

**JERSEY CITY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE REORGANIZATION MEETING AND
REGULAR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
FEBRUARY 22, 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
First Alternate Commissioner, Nicholas I. Economou
Second Alternate Commissioner, Vincent Mastria

ABSENT

Commissioner Thomas M. Gibbons

ALSO PRESENT:

Daniel Becht, Esquire, Executive Director
Judy Rybka, Recording Secretary
Kevin A. Conti, Esquire, DeCotiis, FitzPatrick & Cole, LLP
Jeremy Farrell, Corporation Counsel, City of Jersey City
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
Terrance McDonald, The Jersey Journal

FLAG SALUTE

PUBLIC COMMENT – No public comment

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of the January 25, 2017 Commissioners meeting

Motioned to approve by Commissioner Vigil

Seconded by Commissioner Hulings

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

Following approval of minutes, the new Second Alternate Commissioner, Vincent Mastria, was sworn in by General Counsel. Congratulations and a warm welcome were extended to Commissioner Mastria.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair - Commissioner Tauro nominated Commissioner Vigil. Commissioner Economou nominated Commissioner Hulings. There were no further nominations. Nominations closed.

Commissioner Vigil thanked Commissioner Tauro for the nomination to the position of Chair. He explained, however, that due to his duties/responsibilities with the City he must decline the nomination.

There being no further nominations/nominations closed, a roll call vote was taken as follows for Commissioner Hulings as the new Chair:

Roll call vote: Commissioner Economou	Aye
Commissioner Hulings	Aye
Commissioner Zampella	Aye
Commissioner Vigil	Aye
Commissioner Tauro	Nay

The motion carried and Commissioner Hulings is elected Chair to the Board of Commissioners of the JCMUA for the 2017/2018 term.

Vice Chair – Chairwoman Hulings nominated Commissioner Zampella. There were no further nominations. Nominations closed.

Roll call vote: Commissioner Economou	Aye
Commissioner Tauro	Nay
Commissioner Zampella	Aye

Commissioner Vigil	Aye
Chairwoman Hulings	Aye

The motion carried and Commissioner Zampella is elected Vice Chair to the Board of Commissioners of the JCMUA for the 2017/2018 term.

Secretary – Chairwoman Hulings nominated Commissioner Gibbons. There were no further nominations. Nominations closed.

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

The motion carried and Commissioner Gibbons is elected Secretary to the Board of Commissioners of the JCMUA for the 2017/2018 term.

Prior to continuing with the agenda, Mr. Conti advised there is an additional resolution: **Resolution 2/17/21** accepting the resignation of Daniel Becht as Executive Director of the Jersey City Municipal Utilities Authority, and authorizing and appointing Jeremy Farrell as Executive Director. **Resolution 2/17/21** will be discussed in Executive Session.

RESOLUTIONS – CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution 2/17/1 adopting annual meeting schedule

Resolution 2/17/2 designating official newspapers

Resolution 2/17/3 approving a cash management plan in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-14 for the year 2017

Resolution 2/17/7 authorizing transfer of funds for sewer operations

Resolution 2/17/8 authorizing payments of audited claims for sewer operations

Resolution 2/17/9 authorizing transfer of funds and payments of audited claims for water operations

Resolution 2/17/10 authorizing cash disbursements

Resolution 2/17/11 authorizing payments from the capital improvement, project and note funds

Resolution 2/17/12 authorizing preparation of bid specifications and public advertising for the procurement of various goods and/or services

Resolution 2/17/14 authorizing change order number 1 for MMREF expenditure for Boonton treatment plant VFD, transformer and motor project

Resolution 2/17/15 authorizing change order number 1 for the emergency sewer on Van Horne Avenue between Communipaw Avenue and Lafayette Street

Resolution 2/17/16 authorizing amendment to contract for professional accounting and expert financial advisory services

Resolution 2/17/17 authorizing change order number 2 for the emergency storm sewer installation on East Bidwell Avenue and East View Court

Resolution 2/17/18 authorizing purchase of goods and services with certain approved State contract vendors pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12

Resolution 2/17/19 authorizing the award of a contract for engineering services to Remington, Vernick & Arango for the design and replacement of the Van Winkle outfall

Resolution 2/17/20 authorizing the declaration of an emergency for the replacement of the combined sewer on Warren Street between Sussex Street and Morris Street

Motioned to approve by Commissioner Vigil

Seconded by Commissioner Zampella

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

RESOLUTIONS – DEFERRED

Resolution 2/17/13 authorizing change order number 3 for the contract for removal and disposal of street excavation material; JCMUA contract number DSM-2013-43

Commissioner Zampella referred to a memo from the Senior Engineer dated February 7, 2017 (attached to/part of Resolution 2/17/13). Specifically noted was the last sentence of the last paragraph concerning contract amendments.

