

**LACEY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
MAY 4, 2022**

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

The Regular Meeting of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority was held on Wednesday, May 4, 2022 and was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by James Knoeller, Chairman. Other members present were Michael Masciale, Jack Nosti, Alan Baker, Karen MacArthur and Jeff Nilon. Also present were Brian Waldron, auditor; Alan Dittenhofer, P.E., engineer; Jeffrey Cheney, Esq., attorney; 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 Meeting of April 6, 2022 - A motion was made by Mr. Nosti and seconded by Mr. Masciale to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 6, 2022. Roll call vote: Nosti-Yes; Masciale-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR’S
REPORT**

Cash Balance Report - Period Ending March 31, 2022- Mr. Woolf summarized the cash balances for period ending March 31, 2022 as follows: Total cash balance for the unrestricted accounts were \$10,097,764.72, with earnings of \$13,209.76. Total cash balance for the restricted accounts held by the trustee were \$2,625,873.23, with earnings of \$3,524.11. Current period interest on the restricted and unrestricted accounts was \$16,733.87. Year-to-date earnings on all interest bearing accounts were \$50,858.83.

OCUA - Mr. Woolf reported OCUA flows continue to be monitored. Last year after three months the Authority disposed of 195 million gallons. Year to date 174 million gallons were disposed, which is a reduction of 21 million gallons disposed 2022 versus 2021.

Radio Read/MXU Project Phase 2 – Mr. Woolf requested authorization to advertise and receive bids for the radio read and MXU project Phase 2. A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Nosti to advertise and receive bids for radio read and MXU project Phase 2. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Nosti-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Beach Boulevard Sewer Rehabilitation – Mr. Woolf requested authorization to advertise and receive bids for the Beach Boulevard sewer rehabilitation project. A motion was made by Mr. Nosti and seconded by Mr. Masciale to advertise and receive bids for the Beach Boulevard sewer rehabilitation project. Roll call vote: Nosti-Yes; Masciale-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**BUSINESS
REPORT**

The business report was submitted for review.

**ENGINEER'S
REPORT**

Resolution 2022-26 – Tentative Sewer and Water Approval – Dream Homes in the Pines – Lacey Pines – On recommendation by the engineer, a motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Nosti to adopt *Resolution 2022-26, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities, Tentative Sewer and Water Approval, Dream Homes in the Pines, Lacey Pines, LLC, Block 226, Lots 15.02 & 15.03*. Mr. Knoeller asked Mr. Dittenhofer to determine how many COA units there will be. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Nosti-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Resolution 2022-27 – Preliminary Sewer and Water Approval – Ronald Karchik – Bowsprit Point – On recommendation by the engineer, a motion was made by Mr. Nosti and seconded by Mr. Masciale to adopt *Resolution 2022-27, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities, Preliminary Sewer and Water Approval, Ronald Karchik, Bowsprit Point, Block 826, Lots 3 & 4*. Roll call vote: Nosti-Yes; Masciale-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed

Antenna Read and Meter/MXU Replacement I – Mr. Dittenhofer reported the installation of both fixed base antenna read systems has been completed and Core and Main is working to start integration of the fixed base system with LMUA's existing meters. Partial delivery of dual port radios and meters are anticipated to be delivered in June for installation by LMUA.

Cleaning, Televising and Sewer Rehabilitation – Mr. Dittenhofer reported the project is substantially complete by Sewer Rat LLC, with some punch list work remaining. His office is coordinating with the contractor to have final payment documents prepared and submitted to LMUA and attorney for approval. Final contract amount is \$253,427.50.

Route 9 Water Service – Mr. Dittenhofer reported the interconnection vaults have been installed. His office is issuing an RFQ for the installation of the interior piping within the interconnection vaults.

Holtec Route 9 Service - Mr. Dittenhofer reported the NJDOT permit application and plans were submitted to NJDOT March 30th. Waiting on permits.

