

**JERSEY CITY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
MARCH 23, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER – 5:00 PM

In compliance with the Sunshine Laws, Chairwoman Hulings ordered and directed that a Public Notice of a Public Meeting of the Jersey City Municipal Utilities Authority be posted in the main lobby of the Jersey City Municipal Utilities Authority Administration Building and that a copy of the notice be sent to The Jersey Journal, The Star Ledger and the City Clerk.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairwoman, Maureen C. Hulings
Commissioner, William Macchi
Commissioner, Lewis W. Matthias
Commissioner, Marie Tauro
Second Alternate Commissioner, Thomas M. Gibbons

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Commissioner, Marcos Vigil
First Alternate Commissioner, Nicholas Economou

ALSO PRESENT:

Daniel Becht, Executive Director
Judy Rybka, Recording Secretary
Frank Borin, Esquire, DeCotiis, FitzPatrick & Cole, LLP
John Folk, CPA, Director of Finance
Rajiv Prakash, Engineering Department
Kevin Carr, Purchasing Agent
Elmer Andal, Finance Department
Krystyna Pawlowska, Administrative Assistant
Jerome A. Harris, PE, PP, CME Associates
John Hroncich, United Water

Following roll call of Commissioners, Chairwoman Hulings requested a motion to excuse Commissioner Vigil from this evening's meeting. In his capacity as Deputy Mayor of Jersey City, Commissioner Vigil has a previously scheduled commitment.

Motioned to approve by Commissioner Macchi

Seconded by Commissioner Matthias

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| Roll call vote: Commissioner Gibbons | Aye |
| Commissioner Tauro | Aye |
| Commissioner Macchi | Aye |
| Commissioner Matthias | Aye |
| Chairwoman Hulings | Aye |

FLAG SALUTE

PUBLIC COMMENT – No public comment

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Gibbons advised that he was not present during the first fifteen minutes (+/-) of the February 24, 2016 Commissioners meeting. He was present for the remainder of the meeting.

Chairwoman Hulings noted that the February minutes do not indicate the separate roll call vote that was taken after each nomination and second for the position of Board Chair. A separate vote was in fact held after each nomination and second for this position.

Motioned to approve minutes of the February 24, 2015 Commissioners meeting as amended above by Commissioner Gibbons

Seconded by Commissioner Macchi

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| Roll call vote: Commissioner Gibbons | Aye |
| Commissioner Tauro | Aye |
| Commissioner Macchi | Aye |
| Commissioner Matthias | Aye |
| Chairwoman Hulings | Aye |

Following approval of the February minutes, Mr. Borin advised the following Resolution is pulled from the agenda: **Resolution 3/16/7** authorizing MMREF expenditure for construction of dechlorination system at third river overflow of the Jersey City water supply aqueduct

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution 3/16/1 authorizing transfer of funds for sewer operations

Resolution 3/16/2 authorizing payments of audited claims for sewer operations

Resolution 3/16/3 authorizing transfer of funds and payments of audited claims for water operations

Resolution 3/16/4 authorizing cash disbursements

Resolution 3/16/5 authorizing payments from the capital improvement, project and note funds

Resolution 3/16/6 authorizing the qualification of firms for professional engineering services contracts

Resolution 3/16/8 authorizing the execution and delivery of agreements to be executed by the Jersey City Municipal Utilities Authority pursuant to the 2016/2017 New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust Financing Program

Resolution 3/16/9 authorizing application for loan from the New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Trust Financing Program

Resolution 3/16/10 authorizing MMREF expenditure for emergency installation of valves to repair water main break in the City of Hoboken

Commissioner Macchi asked, “Is the MUA reimbursed for this?”

Mr. Prakash explained the JCMUA sells bulk water to Hoboken. A water main break occurred fifty feet from meter vault and the break could not be isolated and the flow could not be controlled. J. Fletcher Creamer was hired on an emergency basis to install valves and line the meter vault. This work was necessary to isolate the main break and prevent flooding. It took approximately a week to complete the work.

Mr. Becht explained that Hoboken does not contribute to capital improvements, and its contract with Suez/United Water is not the same. He added this work was beneficial to the MUA as Jersey City would likely have had water issues as well.

Commissioner Matthias added that Hoboken had the break but Jersey City had the valves to shut off the water.

