

**LACEY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING  
APRIL 5, 2023**

Pledge of Allegiance

**ROLL CALL**

The Regular Meeting of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority was held on Wednesday, March 1, 2023 and was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by James Knoeller, Chairman. Other members present were Michael Masciale, Ralph Lanuto, Alan Baker, Karen MacArthur and Jeff Nilon. Also present were Brian Waldron, auditor; Alan Dittenhofer and Trace Dittenhofer, engineers; Chris Dasti, Esq., attorney; Mark Dykoff and Peggy Sue Juliano, Lacey Township Liaisons 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.

**Public Officials Training** – Mike Avalone from MEL/JIF conducted a training session prior to the meeting for the commissioners that will reduce the LMUA’s liability premium by \$250.00 for each commissioner attending the training.

**APPROVAL  
OF MINUTES**

**Regular Meeting of March 1, 2023** - A motion was made by Mr. Nilon and seconded by Ms. MacArthur to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 1, 2023. Roll call vote: Nilon-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Lanuto-Abstain; Masciale-Abstain; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**EXECUTIVE  
DIRECTOR’S  
REPORT**

**Cash Balance Report - Period Ending February 28, 2023** - Mr. Woolf summarized the cash balances as follows: Total cash balance for the unrestricted accounts were \$9,303,008.02, with earnings of \$30,099.61. Total cash balance for the restricted accounts held by the trustee were \$1,661,529.53, with earnings of \$6,269.37. Current period interest on the restricted and unrestricted accounts was \$36,368.98. Year-to-date earnings on all interest bearing accounts were \$64,615.88.

**Resolution 2023-25 – Donation to Township of Lacey/Lacey School District** – Mr. Knoeller explained State aid to the Lacey Township school district was cut by \$2.6 million dollars. He was contacted by Mr. Dykoff and Mrs. Juliano requesting the LMUA’s assistance in providing the school district with some aid. A meeting was held with representatives from the Township and it was discussed that the Township can request up to 5% of the Authority’s operating budget for needs that are pertinent to the Township. Therefore, the Township requested a monetary donation in the amount of \$456,000.00 to be transferred to the Board of Education to help offset loss of jobs due to the cut in State aid. This will be earmarked to retain the loss of jobs to the paraprofessional positions. Mr. Knoeller and Mr. Masciale informed the Township they would make a recommendation to the Board to endorse giving the Township \$456,000.00, with the stipulation the money would be used strictly for the preservation of jobs, and they agreed. On recommendation by the executive director, a motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Lanuto to adopt *Resolution 2023-25, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean State of New Jersey, Authorize Monetary Donation in the amount of \$456,000.00 to Township of Lacey for Lacey Township School District*. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed. Mr. Dykoff and Mrs. Juliano thanked the Board for its generous donation.

**Resolution 2023-26 – Donation of Vehicle** – On recommendation by the executive director, a motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Lanuto to adopt *Resolution 2023-26, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean State of New Jersey, Authorize Donation of Vehicle to Township of Lacey Department of Public Works*. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**BUSINESS  
REPORT**

The business report was submitted for review.

**ENGINEER’S  
REPORT**

**Antenna Read and Meter/MXU Replacement Phase I** – The installation of both fixed base antenna read systems has been completed and Core and Main has completed the integration of the fixed base system with Lacey MUA’s existing meters. Lacey MUA is currently installing meters under this phase.

**Route 9 Water Service** – RVE is working with Lacey MUA to have electric run to the vault, no change.

**Holtec Route 9 Service** – Holtec has ordered requested meters, long lead time on meter is anticipated, no change.

**Beach Boulevard Sewer Rehabilitation** – Work is substantially complete. Manhole Rehabilitation was completed in Beach Boulevard. There are some punchlist items that remain.

**Meter Replacement Phase 2** – Preconstruction meeting was held with Core and Main. Replacement of in-house meters is expected to commence in July of 2023.

**Water Treatment Plant #2 Replacement Generator and Diesel Tank** – Bid opening was held March 29<sup>th</sup>. Favorable bids were received, however, the lowest bidder was materially defective. Therefore, it is recommended to award the bid to the second lowest bidder.

**Water Treatment Plant #1 Expansion Report** – RVE prepared a preliminary report on the expansion of Treatment Plant No. 1 to increase filtration capacity for the plant. RVE have a pre-application meeting with NJDEP to discuss the expansion of the plant. Expansion of the plant will be permitted. There are no restrictions on running Wells 7 & 8 simultaneously.

**Holtec Letter of No Interest** - RVE issued a draft letter dated 3/31/23 regarding the decommissioning of a sanitary sewer line on the Holtec Property for discussion by Lacey MUA. Holtec is asking for a modification to their operations agreement as it relates to radiological sampling and monitoring of OCNCS sewerage prior to discharge. He stated there are some concerns issuing a Letter of No Interest. Mr. Dasti stated a conference call is scheduled to discuss this further.

**Ocean Wind LLC Letter of Non Objection** – RVE drafted a letter on non-objection dated 3/31/23 regarding the Wind Farm conduit installation within the Lacey MUA Easement for discussion by Lacey MUA.

#### **ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

**Well Head Protection Ordinance** – A draft wellhead protection ordinance was forwarded to the Township attorney for review and review by the Township Committee.

**Water Meter Bids 2023** – Mr. Dasti reported his office reviewed the bid documents and found same to be in accordance with the bid specifications and the Local Public Contracts Law.

#### **AUDITOR'S REPORT**

**Accountant's Status Report – Month Ended February 28, 2023** – Mr. Waldron reported sewer revenues had a favorable variance, unfavorable 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 \$34,679 through the month of February from the OCUA.

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

**Frederick Ciampa, Cedar Drive** – 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 \$380.42 (68,000 gallons). Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**Episcopia/O'Neil, Dolphin Ct.** – Requesting relief of utility bill, due to bad thermal expansion tank and relief valve causing HWH to leak into 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

\$271.10. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**Ezzard Murray, Penn Ave. N.** – Requesting relief of utility bill, due to pipe leak in house. Since the water from the leak did not go into the sewer system, a motion was made by Mr. Lanuto and seconded by Ms. MacArthur to grant an adjustment in the amount of \$226.90. Roll call vote: Lanuto-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**OLD  
BUSINESS**

There was no old business to discuss.

**NEW  
BUSINESS**

There was no new business to discuss.

**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 \$437,877.00 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; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Kennedy  
Executive Secretary

