

**LACEY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 7, 2024**

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

The Regular Meeting of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority was held on Wednesday, August 7, 2024, 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; Trace Dittenhofer, engineer; Chris Dasti, Esq., attorney; Deborah Kramer, office manager, Troy Burton, executive director and Mark Dykoff, Township Liaison.

**“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 July 10, 2024 - A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Lanuto to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 10, 2024. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Closed Session Meeting of July 10, 2024 - A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Ms. MacArthur to approve the closed session minutes of the Regular Meeting of July 10, 2024. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT**

Cash Balance Report - Period Ending June 30, 2024 - Mr. Burton summarized the cash balances for period ending June 30, 2024 as follows: Total cash balance for the unrestricted accounts were \$9,761,928.05, with earnings of \$54,992.18. Total cash balance for the restricted accounts held by the trustee were \$838,897.09, with earnings of \$5,954.16. Current period interest on the restricted and unrestricted accounts was \$60,946.34. Year-to-date earnings on all interest bearing accounts were \$343,100.55.

Resolution 2024-39 – Absorbing Rate Increase- On recommendation by the executive director, a motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Lanuto to adopt *Resolution 2024-39, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Absorbing Rate Increase from the Ocean County Utilities Authority*. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Resolution 2024-40 – Award Bid – Dump Truck - On recommendation by the executive director, a motion was made by Ms. MacArthur and seconded by Mr. Lanuto to adopt *Resolution 2024-40, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Awarding Bid for 2025 Ford F750 Diesel Regular Cab Base Super Duty Dump Truck to Winner Ford in the amount of \$116,418.00*. Roll call vote: MacArthur-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Baker-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

BUSINESS REPORT

The business report was submitted for review.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Antenna Read and Meter/MXU Replacement 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. Meter installation under this phase is complete.

Route 9 Water Service – RVE investigating viability of completing interconnect with Ocean Township water system. Vaults have been fenced, a site light has been installed, and the Authority's electrician is scheduled to complete the required installations in August.

Meter Replacement Phase 2 – Installation has begun and is anticipated to be complete by end of September.

Water Treatment Plant #2 Replacement Generator and Diesel Tank – Automatic transfer switch and generator have been delivered to the Authority. Construction to begin in Fall 2024.

Water Treatment Plant #1 Expansion – RVE has submitted revised water allocation permit inventory to Bureau of Water Allocation.

Water Treatment Plant #2 Valve Replacement – Work anticipated to commence in Fall of 2024.

Well #1 Decommissioning – RVE is preparing bid specifications to advertise in August 2024.

Water Tower #2 Rehabilitation – RVE is preparing bid specifications to advertise in December 2024.

**ATTORNEY'S
REPORT**

LMUA Wells 7 & 8 – Mr. Dasti reported his office attended the inspection and well test for Wells 7 & 8. Awaiting on test results and working in conjunction with the Authority's engineer as to the appropriate next steps.

OCUA Rate Increase – Mr. Dasti reported his office prepared a resolution to absorb the rate increase authorized by the Ocean County Utilities Authority.

Bids for 2025 Ford F750 Diesel Regular Cab Base Super Duty Dump Truck – Mr. Dasti reported his office reviewed the bids submitted for the Ford F750 Super Duty Dump Body truck. The Authority can award the bid to the lowest bidder.

**AUDITOR'S
REPORT**

Accountant's Status Report – Month Ended June 30, 2024 – 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. Sewer user charges had an unfavorable variance for the month, favorable on water.

CORRESPONDENCE

Karen Suchar, Sunset Dr. – Requesting relief of utility bill, due to faulty water meter. A motion was made by Mr. Lanuto and seconded by Ms. MacArthur to grant an adjustment on the account in the amount of \$185.92. Roll call vote: Lanuto-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Beach Plaza/Bonsangue– Requesting relief of utility bill, due to leak under concrete slab. 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 a credit adjustment in the amount of \$1,564.20. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Jeff Connell – Mr. Connell was present requesting relief of utility bill, due to defective irrigation zone valve. Since the issue was a defective irrigation zone valve, a motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Ms. MacArthur to grant an adjustment on the sewer charges in the amount of \$1,179.78. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Rebecca Emerson, Laurel Blvd. – Requesting relief of utility bill, due to use of water without irrigation meter. Since the customer was unaware of installing an irrigation meter, a motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Lanuto to grant an adjustment on the sewer charges in the amount of \$981.70. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Lynn Errara, Beach Blvd. – Requesting payment plan due to health issues. A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Baker to grant customer a payment plan to pay outstanding utility bill. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Baker-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Deborah Zarrello, Dogwood Lane- Requesting relief of utility bill, due to leak in crawl space. Since the water from the leak did not go into the sewer system, a motion was made by Mr. Baker and seconded by Ms. MacArthur to grant a credit adjustment in the

amount of \$614.36. Roll call vote: Baker-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

**OLD
BUSINESS**

There was no old business to discuss.

**NEW
BUSINESS**

Mr. Dykoff reported on developments within the Township. He stated Ryan Homes is sold out. The proposed development by the Forked River Marina is a Ryan Homes project. There has been no movement on the Laurel Boulevard apartment's project.

Mr. Knoeller asked who the Township liaison for the schools is. Mr. Dykoff stated Tim McDonald and Peter Curatolo are the liaisons. Mr. Knoeller stated he would like the Township Committee to get more actively involved with the schools on their budgetary line items. Mr. Knoeller pointed out the LMUA has multi-million dollar projects to be completed within the next two years, and will not be in a position in the future to give a donation to the school.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS/
COMMENT**

Wayne from Sea Breeze stated the development did something called Stuff the Bus. The Sea Breeze residents collected school supplies for students. The school sent a bus to the development for the supplies to be put in each seat.

**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 \$495,690.69 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 6:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Kennedy
Executive Secretary