**ATTORNEY'S
REPORT**

Operations Agreement – Block 314, Lot 29.01 – Mr. Cheney reported his office sent follow up correspondence to the property manager for the developer advising as to the issue of rock salt.

North American Pipeline, LLC – Mr. Cheney reported his office reviewed the Maintenance Bond information.

**AUDITOR'S
REPORT**

Accountant's Status Report – Month Ended March 31, 2022 – Mr. Waldron reported sewer revenues had an unfavorable variance for the month, however, favorable on water. Sewer and water expenses had a favorable variance for the month. Sewer and water user charges had an unfavorable variance for the month. The Authority can anticipate a credit of \$54,502.00 through the month of March from the OCUA.

Connection Fee Calculation – Mr. Waldron reported he will have the connection fee calculation available for the next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Connie Mendoza, Tarrytown Drive– Requesting relief of utility bill, due to toilet supply leak. 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 \$1,325.24 (189,000 gallons). Roll call vote: Nosti-Yes; Masciale-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Fred Timcoe, Bobwhite Court – 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 \$1,170.72. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Nosti-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Joan Brown, Fairview Lane – Requesting relief of utility bill, due to high usage due to leaky faucet. Since the high usage was due to a leaky faucet, a justification of relief could not be supported. A payment plan will be offered to customer. A motion was made by Mr. Nosti and seconded by Mr. Masciale to offer customer payment plan. Roll call vote: Nosti-Yes; Masciale-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Abstain; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**OLD
BUSINESS**

There was no old business to discuss.

**NEW
BUSINESS**

Mr. Knoeller stated under the Covid moratorium, the Authority was not allowed to assess penalties and/or shut offs. Now that that moratorium is lifted, the Authority has accrued \$3,738.78 in penalties.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS/
COMMENT**

Regina Discenza – Mrs. Discenza stated Kohl’s has a new owner, therefore, letters regarding the use of rock salt for snow clearing purposes should be sent to the new owner.

Mrs. Discenza asked what is the difference between wellhead protection at a residential site such as the proposed Covered Bridge Sports Plex development, as opposed to a commercial site such as Home Depot. She asked if Covered Bridge will enter into an operations agreement with the Authority regarding the prohibited use of rock salt for snow clearing purposes. Mr. Woolf explained the wellhead protection policy is only relative to commercial sites. Mrs. Discenza pointed out there will be 68 units in this development with a parking lot, and the site is directly across from the wellhead protection area. Mr. Knoeller stated the Authority will take this under advisement and make a recommendation before the applicant obtains final approval.

Mrs. Discenza asked where are wells 3, 4 & 5 located. Mr. Woolf stated well No. 3 is located at the treatment plant No. 2 site; well No. 4 is located in the playground area of the Forked River school; well No 5 is located right on Railroad Avenue, closer to Lacey Road.

**CLOSED
SESSION**

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Public Law 1975 permits the exclusion of the public from a meeting in certain circumstances;

WHEREAS, this public body is of the opinion that such circumstances presently exist.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean and State of New Jersey as follows:

1. The public shall be excluded from discussion of action upon the hereinafter specified subject matter.
2. The general nature of this closed session concerns personnel matters.
3. It is anticipated at this time that the above-stated matters will be made public once this matter have been resolved.
4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

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

Separate minutes were kept on the above closed session.

**RE-OPEN
MEETING**

A motion was made and seconded to return to open session. Motion unanimously carried.

Debra Cardullo - A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Nosti approving a merit increase for Debra Cardullo. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Nosti-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Michele Kennedy - A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Nosti approving a merit increase for Michele Kennedy. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Nosti-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Deborah Kramer - A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Nosti approving a merit increase for Deborah Kramer. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Nosti-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Mr. Knoeller stated the personnel committee will discuss a merit increase for Mr. Woolf and make a recommendation to the full committee at the next meeting.

**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 \$301,912.04 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. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Nosti to adopt the above resolution. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Nosti-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-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

