

**LACEY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
OCTOBER 2, 2024**

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL

The Regular Meeting of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority was held on Wednesday, October 2, 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 and Troy Burton, executive director. Mark Dykoff and Peggy Sue Juliano, Township Liaisons, were also in attendance.

**“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.

Mr. Knoeller introduced and welcomed new employee to the Authority, James Meehan, Sewer Superintendent.

**APPROVAL
OF MINUTES**

Regular Meeting of September 4, 2024 - A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Lanuto to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 4, 2024. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Closed Session Meeting of September 4, 2024 - A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Ms. MacArthur to approve the minutes of the Closed Session Meeting of September 4, 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 August 31, 2024 - Mr. Burton summarized the cash balances for period ending August 31, 2024 as follows: Total cash balance for the

unrestricted accounts were \$10,602,903.24, with earnings of \$57,893.25. Total cash balance for the restricted accounts held by the trustee were \$937,618.73, with earnings of \$5,292.04. Current period interest on the restricted and unrestricted accounts was \$63,185.29. Year-to-date earnings on all interest bearing accounts were \$465,029.60.

Resolution 2024-51 – Appoint Utility Worker - On recommendation by the executive director, a motion was made by Mr. Lanuto and seconded by Mr. Masciale to adopt *Resolution 2024-51, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Appointing Chase Ruggiero to the Position of Utility Worker*. Roll call vote: Lanuto-Yes; Masciale-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Resolution 2024-53 – Donation of Vehicle - On recommendation by the executive director, a motion was made by Ms. MacArthur and seconded by Mr. Lanuto to adopt *Resolution 2024-53, 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: MacArthur-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Baker-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Resolution 2024-52 – Award Contract – Well No. 1 Decommissioning - On recommendation by the executive director, a motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Lanuto to adopt *Resolution 2024-52, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Awarding Contract for Well No. 1 Decommissioning to A.C. Schultes in the amount of \$43,400.00*. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Chemicals 2025 – The executive director requested authorization to receive bids for chemicals 2025. A motion was made by Ms. MacArthur and seconded by Mr. Baker authorization the executive director to receive bids for chemicals 2025. Roll call vote: MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Alan’s Way & Franklin Court – The executive director requested authorization for Remington Vernick Engineers to prepare bid specifications for sewer main replacement for Alan’s Way and Franklin Court. Mr. Knoeller stated this is a problematic area where there is a lot of infiltration. The areas need to be located and fixed. A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Lanuto authorizing Remington Vernick Engineers to prepare bid specifications for sewer main replacement for Alan’s Way and Franklin Court in an amount not to exceed \$60,000.00. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Introduction of 2025 Sewer and Water Budget - Mr. Burton stated the Finance Committee discussed and reviewed the 2025 sewer and water budgets in detail. He prepared and submitted the proposed budgets for the Commissioners review. A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Baker to approve the 2025 water and sewer budgets. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Baker-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

BUSINESS REPORT

The business report was submitted for review.

**ENGINEER'S
REPORT**

Resolution 2024-55 – Preliminary Sewer and Water Approval – Georgetown Village – Section III - On recommendation by the engineer, a motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Lanuto to adopt *Resolution 2024-55, Resolution of the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, Preliminary Sewer and Water Approval, Georgetown Village – Section III, Block 409.01, Lot 12*. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed. Mr. Knoeller stated the developer should be advised of the revised rate schedule guidelines.

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 is set to complete the remainder of the electrical installations.

Meter Replacement Phase 2 – Punch list items outstanding. Recommending payment.

Water Treatment Plant #2 Replacement Generator and Diesel Tank – Construction to begin week of October 7, 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 – Pre-construction meeting to be held week of September 30, 2024.

Well #1 Decommissioning – RVE recommends award to A.C. Schultes in the amount of \$43,400.00.

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

Franklin Court Sanitary Sewer Rehabilitation – RVE is preparing Design Plans and Permit Applications for the sanitary sewer system rehabilitation.

**ATTORNEY'S
REPORT**

Proposed Quick Check – 101 North Main Street- Mr. Dasti reported his office corresponded with counsel for the applicant, and they are on notice that a utility easement will have to be filed for access to the Authority's infrastructure. The applicant's engineer is going to prepare a metes and bounds description for review and approval.

M&T at Lacey, LLC – Lofts at Lacey – Mr. Dasti stated his office received and reviewed the revised review memorandum of the Authority's Engineer with regard to final water and sewer approval on the project.

Sea Breeze at Lacey – Mr. Dasti stated his office reviewed the review memorandum of the Authority's engineer authorizing release of the performance guarantee and closing out the project and waiving the maintenance bond requirement.

**AUDITOR'S
REPORT**

Accountant's Status Report – Month Ended August 31, 2024 – Mr. Waldron reported sewer and water revenues had an unfavorable variance for the month. Sewer and water expenses had an unfavorable variance for the month, year-to-date favorable. Sewer user charges had an unfavorable variance for the month, favorable on a water. The Authority can anticipate a surcharge of \$171,804 through the month of August from the OCUA.

Resolution 2024-54 – Amend 2024 Budget – Mr. Waldron explained the amendment is for increase in cost of providing services for chemical 2024. A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Lanuto to adopt Resolution 2024-54 – Amending the 2024 operating budget for the Authority. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Resolution 2024-56 – Accept and Approve 2023 Audit – Mr. Waldron presented and discussed the Lacey Municipal Utilities Authority's 2023 audit. On recommendation by the auditor, a motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Ms. MacArthur to adopt *Resolution 2024-56, Accept and Approve 2023 Audit*. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; Baker-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE

Michael Caputo, Parkside Drive – Requesting relief of utility bill, due to a toilet leak. Since the basis of the high usage was due to a toilet issue, a waiver of the service charges could not be supported. Customer will be offered a payment plan. A motion was made by Mr. Lanuto and seconded by Ms. MacArthur to offer customer a payment plan. Roll call vote: Lanuto-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-Yes; Masciale-Yes; Knoeller-Yes. Motion passed.

Keith Wilhelmy, Earie Way – Requesting relief of utility bill, due to use of water without irrigation meter. A motion was made by Mr. Masciale and seconded by Mr. Lanuto to grant a one-time credit adjustment in the amount of \$653.52. Roll call vote: Masciale-Yes; Lanuto-Yes; MacArthur-Yes; Baker-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 to discuss.

**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 \$887,910.99 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 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Kennedy
Executive Secretary