

**LACEY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 3, 2021**

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

A Regular Meeting of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority was held on Wednesday, March 3, 2021. The meeting 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; Jerry Dasti, attorney; Alan Dittenhofer, engineer; Deborah Kramer, office manager; and Edward A. Woolf, executive director.

**“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.

**APPROVAL
OF MINUTES**

Regular & Reorganization Meeting of February 3, 2021 - A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Nosti to approve the minutes of the Regular & Reorganization Meeting of February 3, 2021. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR’S
REPORT**

Cash Balance Report - Period Ending January 31, 2021 – Mr. Woolf summarized the cash balances as follows: Total cash balance for the unrestricted accounts were \$11,371,486.59, with earnings of \$14,085.38. Total cash balance for the restricted accounts held by the trustee were \$2,626,111.64, with earnings of \$3,794.20. Current period interest on the restricted and unrestricted accounts was \$17,879.58. Year-to-date earnings on all interest bearing accounts were \$17,879.58

Resolution 2021-21 – Approve Shared Services Agreement – Toms River Municipal Utilities Authority – On recommendation by the executive director, a motion was made by Mr. Nosti and seconded by Mr. Lanuto to adopt *Resolution 2021-21, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Approving a Shared Services Agreement with the Toms River Municipal Utilities Authority*. Roll call vote: Nosti-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Resolution 2021-22 – Solar Panel – Mr. Knoeller recommended tabling the award of this contract. He explained he and Mr. Baker are concerned about the micro-invertors, type of solar panels, kilowatts, etc. Mr. Dittenhofer stated he will request additional information from the contractor.

BUSINESS REPORT

The business report was submitted for review.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

BRIC FEMA Grant Application – Mr. Dittenhofer stated FEMA BRIC Grant Application has been completed and submitted for Island View Drive and Riverview Drive. His office should receive an update possibly in September.

Repainting of Tank No. 1 – Mr. Dittenhofer stated interior bowl painting continues. Anticipated completion of tank painting is end of March weather permitting.

Column Investigation Well #7 – Mr. Dittenhofer stated A.C. Schultes reinstalled the pump with threaded column pipe, well to be run overboard.

Route 9 Watermain Extension – Mr. Dittenhofer stated construction is complete. Contractor will be completing final punch list restoration and his office will be preparing recommendation for final payment.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Water Tank #2 – Possible Lease to Antenna Company – Mr. Dasti stated his office received inquiries from representative of Dish Network. He has inquired as to whether the Authority wishes to rent any space for telecommunication antennas on water tank #2. He suggests this matter be confirmed from Alan Dittenhofer whether or not there is room on the tank for that purpose.

Route 9 Water Main Extension – Mr. Dasti stated his office reviewed the contract documents and forwarded correspondence to all of the apparent property owners for the Holtec tract concerning the Amended Water Ordinance. He spoke with a representative of Holtec who indicated when LMUA is ready they are ready to hook up. Mr. Dasti stated he will schedule a meeting with Holtec representatives to discuss further.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

Accountant's Status Report – Month Ended January 31, 2021 – Mr. Waldron reported water and sewer revenues had an unfavorable variance for the month. Sewer and water expenses had a favorable variance for the month. User charges resulted in an

unfavorable variance for sewer, but favorable on water. Mr. Woolf stated he will have a superintendent check for leaks on the Bay front. He added extensive work has been done over the years to seal leaks, however, it seems the flow is higher than it should be. The next step would be to contact the OCUA to make sure their meter is accurate.

2020 Audit - Mr. Waldron stated the audit will begin next week for year ended 2020.

CORRESPONDENCE

Nancy Fay, Ashwood Place – 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. Nosti to grant an adjustment on the sewer charges in the amount of \$3,065.92 (8,000,000 gallons). Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Knoeller asked Mr. Waldron to prepare a rate schedule analysis regarding the possibility of increasing rates for connection fees, service fees, etc. Mr. Baker asked if the pandemic would interfere with increasing fees. Mr. Waldron stated connection fees and service fees are different in relation to the pandemic. Mr. Masciale also asked Mr. Waldron to do a comparison with other towns in regards to fees.

PUBLIC BUSINESS/ COMMENT

There was no public business/comment.

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 \$1,273,389.59 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. Nosti to adopt the above Resolution. Roll call vote: Lanuto-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Kennedy
Executive Secretary