Mr. Conti explained the contract is “going forward” on the same terms. If the Board agrees with the Senior Engineer, the amendment will be formalized.

Motioned to approve by Commissioner Zampella

Seconded by Commissioner Vigil

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

Per Chairwoman Hulings, the following Resolutions are tabled:

Resolution 2/17/4 appointing Financial Oversight and Audit Committee for 2017/2018;

Resolution 2/17/5 appointing Operations Committee for 2017/2018; and

Resolution 2/17/6 appointing Procurement and Contracting Committee for 2017/2018

Chairwoman Hulings asked if there were any objections to tabling the above three Resolutions. There were no objections. Resolution 2/17/4, Resolution 2/17/5 and Resolution 2/17/6 are tabled.

COMMUNICATIONS – None

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Will report for Operations Committee

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Operations Committee – Mr. Becht reported the Operations Committee met. Additional reporting will be in Executive Session.

COUNSEL REPORT – No report

ITEMS OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Reservoir – Commissioner Vigil discussed development taking place near the City’s reservoir and advised that some communications containing concerns/objections have been received from the Environmental Committee.

Mr. Becht advised that he, the Mayor and Corporation Counsel conducted a site visit of the reservoir and project site. He noted there was no legal notice concerning the development. The Authority has responded to emails from numerous environmental groups, and Mr. Prakash has reached out to CME for an environmental assessment to be certain there are no issues that will impact the water source and water quality. “This is a priority of the MUA.” CME will conduct a site visit and environmental assessment.

Second and Cole Street Project – Commissioner Zampella recalled the discussion at the January Commissioners meeting regarding the conditions at this work site and advised there has been no improvement. She explained there were difficulties with snow removal during the recent storm; plows were unable to get down the street. Additionally, parking problems continue for area residents due to equipment remaining in the area overnight and on weekends, and metal plates are not being properly replaced.

Mr. Haytas advised the issues will be addressed. Supervisors have been reviewing the area/work site but no issues were reported to Mr. Haytas. The site will be visited at the end of the day tomorrow and conditions will be documented. Mr. Haytas will also contact Malcolm Pirnie.

Newark Avenue and Second Street – Commissioner Zampella reported the street is once again caving in and needs attention.

Mr. Haytas advised he will stop by the location after this evening’s meeting to review conditions.

ITEMS OF NEW BUSINESS

Water/Reservoir Report – Mr. Hroncich reported the reservoir is full and “spilling.”

Water Cooler – Commissioner Zampella requested the employee water cooler be replaced with a new one.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Entered Executive Session at 4:20 p.m. to discuss contract and personnel matters

Motioned by Commissioner Vigil

Seconded by Commissioner Zampella

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION CLOSED/REGULAR SESSION REOPENED AT 4:35 P.M.

Motioned by Commissioner Vigil

Seconded by Commissioner Zampella

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

Mr. Conti advised the Board entered Executive Session to discuss **Resolution 2/17/21** accepting the resignation of Daniel Becht as Executive Director of the Jersey City Municipal Utilities Authority, and authorizing and appointing Jeremy Farrell as Executive Director. He requested a motion, second and vote on **Resolution 2/17/21**.

Motioned to approve by Commissioner Vigil
Seconded by Commissioner Zampella

Commissioner Vigil thanked Mr. Becht for his years of service to the MUA, and noted that under his leadership, the entity went from near insolvency to the level of being an example for other entities. Mr. Becht has done much during the years to make certain the MUA is responsive to the needs of the residents of Jersey City. Commissioner Vigil expressed his thanks to Mr. Becht for his years of service and a job well done. He wished Mr. Becht the best of luck in his future endeavors.

Commissioner Vigil advised the MUA will be "left in good hands." Mr. Farrell is an excellent manager and possesses the right leadership qualities to take the Authority to the next levels.

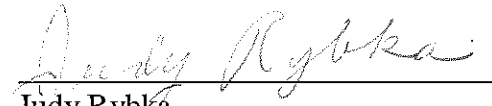
Mr. Farrell expressed his thanks to Mr. Becht, and praised his work during his time with the Authority. He is looking forward to working with Mr. Becht in the coming weeks during the transition period. Mr. Farrell looks forward to working with MUA employees and leading the Authority in successfully serving the needs of the residents of Jersey City.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.
Motioned by Commissioner Zampella
Seconded by Commissioner Vigil
Unanimously approved by all Commissioners present.

Respectfully submitted,



Judy Rybka
Recording Secretary