

**JERSEY CITY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
JANUARY 25, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER – 5:00 PM

In compliance with the Sunshine Laws, Chairwoman Tauro 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, Marie Tauro
Commissioner, Maureen C. Hulings
Commissioner, Marcos D. Vigil
Commissioner, Jeannine Zampella

ABSENT

Commissioner, William A. Macchi
First Alternate Commissioner, Nicholas I. Economou
Second Alternate Commissioner, Thomas M. Gibbons

ALSO PRESENT:

Daniel Becht, Esquire, Executive Director
Judy Rybka, Recording Secretary
Frank J. Borin, Esquire, DeCotiis, FitzPatrick & Cole, LLP
John D. Folk, CPA, Director of Finance
Richard Haytas, PE, Senior Engineer/Infrastructure Maintenance Supervisor
Jerome A. Harris, PE, PP, CME Associates
Michael McClelland, PE, PP, CME Associates
Kevin J. Carr, RPPO, QPA, Purchasing Agent
Krystyna Pawlowska, Administrative Assistant
Rajiv Prakash, Engineering Department
John Hroncich, Suez/United Water

FLAG SALUTE

PUBLIC COMMENT – No Public Comment

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of the December 28, 2016 Commissioners meeting

Motioned to approve by Commissioner Hulings

Seconded by Commissioner Zampella

Roll call vote: Commissioner Zampella Aye

 Commissioner Vigil Aye

 Commissioner Hulings Aye

 Chairwoman Tauro Aye

Mr. Borin advised there are two additional Resolutions; 1/17/18 and 1/17/19.

Mr. Becht added the Finance Committee met and deliberated over Resolutions 1/17/18 and 1/17/19 and approval of both Resolutions was recommended.

RESOLUTIONS-CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution 1/17/1 authorizing transfer of funds for sewer operations

Resolution 1/17/2 authorizing payments of audited claims for sewer operations

Resolution 1/17/3 authorizing transfer of funds and payments of audited claims for water operations

Resolution 1/17/4 authorizing cash disbursements

Resolution 1/17/5 authorizing payments from the capital, improvement, project and note funds

Resolution 1/17/6 granting 80% sewerage abatement

Resolution 1/17/7 granting partial abatements

Resolution 1/17/8 authorizing change order number 6 for aqueduct rehabilitation – Phase II, JCMUA project number AQR-2010-27-W; and change order number 3 for aqueduct rehabilitation – Phase III, JCMUA project number AQR-2013-50-W

Resolution 1/17/9 authorizing amendment to contract for professional engineering services with T&M Associates for flood hardening improvements to pump stations 1, 2 and 3B

Resolution 1/17/13 correcting resolution 12/16/10 authorizing amendment to contract for professional engineering services with T&M Associates for design, bid and construction of 30 inch and 24 inch water transmission project

Resolution 1/17/14 authorizing MMREF expenditure for field assessment of 30 inch ductile iron main in Washington Boulevard between Newport Parkway and 6th. Street

Resolution 1/17/15 authorizing award of a contract for construction services for eastside and Westside pumping station improvements; JCMUA contract number EWPI-2014-10

Resolution 1/17/16 appointing fund commissioner to the New Jersey Utility Authorities joint insurance fund

Resolution 1/17/17 authorizing change order number 8 for MMREF expenditure for cured-in-place pipe lining of existing water mains on Newark Avenue between Tonnele Avenue and James Street – Phase II

Resolution 1/17/18 authorizing the uniform shared services and consolidation agreement between the City of Jersey City and the Jersey city Municipal Utilities Authority

Resolution 1/17/19 authorizing an amendment to the contract with CME Associates for consulting engineering services

Motioned to approve by Hulings

Seconded by Commissioner Zampella

Roll call vote: Commissioner Zampella Aye

 Commissioner Vigil Aye (abstention Resolution 1/17/9 only)

 Commissioner Hulings Aye

 Chairwoman Tauro Aye

RESOLUTIONS-DEFERRED

Resolution 1/17/10 authorizing MMREF expenditure for emergency repairs to 30 inch water main on Washington Boulevard

Resolution 1/17/11 authorizing MMREF expenditure for emergency replacement of 20 inch valve and installation of new fire hydrant at Laidlaw Avenue and Summit Avenue

Resolution 1/17/12 authorizing the declaration of an emergency flood condition at 10 Exchange Place and authorizing installation of overflow storm sewer

Commissioner Vigil expressed concerns about use of emergency declarations (particularly Resolution 1/17/12), timing of these declarations and discussed similar concerns raised by Commissioner Gibbons. He noted several situations/conditions existed for some time and should have been brought to the Board's attention sooner.

Mr. Becht explained the Procurement and Contracting Committee met with Commissioner Gibbons who was present by phone. He advised that questions/concerns raised by the Mayor and Chief of Staff were addressed. "This was well vetted by Commissioners and Administration."

