

**LACEY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
SEPTEMBER 1, 2021**

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

A Regular Meeting of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority was held on Wednesday, September 1, 2021. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by James Knoeller, Chairman. Other members present were Michael Masciale, Jack Nosti, 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. 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 August 4, 2021 - A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Lanuto to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 4, 2021. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Baker-Yes; Nosti-Abstain; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT**

Cash Balance Report - Period Ending July 31, 2021 – Mr. Woolf summarized the cash balances as follows: Total cash balance for the unrestricted accounts were \$11,065,085.59, with earnings of \$13,095.12. Total cash balance for the restricted accounts held by the trustee were \$3,317,459.96, with earnings of \$3,731.34. Current period interest on the restricted and unrestricted accounts was \$16,826.46. Year-to-date earnings on all interest bearing accounts were \$124,717.36.

Railroad Avenue Widening Project – Mr. Woolf reported the County is doing construction on Lacey Road for the Railroad Avenue widening project. The Authority

has several facilities that had to be relocated, and the County was going to charge \$11,000.00 to relocate them. However, LMUA superintendent, Troy Burton, handled the relocation of the facilities in-house and the Authority was able to avoid those charges. The Board commended Mr. Burton.

BUSINESS REPORT

The business report was submitted for review.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Solar System for Administration Building & Water Treatment Plant #2 – Mr. Dittenhofer reported construction has commenced at both the Administration building and the Water Treatment Plant and is approximately 75% complete. His office recommends payment No. 2 in the amount of \$109,892.79 and Payment No. 3 in the amount of \$68,760.03.

Repainting of Tank No. 1 – Mr. Dittenhofer reported tank painting is complete and tank is online. Final closeout documents are being coordinated with the contractor.

Antenna Read and Meter/MXU Replacement Phase 1 – Mr. Dittenhofer reported specifications for the Phase 1 fixed base antenna read system and MXU replacements is being prepared. Project to be bid in August.

Cleaning, Televising Sewer Rehabilitation – Mr. Dittenhofer reported the project was awarded to Sewer Rat Trenchless Solutions in the amount of \$222,291.50. Preconstruction meeting was held August 26th. Construction to commence in fall of 2021.

Pole Barn – Mr. Dittenhofer reported project was awarded to Dutchman Contracting, LLC in the amount of \$229,860.00. Preconstruction meeting was held on August 27, 2021. Construction to commence in fall of 2021.

Holtec – Mr. Dittenhofer reported he has been working with Holtec's mechanical contractor to secure the DOT permit. They plan on moving forward quickly.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Cleaning and Televising Project S-3 – Mr. Dasti reported his office reviewed the bid documents and prepared a Resolution to approve the contract. The bid documents provided by the contractor are acceptable.

Pole Barn Application – Mr. Dasti reported his office appeared with Mr. Woolf and representatives of R&V at the August meeting of the Planning Board. A courtesy review was approved to allow construction of the Pole Barn.

AUDITOR'S REPORT

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

OCUA – Mr. Woolf reported a contract was awarded for the cleaning & televising sewer rehabilitation project. Part of the contract will be repairing the leaks in the Sunrise Beach and Capstan Drive areas. He anticipates a significant savings on the OCUA bill when complete.

Uncollected Late Fees – Mr. Knoeller reported there is over \$99,000.00 in uncollected sewer and water late fees as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, and will continue to be uncollected until the end of the year. The Authority needs to establish how to go about recouping those fees once the moratorium is lifted. Mrs. Kramer stated the Authority is waiting on software updates. She explained the Authority can only charge late fees beginning January 1st 2022. Mr. Dasti stated he will look into the Authority getting reimbursed under the NJ Cares Act.

CORRESPONDENCE

Peterpaul, Montauk Drive – Requesting relief of utility bill due to broken pipe 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 \$1,415.40 (197,000 gallons). Roll call vote: Nosti-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Baker-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Takako DeFilippo, Nautilus Blvd. – Requesting relief of utility bill due to broken pipe 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 \$288.20 (36,000 gallons). Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Nosti-Yes; Baker-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Sea Breeze at Lacey – Requesting relief of utility bill, due to excessive outside water use due to power-washing parking lots, sidewalks, buildings, etc. He recommends to bill the customer 59,000 gallons of sewer for the July 1, 2021 bill. This recommendation is based on prior October bills, where they indicated there was no outside water use. The agreement would be to grant them a one-time adjustment, but they are required to install an auxiliary meter in order to measure that water for the future. A motion was made by Mr. Nosti and seconded by Mr. Masciale to grant a one-time adjustment in the amount of \$584.60 (74,000) gallons. Roll call vote: Nosti-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Baker-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to discuss.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Woolf reported the budget process will begin next week and he will be scheduling of finance committee meeting.

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 \$1,204,958.71 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; Baker-Yes; Nosti-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

