
**WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP MUA
REGULAR MEETING
July 17, 2013**

The Regular Meeting of the W.T.M.U.A. was called to order at 7:34 PM on July 17, 2013. Adequate notice of this meeting of the W.T.M.U.A. was given to the Daily Record and the Courier News on February 12, 2013. Notice was also posted on the Municipal Building Bulletin Board.

Members Present: Messrs. Cullen, Napolitano, Akin, Mascott
Alt. Members Present: Messrs. Babb
Members Absent: Messrs. Popper
Alt. Members Absent: Messrs. Kramer
Township Liaison Present: Messrs.
Township Liaison Absent: Messrs. LiaBraaten
Staff Members Present: Executive Director (E.D.) Pucilowski, Secretary Waller, Attorney Gregory

SALUTE THE FLAG

MEETING MINUTES

Tabled to next meeting.

JUNE 2013 CHECKBOOK REGISTER

Motion was made by Mr. Akin, and seconded by Mr. Napolitano, to approve the checkbook register as presented. Motion was carried by the following vote:

AYES: Messrs.: Cullen, Napolitano, Akin, Mascott, Babb
NAYS: Messrs.: None
ABSTAIN: Messrs.: None

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 7:40

Tom Federowicz, of 221 Parker Rd, representing his Uncle's property at 217 Parker (Lot 33 and Lots 32 & 32.01) is requesting a hardship exception to keep his well for watering their garden. Across the street is Myers Brothers who has an exemption. Two separate requests for each property are required. Application will need to be submitted to the Authority. It should be taken into consideration that you can't uncap a well in the future.

CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC 7:54

VOUCHERS OVER \$5,000

Motion was made by Mr. Mascott, and seconded by Mr. Akin, that the vouchers for DJ Egarian for \$7,009.48, Gregory & Reed for \$5,401.75, Toby Barkman for \$5,726.33 and JP Jager & Assoc for \$10,212.50 be approved for payment and authorized by the signature of the proper official. Motion was carried by the following vote:

AYES: Messrs.: Cullen, Napolitano, Akin, Mascott, Babb
NAYS: Messrs.: None
ABSTAIN: Messrs.: None

LONG VALLEY GARDEN CLUB

The Long Valley Garden Club is requesting use of the Authority's Administrative Facility (parking lot) for their May flower sale on May 10, 2014.. They will furnish an insurance certificate. The back area should be sectioned off with caution tape or cones. The well pump station work should be completed by then. Any debris and objects that could be tripped over should be cleaned up.

Motion was made by Mr. Babb, and seconded by Mr. Mascott, to authorize Garden Club usage of the Authority's facility parking lot. Motion was carried by the following vote:

AYES: Messrs.: Cullen, Napolitano, Akin, Mascott, Babb
NAYS: Messrs.: None
ABSTAIN: Messrs.: None

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FINAL METER READ PRACTICE

The practice/policy for final meter reading procedure was discussed. The current practice of prorating the reading charges was recommended with no objection from the Board Members.

SALARY INCREASES FOR NON-MEMBERS OF THE EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION

Tabled until next meeting.

PRIVATE WELL REQUEST - 217 PARKER RD.

A decision on the request for a private well was tabled until the homeowners provide a formal application providing more input on the hardship. The EPA relies on Washington Township and Chester for final determination of homeowners that refuse to connect. Need to determine if the EPA has any concerns with the continued use of private wells due to the potential to spread the pollution.

WATER SHUT OFF FOR NON-PAYMENT

Review of SOP for water shut off. The Tax Collector is requesting the Authority to enforce shut offs for non-payment because of increased numbers of homes on tax sale. The Health Dept would not condemn the property because the water has been shut off due to non-payment. The Health Dept should review and concur with the SOP.

Motion made by Mr. Napolitano, and seconded by Mr. Mascott, to re-institute/formalize the enforcement of water shut offs for non-payment (per the standing internal SOP document) subject to the Executive Director's discretion.

Motion was carried by the following vote:

AYES:	Messrs.:	Cullen, Napolitano, Akin, Mascott, Babb
NAYS:	Messrs.:	None
ABSTAIN:	Messrs.:	None

SEWER CONNECTION - 116 FLOCKTOWN

The request from 116 Flocktown to tie-in to the lateral on the First Aid Squad property was reviewed. There are currently two properties tied into this lateral. The Authority would be responsible for the line up to the residents' connection. The property is not in the existing sewer system area. They need to apply for exemption. There is no objection from the Board to this connection. The grinder pump and the connection is the homeowner's responsibility. The lateral line would probably be in the right of way of Flocktown Rd.