Resolution 3/16/11 authorizing the award of a contract for professional engineering services to the Alaimo Group to provide construction administration services for water system main relocation project

Resolution 3/16/12 amending award of a contract to Intrep Solutions to perform IT network consultant services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq

Resolution 3/16/13 correcting change order numbers 4, 5, and 6 for the Duncan Avenue outfall replacement project: JCMUA contract number DAS-2013-11A

Resolution 3/16/14 authorizing the award of a contract for IT network support and maintenance services

Resolution 3/16/15 awarding an amendment to a contract for professional engineering services to Remington, Vernick & Arango Engineers for replacement of existing emergency backup generators at the east side and west side pumping stations

Resolution 3/16/16 authorizing the acceptance of credit card payments for water and sewer permits and connection fees in accordance with the provisions of N.J.A.C. 5:30-9.1 et seq

Resolution 3/16/17 authorizing the declaration of a sewer emergency repair on Culver Avenue between West Side Avenue and Mallory Avenue

Resolution 3/16/18 authorizing application for loan number 0906001-013 remote meter reading (AMI) from the New Jersey Environmental Infrastructure Financing Program

Motioned to approve by Commissioner Matthias

Seconded by Commissioner Gibbons

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| Roll call vote: Commissioner Gibbons | Aye |
| Commissioner Tauro | Aye |
| Commissioner Macchi | Aye |
| Commissioner Matthias | Aye |
| Chairwoman Hulings | Aye |

COMMUNICATIONS - None

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Mr. Becht reported on the following:

Water Testing – Testing labs have been hired to test the City's water at a cost of less than \$17,500. A number of tests have been completed and preliminary results are in. Final results should be available within 7 to 10 days with a draft report for review by JCMUA and Suez/United Water. Results will then be made public. Preliminary results show "nothing of any consequence and we are fully compliant."

Commissioner Gibbons asked where the testing is done.

Per Mr. Becht, testing is done at the source, at hydrants and in homes. Residents are offered a \$50 discount on their water bills if they allow the water in their homes to be tested at the faucet.

Commissioner Gibbons expressed concern over the possibility of lead pipes in homes causing contaminants in water tested at faucets. "The MUA is not responsible for this."

Mr. Prakash explained the State requires samples be taken in homes. Fifty high risk locations with lead service lines have been/will be tested at different times of the day under different circumstances.

Commissioner Matthias asked, "Do we test schools?"

Mr. Becht explained tests are done at hydrants. Schools are asked to flush lines and the MUA is working with the Board of Education regarding other testing.

Commissioner Macchi asked about the water supply to the Statue of Liberty.

Mr. Becht advised water and sewer lines are currently being replaced. This is an \$8 million contract, and the JCMUA is receiving a 10 percent management fee (\$800,000 income to JCMUA). It is anticipated the project will be complete in spring 2016.

Earth Day is April 23. Commissioner Gibbons and the Jersey City Environmental Committee will be at Liberty State Park; the MUA will be in attendance at City Hall. Suez/United Water will also participate. There will be rain barrel raffles, demonstrations, free water bottles, free seeds for planting and educational information.

Commissioner Gibbons advised that he will hopefully be in attendance at both locations.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – No reports

COUNSEL REPORT – Mr. Borin advised the MUA was successfully defended in Open Public Records Act (OPRA) related litigation dealing with a report that would have cost the Authority \$4,000 and \$5,000 to have Suez/United Water provide. The MUA won a lower court case, and an appeal on Friday, March 18, 2016 agreed with the MUA and attorney fees were denied.

Mr. Becht added that an additional suit has been withdrawn.

ITEMS OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Unfinished Business Agenda/Action Item(s) for March 2016 Commissioners meeting:

1. Change order chart.

ITEMS OF NEW BUSINESS

Commissioner Gibbons explained that Sustainable Jersey City is working with the New Jersey Tree Foundation regarding urban tree planting. The MUA has been asked to sponsor a training program for 75 individuals (15 of the 75 are Dickinson High School students). Dickinson is an eco school and the first in Jersey City to offer an eco program to students. He requested a motion and second for approval of a \$5,000 expenditure for this training program. Funds will be solicited from other sources after the training is completed.

Motioned to approve \$5,000 expenditure for training program as outlined above by
Commissioner Gibbons
Seconded by Commissioner Matthias

Roll call vote: Commissioner Gibbons Aye
 Commissioner Tauro Aye
 Commissioner Macchi Aye
 Commissioner Matthias Aye
 Chairwoman Hulings Aye

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Entered Executive Session at 5:25 p.m. to discuss personnel matters.

Motioned by Commissioner Matthias

Seconded by Commissioner Gibbons

Roll call vote: Commissioner Gibbons Aye
 Commissioner Tauro Aye
 Commissioner Macchi Aye
 Commissioner Matthias Aye
 Chairwoman Hulings Aye

Executive Session Ended 5:34 p.m.

Motioned by Commissioner Gibbons

Seconded by Commissioner Matthias

Roll call vote: Commissioner Gibbons Aye
 Commissioner Tauro Aye
 Commissioner Macchi Aye
 Commissioner Matthias Aye
 Chairwoman Hulings Aye

ADJOURNMENT

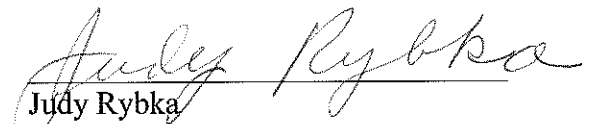
The meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Motioned to approve by Commissioner Matthias

Seconded by Commissioner Gibbons

Unanimously approved by all Commissioners present.

Respectfully submitted,



Judy Rybka
Recording Secretary