
WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP MUA

March 15, 2010

The Regular Meeting of the W.T.M.U.A. was called to order at 7:37 p.m. on March 15, 2010.

Adequate notice of this meeting of the W.T.M.U.A. was given to the Observer Tribune and the Hunterdon County Democrat on March 4, 2010. Notice was also posted on the Municipal Building Bulletin Board.

Members Present: Messrs. Akin, Strawn*, Napolitano , Cullen
Alt. Members Present: Messrs.
Members Absent: Messrs.
Alt. Members Absent: Messrs. Kramer, Popper
Township Liaison Present: Messrs.
Township Liaison Absent: Messrs. Harmon

Staff Members Present: Executive Director (E.D.) Costic, Secretary Waller, Attorney Gregory

*arrived at 7:38 pm; left at 10:07 pm

Oath for New Members

The Statute has just changed requiring the MUA to have an oath for new members. It is not as clear if it is required for existing members renewing their terms, but it was determined to perform the oath for these people as well. Mr. Cullen and Mr. Napolitano were sworn in and took the oath for the renewal of their Membership on the Board.

Approval of Meeting Minutes for February 17, 2010 Special Meeting and March 3, 2010 Regular Meeting

Motion was made by Mr. Strawn and seconded by Mr. Cullen that the February 17, 2010 Special Meeting and the March 3, 2010 Regular Meeting Minutes be approved as presented. Motion was carried by the following vote:

AYES: Messrs.: Akin, Strawn, Napolitano, Cullen
NAYS: Messrs.: None
ABSTAIN: Messrs.: None

7:41 Open to the public. There being no public present, the meeting was immediately closed to the public.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

LV Sewer System:

Phosphorous Progress Report still needs to be submitted. The Long Valley plant was supposed to get the same waiver that the Schooley's Mountain plant. This has been put in the process and we are awaiting documentation.

LV Sewer and SM Sewer Systems:

Local Limits Analysis has been submitted since this report was published.

Water Utility - General:

Met with PCS Pump Services to review their SCADA equipment/programming. They can do the Sewer and Water system. The Attorney will contact Morris County MUA to confirm that they are using this vendor without going to competitive bid and if so, how they accomplished this. On the sewer system, the SCADA will provide data acquisition for better monitoring to help with the I&I program. This should avoid visual checks by staff. On the water system, an upgrade will allow reporting providing charts and trends on pumping and usage. Wells need to be added as well as add the chlorine and Ph equipment so that they can be monitored on a continual basis.

COMB FILL SOUTH - WATER MAIN EXTENSION

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There was a conference call on 3/10/10. EPA has not determined to do design of the extension, but they committed to make a decision by the end of the day. As to date, there has been no decision announced.

The MUA can put the pre-conditions on the extension of the MUA line for use with the Chester residents. The Attorney is planning on putting these pre-conditions into the DEP contract. If the EPA does the work, the contract would be with the EPA. The pre-existing conditions can also be added to the sign off for the water main extension connection. A concern is how to avoid the Highlands Council rejecting the agreed upon conditions. It was advised that construction can begin once a contract is in place but without the permits. Permits would have to be in place before the connection can be made.

The DEP is looking at this connection as only adding a few homes. The MUA is considering the additional water usage beyond these home to include flushing requirements due to the small usage and the potential of 80 additional homes along the line. Most importantly, the MUA is living on the edge of the allocation permit since 2007. Without a boost in the MUA allocation permit, there it would not be in the MUA's best interest to extend the system.

SCHOOLEY'S MOUNTAIN SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT

The Morris County Ag Board agreed that our paperwork was complete. They determined that there was an adverse affect on the farm land. The issue being the well head protection zone and the restrictions that may be placed on the farmer if a farm well is desired for irrigation. Attorney Gregory will look into a similar case that Mr. Akin had heard about in the Boonton/Montville area.

There will now be a 60 day period for the Public Hearing. The State Ag Board has claimed that the paperwork is incomplete. Hopefully the completeness of the County Ag Board paperwork will satisfy the State Ag Board.