ILLEGAL SUMP PUMP CONNECTIONS TO SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM

The Authority will include notification with the bills that discharging sump pumps into the sewer system is illegal. The Board discussed how the Authority can best eliminate the problem and control the cost of locating and prosecuting the offenders. The Board directed the Executive Director to draft a stronger letter and step up efforts to control this issue. If necessary, the Authority would have to take each case to a Superior Court for enforcement of any actions needed to stop illegal discharges into the sewer system. It was suggested that the Observer-Tribune may run an article concerning illegal discharges and the actions the Authority is taking to address this issue.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 9:09 PM

Introduced Bob Thomas from the Observer-Tribune to the Board members. There were no questions.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **Parker Road Watermain Extension – c033 Comb Fill South:** Currently the revised plans for pump building & re-chlorination building are being reviewed. Old Farmers booster station plans have been submitted to the Building Dept. for review and approval. D.J. Egarian & Associates will be providing the inspection services. The EPA Settlement draft for the re-chlorination building easement has been submitted to the Attorney for review. It is expected that the Settlement should address the Authority's concerns. The Authority has received \$11,000 from Chester Township for the preliminary work prior to the EPA purchase order.
- **Grove Street Pump Station – c108:** Plans have been approved by the Building Dept. Notices will go out in the next couple of weeks.

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- **Smith Farm Well (SM23):** The Authority is waiting to hear from the NJDEP on the Highlands Applicability determination.
- **Brookside Court Watermain Break:** Friday, July 5th at approximately 2 AM there was a watermain break near 4 Brookside Court. There was a portion of the bottom section of the ACP pipe that cracked and separated. In order to repair the pipe the water was turned off to the four homes on the street. This required the customers to be under a boil water notice until water samples could be taken and tested for coliform. Because there is no hydrant at the end of Brookside Ct, staff ran the outside faucet to the homes to help flush the system during on Friday. Water samples were taken on Sunday and picked up by the lab on Monday. Late Wednesday morning the Lab sent a report indicating the results were negative for coliform. The results were submitted to the NJDEP Wednesday afternoon and the NJDEP finally lifted the boil water notice late Thursday morning. The residents were then notified that the boil water notice had been lifted. Funding to replace the portion of the watermain on Brookside Court was included in the 2013 capital budget. The plan is to complete this watermain replacement before the end of the year.
- The resident at 31 Dorset Road has requested that the Authority modify the water & sewer rates to be compatible to those of the Hackettstown MUA. The resident has attended both the May & June Committee Meetings. His request for information has been supplied to him. Attached is his latest correspondence in the agenda packet.
- The phosphorus limits must be approved by the EPA. Once approved, it will be published in the NJ Register for comments before the limits are officially adopted. This is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year. Once the limits are adopted, as treatment works permits are renewed the new limits will take affect. There will be 36 months to comply with the new discharge limits on phosphorus. There is some question on whether we should challenge the permit politically or appeal through their channels. Estimates for compliance will be generated and evaluated.
- The resident at 429 Naughtright Rd has requested permission to connect to the sanitary force main in front of their property. The property is not in the sewer service area and the force main is owned by the Board of Education for the Cucinella School. The Executive Director inquired with the Highlands Council on the viability of obtaining an exemption to allow for their connection to the sewer system. It is likely to be extremely difficult to obtain.
- An inspection of the roof truss system was conducted on May 31st. We are waiting for the report to address any structural deficiencies that are found. A cost estimate will then be prepared for discussion with the Board members.
- The part-time Billing/Bookkeeping Clerk and part-time Office Assistant positions have been filled. The assistant water operator position will be filled next week
- The Attorney advised that a new service agreement for the Regency at Long Valley is needed. More information is needed from Regency and their lawyers.
- Dave Egarian & Suburban Consulting has been asked to provide a cost to prepare a report for unaccounted for water. Director Pucilowski will provide this information to the Board at the August meeting, including information regarding a leak on Schooley's Mountain.
- In response to the customer's comments regarding the Authority's debt, Mr. Akin provided a handout on the payment schedules for the Bond repayments.

Motion was made by Mr. Babb, and seconded by Mr. Akin, to adjourn the meeting.

AYES: Messrs.: Cullen, Napolitano, Akin, Mascott, Babb

NAYS: Messrs.: None

ABSTAIN: Messrs.: None

Meeting Adjourned: 9:50 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
E. Jill Waller
Secretary