
WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP MUA

Regular Meeting

March 2, 2011

The Regular Meeting of the W.T.M.U.A. was called to order at 7:35 p.m. on March 2, 2011. Adequate notice of this meeting of the W.T.M.U.A. was given to the Daily Record and the Courier News on February 7, 2011. Notice was also posted on the Municipal Building Bulletin Board.

Members Present:	Messrs.	Akin, Strawn, Napolitano, Cullen, Peters
Alt. Members Present:	Messrs.	Kramer*
Members Absent:	Messrs.	
Alt. Members Absent:	Messrs.	Popper
Township Liaison Present:	Messrs.	
Township Liaison Absent:	Messrs.	Roehrich
Staff Members Present:	Executive Director (E.D.) Pucilowski, Secretary Waller, Attorney Reed	

*arrived at 8:05pm

COMBE FILL WATER LINE EXTENSION

Representatives from the EPA and Chester Township were present to discuss the water line extension due to contamination of the water supply from the Combe Fill landfill.

The WTMUA advised that the concerns that they are facing is the impact of a project like this has on the current operation and customer base. The WTMUA is completely self-funded. The EPA advised that they looked for other resources to help with their problem due to their impression that the WTMUA was no longer interested in the project. The following concerns were discussed:

- The issue of reimbursement of prior incurred costs was never resolved. The WTMUA will get a listing of what those costs were to the EPA. There is a funding mechanism in place between the DEP and Chester for contract review and prior costs.
- An EPA contract will need to be put in place quickly to ensure that incurred expenses can be reimbursed.
- WTMUA has issues and concerns about sufficient water supply. The EPA can help the WTMUA get a well online if it is determined that it is needed to be able to supply water to the new connections.
- The EPA is currently exploring multiple options for the water supply needs.
- The contamination plume has expanded. The number of homes that need the water supply has increased to 70 homes. There is the expectation that 80% of the residents would voluntarily connect. Additionally, there will be an extended period of time after the completion of the water line for residents to connect and the EPA to pay the connection. After that expiration, the resident would have to pay the connection themselves. Chester Township could require the remaining residents to connect.
- The EPA will pay for the connection fee and the only cost for the residents is their water usage. The EPA would pay for the residents to decommission their private wells.
- A preliminary loop design has been developed.
- Suggested that there be an initial contract for the evaluation of the impact of the project on the WTMUA prior to the WTMUA being able to commit to the project. The WTMUA will provide a scope of work and costs for this.
- Once a contract is in place for the actual construction of the water line, the EPA will pay for the construction, connection costs and any other improvements to the WTMUA system that directly relates to the water line extension. There will be no reimbursement for operations and maintenance of the system or improvements to the WTMUA systems that are not directly related.

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- The EPA advised that the Highlands Council is agreeable to the connections.
- The WTMUA would design the system. The EPA would build the system with WTMUA representatives in the field. Environmental Restoration would employ the WTMUA for the design of the project on the EPA's behalf.
- Fire protection and hydrants will be included in the project construction.
- The EPA timeline is as soon as possible and preferably this year.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Director's Report, dated 2/25/11, was provided. The following items were discussed:

- The Grove Street Pump Station is on the Agenda with the Washington Township Committee on March 16th. Will probably have to go to the Planning Board. At the Highlands Council meeting, it was mentioned that the landscaping was not completed at the Bartley Pump Station. This will also be addressed with the Planning Board.
- There was a meeting today at the Highlands Council with Township representatives and Hackettstown MUA Director. This was to review properties for sewer connection requests. The list of what will be included is confidential at this time. There are some concerns as to what areas would be added and the impact to the individual sewer plants.
- Received Amy Green correspondence with a deadline to advise the DEP if the WTMUA is abandoning or continuing with the LV09 well. A response will be provided that the WTMUA may need this well in conjunction with the Combe Fill water line extension. The conservation easement may need to be completed. The conservation easement is controlled by the Township committee and should be discussed with them.
- Requested having F. Platt do the Connection Fee Analysis. It was agreed to ask for his assistance and guidance with the bulk of the work being done in-house.
- Valley View Chapel can't tie in until the WMP is approved. The Highlands Council is working on solving some of the connection issues. A Service Agreement will have to be developed and the EDU's reviewed prior to the connection as well.
- The DEP sent letters on the lack of Firm Capacity. This was provided to EPA tonight. M. Pucilowski will contact the DEP to see what triggered the Firm Capacity letters.

SLUDGE DISPOSAL CONTRACT

This item was tabled until J. Gregory has an opportunity to review the contract

EGARIAN INVOICING

The invoice adjustments that were agreed upon were provided. Going forward all engineering projects will be defined and estimated in advance.

Motion was made by Mr. Strawn, and seconded by Mr. Cullen, to approve the following DJ Egarian Associates invoices for payment: #10-194, dated 11/4/10, #10-217, dated 12/15/10 and #10-228, dated 1/27/11. Motion was carried by the following vote:

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

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CLOSED SESSION – 9:30 PM

**RESOLUTION
CLOSED SESSION**

No. 11-03-A

WHEREAS, it is necessary for the Washington Township Municipal Utilities Authority to discuss a matter relating to Litigation, Personnel and Contract Negotiations 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 aforesaid matter will be discussed.

INTRODUCED AND PASSED: March 2, 2011

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

AYES: Messrs.: Akin, Strawn, Napolitano, Cullen, Peters

NAYS: Messrs.: None

ABSTAIN: Messrs.: None

OUT OF CLOSED – 11:10 PM

WATER TEST VIOLATIONS

Motion was made by Mr. Strawn, and seconded by Mr. Cullen, to go approve payment of the DEP fine for the Water Test Violation. Motion was carried by the following vote:

AYES: Messrs.: Akin, Strawn, Napolitano, Cullen, Peters

NAYS: Messrs.: None

ABSTAIN: Messrs.: None

Motion was made by Mr. Strawn, and seconded by Mr. Cullen, to adjourn the meeting.

AYES: Messrs.: Akin, Strawn, Napolitano, Cullen, Peters

NAYS: Messrs.: None

ABSTAIN: Messrs.: None

Meeting Adjourned: 11:10pm

Respectfully Submitted,
E. Jill Waller
Secretary