

**LACEY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING  
JANUARY 9, 2019**

Pledge of Allegiance

**ROLL CALL**

The Regular Meeting of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority was held on Wednesday, January 9, 2019 and was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by James Knoeller, Chairman. Other members present were Michael Masciale, Jack Nosti, Arthur Miklosey, Ralph Lanuto, Alan Baker, and Paul DeNicola. Also present were Jerry Dasti, attorney; Alan Dittenhofer, engineer; Brian Waldron, auditor; 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.

**APPROVAL  
OF MINUTES**

**Regular Meeting of December 5, 2018** - A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Nosti to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 5, 2018. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Mr. Knoeller thanked everyone involved for their hard work on getting the new administration building complete.

**EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR'S  
REPORT**

**Cash Balance Report - Period Ending November 30, 2018** - Mr. Woolf summarized the cash balances for period ending November 30, 2018 as follows: Total cash balance for the unrestricted accounts were \$8,808,611.43, with earnings of \$8,595.07. Total cash balance for the restricted accounts held by the trustee were \$5,553,616.17, with earnings of \$10,679.81. Current period interest on the restricted and unrestricted accounts was \$19,274.88. Year-to-date earnings on all interest bearing accounts were \$166,720.24.

Mr. Knoeller asked about the status of moving money from the Authority's accounts into accounts that have better interest rates. Mr. Woolf stated a finance committee meeting will be scheduled to discuss this matter.

**Resolution 2019-02 – Sale of Personal Property** – On recommendation by the executive director, a motion was made by Mr. Nosti and seconded by Mr. Lanuto to adopt *Resolution 2019-02, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Sale of Personal Property Not Needed for Public Use*. Roll call vote: Nosti-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**Resolution 2019-04 – Utility Worker** - On recommendation by the executive director, a motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Nosti to adopt *Resolution 2019-04, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Appointing Timothy Collins to the Position of Utility Worker*. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**Professional Services RFQ's** – Mr. Woolf requested authorization to advertise and receive bids for Professional Services RFQ's for 2019. A motion was made by Mr. Nosti and seconded by Mr. Lanuto authorizing the advertisement to receive Professional Services RFQ's for 2019. Roll call vote: Nosti-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**Public Official Training** – Mr. Woolf stated Mike Avalone from MEL/JIF will be conducted a training session at the March 6<sup>th</sup> meeting at 5:30 p.m. that will reduce the LMUA's liability premium by \$250.00 for each Commissioner attending the training.

## **BUSINESS REPORT**

The business report was submitted for review.

## **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

**New Administration Building** – Mr. Dittenhofer stated the project is substantially complete. A temporary CO was issued by the township, however, punch list items still remain with the contractor. Move in date is anticipated for January 11<sup>th</sup>.

## **ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

**Water Service Application** - Mr. Dasti stated his office reviewed the request for the release of the Performance Guarantees for the subject property. A Resolution has been forwarded to the Authority.

**ALDI Grocery Store** – Mr. Dasti stated his office reviewed correspondence from the Authority's engineer concerning the application for approval.

**OPRA Demand** – Mr. Dasti stated he discussed with the Executive Director an OPRA request recently made by the publisher of Politics O.C. The request was for the audio recordings of the recent Authority office. Since this is a public record held at a public meeting/hearing, he recommends the audio recordings be released.

**Resolution 2019-01 – Authority Rules and Regulations** - On recommendation by the Authority's attorney, a motion was made by Mr. Nosti and seconded by Mr. Miklosey to adopt *Resolution 2019-01, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Directing the Manner in Which Legal Opinions*

*shall be secured from the Authority Counsel.* Roll call vote: Nosti-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed. Mr. Dasti stated he will modify the Resolution to reflect that legal opinions shall be approved by a majority of the Commissioners.

## AUDITOR'S REPORT

**Accountant's Status Report – Month Ended November 30, 2018** – Mr. Waldron reported sewer revenues had a favorable variance for the month and year-to-date. Water revenues had an unfavorable variance for the month, but favorable year-to date. 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, but unfavorable year-to-date. Water user charges had an unfavorable variance for the month and year-to-date.

Mr. Waldron stated the 2018 Audit will begin March 11<sup>th</sup>.

## CORRESPONDENCE

**Anthony Krzywiec, Ashwood Place** – Requesting relief of utility bill, due to high usage. Mr. Woolf explained the customer had a high usage due to leaving a drip irrigation system on for ten days. Typically, a separate meter is required for irrigation, therefore, he recommends no action. Mr. DeNicola asked if it has been determined that the customer has an irrigation system. If not, he recommends Tabling this request until further research is done.

**Mr. & Mrs. Tempera, Capstan Dr.** – Requesting relief of utility bill, due to leaky expansion tank 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. Miklosey to grant a credit adjustment on the sewer charges in the amount of \$259.90 (55,000 gallons). Roll call vote: Nosti-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**Shah/Taco Bell** - Requesting relief of utility bill, due to high usage. Mr. Woolf stated since there is no account history available, usage will be monitored during non-irrigation months for future consideration.

**Mr. & Mrs. Holcomb** – Requesting relief of utility bill, due to high usage for filling pool without pool fill meter. Based upon the information provided, an adjustment to the account could not be supported. A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Nosti to offer customer a payment plan to pay utility bill. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**Gale Ertle, Oak Hollow Lane** – Requesting relief of utility bill, due to high usage from toilet leak. Since the basis of the excessive usage was due to a toilet issue, a waiver of the service charges could not be supported

## OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

## NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Knoeller stated the ribbon cutting ceremony scheduled for Thursday, January 10th will be rescheduled for some time in February.

**PUBLIC  
COMMENT**

**Regina Discenza, Sunset Drive** – Mrs. Discenza asked if the Laurel Boulevard expansion project of 144 units going to be low income apartments. Mr. Knoeller stated he believes it is going to be of a commercial and residential mixed-use development.

Mrs. Discenza informed the Board that Kearney Savings Bank is offering high interest rates on accounts until 2020. Mr. Knoeller stated there are only certain institutions the Authority can invest its money. Presently, the Authority has an excellent interest rate with its accounts.

**Gavin Rozzi, Politics O.C.** - Mr. Rozzi asked Mr. Dasti to recap item number 3 on his report regarding the OPRA request. Mr. Dasti explained that an OPRA request was recently made by the publisher of Politics O.C. requesting the audio recordings for the recent Authority Board meeting, which he recommended to be released. Mr. Rozzi stated he noticed portions of the audio tape were missing. Ms. Kennedy explained the only missing items from the recording were the Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call, Approval of Minutes and the Board's motion to disregard future incoming anonymous letters.

**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 \$588,764.36, 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. Miklosey and seconded by Mr. Masciale to adopt the above Resolution. Roll call vote: Miklosey-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**OTHER  
BUSINESS**

**Non-Union Salary Increase** – A motion was made by Mr. Miklosey and seconded by Mr. Masciale to approve a \$1,500 or 3% across-the-board salary increase, whichever is greater, for all non-union employees effective January 1, 2019. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Miklosey-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55.p.m

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Kennedy  
Executive Secretary