Regarding Resolution 1/17/10, Mr. Prakash explained there were water main breaks on a 30 year old, 30 inch transmission main on Washington Boulevard. Two back-to-back breaks took place in the same vicinity; one on Saturday and the second on the following Monday, disrupting businesses in the area. The Authority looked to minimize the outage of water. Upon testing, corrosion was revealed. As a result, pipes may be replaced in the area.

Motioned to approve by Commissioner Hulings

Seconded by Commissioner Vigil

Roll call vote: Commissioner Zampella	Aye
Commissioner Vigil	Aye
Commissioner Hulings	Aye
Chairwoman Tauro	Aye

COMMUNICATIONS – None

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Mr. Becht reported negotiations with Local 63 have been settled, and employees will receive retroactive pay effective with the next pay period.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Green Infrastructure Committee – In Commissioner Gibbons’ absence, Mr. Borin discussed grants for rain garden projects.

Mr. Becht advised the Authority will assist with this program as it has in the past. Two locations noted were Leonard Gordon Park and New Jersey City University arts building. This is a pilot program with Rutgers, and all green projects are welcome.

Commissioner Zampella advised there are several parks in the downtown area that would benefit from this program.

Per Mr. Becht, the Authority will try to advance all green projects brought to its attention. The MUA’s sewer capacity study will be made available to any/all environmental groups. Mr. Andal is the Authority’s Public Information Officer and will be happy to attend meetings concerning green infrastructure projects. “Dialogue is ongoing and projects will continue.”

WATER AND RESEVOIR REPORT – Mr. Hroncich distributed an updated rule curve graph and reported the reservoir is at 85% capacity as of yesterday. Based on anticipated rainfall and the recent Nor’ Easter, the reservoir should soon be near full capacity.

COUNSEL REPORT – Mr. Borin reported on the trial involving Rockaway Valley Sewerage Authority, which is scheduled to proceed in February/March 2017. The MUA is working with Mr. DeHope of Riker, Danzig et al and monitoring the matter.

Mr. Becht continued that for various reasons, several judges were assigned to the case. "It's a very technical case, but we're at the end of the line." He added that the Authority has not been paying the full amount since the law suit began.

Mr. Borin added that it could last four to six weeks. The agreement goes back many years to when Gerald McCann was Mayor of Jersey City.

ITEMS OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

ITMES OF NEW BUSINESS

Commissioners Zampella discussed the following items:

1. Project underway at Second and Coles Streets. The work site is "very messy," with construction equipment on the sidewalk and no police presence, all potential safety issues. She requested the work site be inspected at the end of each work day to be certain the plates are put down properly, the area is swept clean and streets are cleared. "Paving needs to be curb-to-curb; no patch work."
2. Section of street on Newark Avenue and Second Street which was opened last year is caving in again.

Mr. Haytas discussed problems the contractor is experiencing with installation of pipes (item 2 above). He advised conditions at both projects will be reviewed.

3. Commissioner Zampella asked if the JCMUA has a program for summer employees.

Mr. Becht explained the MUA has a program for summer help to work in the field although there were no summer employees last year. Employees must be at least 18 years old for insurance purposes. Recommendations for summer employment are welcome.

4. Commissioner Vigil discussed construction near the City's reservoir, and specifically asked about notification of this construction.

Mr. Borin explained he will be looking into this matter to see if the work area abuts MUA property. If construction is within 200 feet of MUA property, the City should receive notice. The property is owned by the City but some records list the MUA as the owner of certain properties.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Motioned by Commissioner Zampella

Seconded by Commissioner Hulings

Roll call vote: Commissioner Zampella Aye
 Commissioner Vigil Aye
 Commissioner Hulings Aye
 Chairwoman Tauro Aye

EXECUTIVE SESSION CLOSED/REGULAR SESSION REOPENED 5:27 P.M.

Motioned to approve by Commissioner Hulings

Seconded by Commissioner Vigil

Roll call vote: Commissioner Zampella Aye
 Commissioner Vigil Aye
 Commissioner Hulings Aye
 Chairwoman Tauro Aye

ADJOURNMENT

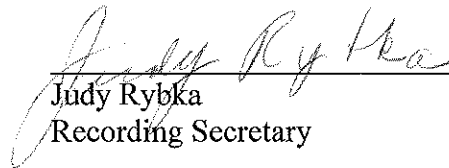
The meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Motioned by Commissioner Zampella

Seconded by Commissioner Hulings

Unanimously approved by all Commissioners present.

Respectfully submitted,



Judy Rybka
Recording Secretary

JERSEY CITY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
Executive Session Minutes
January 25, 2017

A resolution of the Board was adopted to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

Commissioner Zampella wished to discuss the OPRA request that was discussed during Executive Session at last month's Commissioners meeting.

Chairwoman Tauro advised the OPRA request has been withdrawn.

The Executive Director reported an identical request was submitted by The Jersey Journal, and the MUA has fully complied with the information requested.

Commissioner Zampella requested written notice that the OPRA request has been withdrawn.

General Counsel advised the minutes will reflect the OPRA request has been withdrawn and this will serve as written/formal notification.