.L. 1975, c. 127.* Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-14 – APPOINT PERSONNEL OFFICER – EDWARD A. WOOLF – A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Nosti to adopt *Resolution No. 2021-14, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Appointing Edward A. Woolf as Personnel Officer.* Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-15 – APPOINT FUND COMMISSIONERS AND ALTERNATE FUND COMMISSIONER TO THE NEW JERSEY UTILITY AUTHORITIES JOINT INSURANCE FUND – A motion was made by Mr. Nosti and seconded by Mr. Lanuto to adopt *Resolution No. 2021-15, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Appointing Fund Commissioners and Alternate Fund Commissioner for the New Jersey Utilities Authorities Joint Insurance Fund.* Roll call vote: Nosti-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-16 – APPOINT COMPANY PHYSICIAN – WORKNET OCCUPATIONAL MEDICINE – A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Miklosey to adopt *Resolution No. 2021-16, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Appointing WORKNET Occupational Medicine as Company Physician.* Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-17 – APPOINT COMPUTER CONSULTANT – CSI COMPUTERS – A motion was made by Mr. Lanuto and seconded by Mr. Nosti to adopt *Resolution No. 2021-17, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Appointing CSI Consultants Computer Consultant.*

Roll call vote: Lanuto-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-18 – APPOINT COMPANY ACCOUNTING CONSULTANT - WILLIAM E. ANTONIDES AND COMPANY– A motion was made by Mr. Lanuto and seconded by Mr. Nosti to adopt *Resolution No. 2021-18, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Appointing William E. Antonides and Company as Accounting Consultant*. Roll call vote: Lanuto-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-19 – APPOINT FINANCIAL ADVISOR – ACACIA FINANCIAL – A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Nosti to adopt *Resolution No. 2021-19, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Appointing Acacia Financial Group*. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting of January 6, 2021 - A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Lanuto to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 6, 2021. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Cash Balance Report - Period Ending December 31, 2020 - Mr. Woolf summarized the cash balances for period ending December 31, 2020 as follows: Total cash balance for the unrestricted accounts were \$11,386,019.63, with earnings of \$14,697.60. Total cash balance for the restricted accounts held by the trustee were \$3,855,943.62, with earnings of \$4,008.37. Current period interest on the restricted and unrestricted accounts was \$18,705.97. Year-to-date earnings on all interest bearing accounts were \$269,079.11.

Resolution 2021-06 – Award Contract – Furnish and Delivery of Water Meters – On recommendation by the executive director, a motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Nosti to adopt *Resolution 2021-06, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Awarding a Contract for the Furnishing and Delivery of Water Meters and AMI Smartpoint Radio Units for 2021*. This contract was awarded to Core & Main in the amount of \$80,700.00. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Water Meter AMR Project – Mr. Woolf requested authorization to receive bids for the Water Meter AMR Project. He explained there is a plan to install radio antennas on the water tanks, and outfit all of the homes with a device to read radio meter readings. Presently, a laptop computer is used to do the reads and that technology is outdated. Mr. Miklosey recommends checking the first 2025 reads to make sure it is operating properly. A motion was made by Mr. Nosti and seconded by Mr. Masciale authorizing the executive director to receive bids for the Water Meter AMR Project. Roll call vote: Nosti-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Temporary Laborers for Route 9 Water Main Project – Mr. Woolf requested authorization to hire two temporary laborers for the Route 9 water main project. He explained there is a large project that will be starting where over 3,000 feet of water main will be installed down the eastside of Route 9. In order for this project to be done in an efficient timeframe, it would be necessary to hire two laborers for this project. Mr. Knoeller added there was a concern by LMUA staff should they have to attend to an emergency in the middle of laying the pipe the installation process would stop. Having these additional laborers can keep things going and not be interrupted. A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Nosti authorizing the executive director to hire two temporary laborers for the Route 9 water main project. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

BUSINESS REPORT

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Administration Building – Solar Panel Evaluation – Mr. Dittenhofer reported bid specifications are being prepared for solar panel installation.

BRIC FEMA Grant Application – Mr. Dittenhofer reported FEMA BRIC Grant Application has been completed and submitted for Island View Drive and Riverview Drive.

Repainting of Tank No. 1 – Mr. Dittenhofer reported interior bowl blasting and painting continues.

Column Investigation Well #7 – Mr. Dittenhofer reported A.C. Schultes is scheduled to reinstall pump with threaded column pipe February 2021.

Route 9 Watermain Extension – Mr. Dittenhofer reported the contractor has mobilized and drilling operations started.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Route 9 Water Main Extension Project and Holtec Connection – An attorney's report was submitted to the Authority outlining details of the Holtec connection to Route 9 water main extension project.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

Accountant's Status Report – Month Ended December 31, 2020 – Mr. Waldron reported sewer revenues had a favorable variance for the month, unfavorable on water. Sewer and water expenses had a favorable variance for the month and year-to-date. Sewer user charges had a favorable variance for the month, unfavorable on water. In regards to the Authority's actual usage exceeding its estimated usage through the OCUA, Mr. Woolf recommends finding out from the OCUA how often they have their meters calibrated. His concern the Authority paying extra because their meters haven't been checked.

CORRESPONDENCE

Joe Cosaluzzo, Pine St. – Requesting relief of utility bill, due to pipe leak in crawl space. Since the water from the leak did not go into the sewer system, a motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Lanuto to grant an adjustment on the sewer charges in the amount of \$461.82 (78,000 gallons). Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Maryann Eckhart, Orlando Dr. – Requesting relief of utility bill, due to pipe leak in crawl space. Since the water from the leak did not go into the sewer system, a motion was made by Mr. Nosti and seconded by Mr. Masciale to grant an adjustment on the sewer charges in the amount of \$229.46 (52,000 gallons). Roll call vote: Nosti-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Neil Abitabilo, Hollywood Blvd. - Requesting relief of utility bill, due to a pipe leak in crawl space. Since the water from the leak did not go into the sewer system, a motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Nosti to grant an adjustment on the sewer charges in the amount of \$1,797.14 (253,000 gallons). Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**OLD
BUSINESS**

Mr. Knoeller asked Mr. Woolf to provide the Board with more information, or a demonstration on how the solar panel project will make the Authority more efficient.

**NEW
BUSINESS**

There was no new business to discuss.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS/
COMMENT**

Regina Discenza, Sunset Drive - Mrs. Discenza asked that the Home Depot site, specifically the new tenant Encore Dental, be inspected to make sure they are not using salt for snow clearing services.

**PAYMENT OF
VOUCHERS**

WHEREAS, the members of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority carefully examined all vouchers presented for payment of claims;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority that:

1. Said vouchers in the sum of \$278,252.73 be and the same are hereby approved to be paid.
2. Said vouchers are listed on the attached computer check register.

A motion was made by Mr. Lanuto and seconded by Mr. Masciale to adopt the above resolution. Roll call vote: Lanuto-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Kennedy
Executive Secretary