CLOSED SESSION

<p>RESOLUTION CLOSED SESSION</p>
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No. 10 - 03 - B

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Washington Township Municipal Utilities Authority to discuss a matter relating to Litigation and Personnel which matter is permitted by Section 7.6 of the Open Public Meetings Act (Chapter 231 of the Public Laws of the State of New Jersey for 1975) to be discussed in closed session in the absence of the Public; and

WHEREAS, the Washington Township Municipal Utilities Authority has determined that it is necessary in the public interest that the matter in fact be discussed in closed session, and has estimated that, as nearly as can be ascertained, the results of the discussion can be disclosed to the public when formally acted upon.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Washington Township Municipal Utilities Authority, in the County of Morris and State of New Jersey, that the public be excluded from the closed portion of this meeting, during which only the aforestated matter will be discussed.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED: March 15 , 2010

Motion was made by Mr. Strawn, and seconded by Mr. Cullen, to go into Closed Session at 8:20 pm to discuss Litigation and Personnel. Motion was carried by the following vote:

AYES: Messrs.: Akin, Strawn Napolitano, Cullen
NAYS: Messrs.: None
ABSTAIN: Messrs.: None

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Closed session adjourned at 8:45 pm

CUSTOMER HARDSHIP

Motion made by Mr. Cullen, and seconded by Mr. Napolitano, to waive interest posted to account #1052 for the end of year 2008 and for the entire year of 2009 in the amount of \$20.21. Motion was carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Messrs.:	Akin, Strawn, Napolitano, Cullen
NAYS:	Messrs.:	None
ABSTAIN:	Messrs.:	None

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church representatives requested the connection fee amount for the addition to the Church be reduced. One recommendation would be to reduce one EDU because the second house on the property is being used for storage only with the requirement that the sewer connection to the house be disconnected. Attorney Gregory will look at the Planning Board Resolution to see how the house is categorized by the Township to ensure that there will be no future residence. If the Township confirms that the house is now a storage unit, the MUA can offer to drop one EDU if Zion will pay for the disconnection.

A letter was provided by Church representatives requesting that the easement agreement limit the Church's contribution to a driveway repair to the new portion of the driveway in the event that it needs to be dug up for a MUA repair. Their position is that the original portion of the driveway/parking lot has not changed since the original easement agreement was signed. It is the MUA's position that the original portion was gravel when the agreement was signed and the driveway was paved after the sewer pipe was installed.

Motion was made by Mr. Strawn, and seconded by Mr. Cullen, to receive the Zion Lutheran letter, regarding the handling of any required driveway repairs, into the record as well as the consideration of the request and the decision to keep the agreement as originally written. Motion was carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Messrs.:	Akin, Strawn, Napolitano, Cullen
NAYS:	Messrs.:	None
ABSTAIN:	Messrs.:	None

Attorney Gregory will respond to Zion's letter with the Board's decision.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PRIORITY LISTING

The Executive Director would like the Board to review the Priority Listing to give the Board the opportunity to see all that is being worked on and to determine if the items that the E.D. has assigned the highest priority is in agreement with the Board. It was agreed that the format of this Priority Listing is overwhelming. One recommendation is to provide the Listing in order of priorities. Another suggestion was to only present items requiring Board discussion or input with a recommendation from the Executive Director. A request to limit the agenda for the second monthly meeting to spill-over items from the first monthly meeting was also put forth. The Executive Director pointed out that to give attention to all the high priorities, the budget may need to be increased for the engineering and legal services. The Board's recommendation is that the priorities should be managing staff, managing the infrastructure within budget, manage the financial resources, comply with required regulations/compliance and customer relations.

LETTER FROM CLIFFSIDE RESIDENT

Cliffside should be added to a future agenda. It may require the Township to get involved to help resolve the situation. Currently residents of Cliffside Park feel that the MUA has not resolved their issues when, in fact, the

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MUA was never charged with the authority or the funding to do anything with their water system. This perception from Cliffside residents reflects poorly on the MUA.

Motion was made by Mr. Cullen, and seconded by Mr. Napolitano to adjourn the Regular Meeting. Motion was carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Messrs.:	Akin, Strawn, Napolitano, Cullen
NAYS:	Messrs.:	None
ABSTAIN:	Messrs.:	None

Meeting Adjourned: 10:34 pm

Respectfully submitted,

E. Jill Waller
Secretary