

Plumsted Municipal Utilities Authority
Minutes – May 19, 2015

Chairman Walter Bronson called the May 19, 2015 Plumsted Municipal Utilities Authority Meeting to order and asked everyone to stand for the Flag Salute. Attorney McGuckin read the Open Public Meetings Act.

Those in attendance were Walter Bronson, Edward Weirsky, Robert Minter, Ronald Dancer and Mr. Esposito. Committeemen Marinari and Boy Scout Troop 109 were also in attendance.

Richard Brown entered the meeting at 6:45 PM.

Bill List: On motion of Mr. Weirsky, seconded by Mr. Minter, the Bill List for May 19, 2015 was approved as submitted. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes

Treasurer's Report: The Regular Account had an opening balance as of April 21st of \$80,487.62, deposits and interest of \$14,505.51, operating expenses of \$27,942.33 with an ending balance on May 19 of \$67,050.80. On motion of Mr. Weirsky, seconded by Mr. Esposito, the Treasurer's Report was approved as submitted. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes

Minutes: On Motion of Mr. Minter, seconded by Mr. Weirsky, the April 21, 2015 Minutes were approved as amended. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes with Mr. Dancer abstaining.

On motion of Mr. Minter, seconded by Mr. Esposito, the April 21, 2015 Executive Minutes were approved as submitted. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes with Mr. Dancer abstaining.

Executive Director Report: Mr. Ylvisaker said regarding the audit, he had asked for it a couple of times and it was not ready yet He hoped to have it by the next meeting. He also mentioned that the auditor promised to work with him on setting up Quick Books so we will not need the Fee Accountant next year.

Energy Aggregation: Mr. Ylvisaker said he had been emailing with Bob Chilton and based on his update, Mr. Chilton was recommending that the MUA not do anything at this point as the energy market is not in a good place. Mr. Chilton hoped that in the winter when the prices go higher there will then be an opportunity to go out to bid. As Verde's contract ends in November it would mean that everyone in the program would go back to JCP/L for a few months before a new contract took effect. Mr. Chilton will continue to monitor the market and keep us advised. Mr. Weirsky said the reason for going out later was because BPU has rules that if you don't save money you cannot go into a contract. Mr. Ylvisaker felt that information should be put out to the public to let them know and understand what the MUA is doing and why.

Recycling and Solid Waste: Mr. Ylvisaker said recycling collection was up for April and we are still good with how the comingling of recycling with South Toms River is proceeding. . When the June report comes in, as long as the program continues to operate as it is with the comingling with South Toms River, he will stop his monthly reports. Mr. Weirsky asked if the contract price goes up this year. Mr. Ylvisaker said it goes up July 1st every year. Mr. Weirsky felt that an evaluation should be done as to whether our cost has to be increased. Mr. Ylvisaker felt that at this point the \$74 will be OK; the surplus will be further reduced but we will still have a decent amount of surplus remaining. He also said that the portion of his salary that is related to the

Redevelopment Project, if the Township moves forward with selling BANs, that there would be some money from that to put into the MUA's budget to help with our operation. Mr. Weirsky was concerned about delinquent accounts and if there was sufficient reserve available to cover these. Mr. Ylvisaker said there was no issue regarding nonpayment because the MUA can get its money at the end of the year when there is a tax sale. He also noted that the landfill disposal costs have not gone up in the four years our program has been in place. He thought that even if the landfill costs increase by \$1, it would still not be a problem.

Redevelopment Project: Mr. Ylvisaker said after much work and some delay, the purchase agreement between the landowner and Lennar was signed on May 14th so now we have to focus on the schedule going forward. He indicated he had met with Lennar and the focus of the meeting was on revising the project schedule. He indicated he will have something to present at the next meeting. He also said the MUA was able to get a renewal option on the property if for some reason there was a termination of the purchase agreement between Lennar and the PRRC. The renewal option would provide the Township a last shot at trying to make something work before the landowners committed themselves to another option for the property. He thought this was a nice gesture by of the owners as they have been working with the Township for many years now. He felt everyone was pretty confident that the project with Lennar will be successful.

Mr. Ylvisaker said he included in the packet a draft of a permit from the Delaware River Basin Commission which is slated to be on their June 9th and 10th docket. He mentioned the only issue raised by the permit was the payment of the approximately \$40,000 permit review fee. Normally this fee is paid up front with the approval of the permit application. However, in discussions with the staff member assigned to review the permit 60 days had been proposed in the permit. Mr. Ylvisaker stated the DRBC seemed agreeable to extending that time period to 180 days. It is hoped that the BANs could be sold by that time. Mr. Ylvisaker said he plans to attend the DRBC meeting in June. Mr. Dancer asked about the permit cost and if the DRBC will ask for documentation to substantiate the estimate. Mr. Ylvisaker explained the estimate he had provided to the DRBC was based on the hard construction costs only and did not include any project contingencies and that is the basis for why the construction estimate was lowered to approximately \$10 million. He also noted a project review fee form would have to be filed with the DRBC which can request supporting information for the estimate. At this point while the project is still in a concept design phase, it is also better to lower the estimate as the DRBC will not return any portion of the fee if the estimate and therefore the fee paid turns out to be higher than the actual construction cost down the road. Mr. Dancer also asked how long the permit was valid for just in case there were any unforeseen delays. Mr. Ylvisaker said he would research this and get back to the Committee.

New Jersey American Water: Mr. Ylvisaker said he had asked for an update but the person is on vacation. When she returns, he will get an update and circulate to the Committee.

County Wastewater Management Plan: Mr. Ylvisaker said he had spoken to Dave McKeon at the County regarding the status of the County's Wastewater Management Plan. Mr. McKeon reported he had a meeting with State recently and there were still some lingering issues the County needed to address. The issues do not apply to Plumsted but to another municipality. He said at this point and time it would require a couple more months before the Wastewater Management Plan was accepted by the DEP. The next step would be for NJDEP to issue a public notice and hold a public hearing sometime in August.

Mr. Ylvisaker said he had a meeting with a staff person at the Association of Environmental Authorities. He said at some point in the future it may be a good association to join.

Engineer Information: Mr. Ylvisaker said that he had not yet received the draft of the contract agreement from T&M reflecting the reduction in price and the assignment of the engineer and special project engineer. He explained the delay was due to internal attorney review but he expected it shortly.

Mr. Bronson opened the meeting to public comment.

Stephanie McMahon with Boy Scout Troop 109 was in attendance. She questioned if the project for waste management was for Colliers Mills. Mr. Bronson explained this was about a sewer project for the downtown which the MUA had been working on for the past five years and the Township for decades. This would provide sewers for the downtown area, which was the business district and areas along the lake where homes are close together on small lots and have trouble with septic systems and cesspools, especially in high rain events where there are overflows into the lake and the creek. With a public sewer system, this would collect the waste and treat it before it gets discharged into the stream. Since a project like this cost a lot of money, what the Township is hoping to do is involve a redeveloper to help fund sewers in exchange for the Township letting them develop a certain property as a planned retirement community.

Mr. Dancer said the Township and MUA had assigned a high priority to improving the water quality of Oakford Lake and the Crosswicks Creek for canoeing and fishing. He said there was a canoe/kayak launch by Volunteer Park on Evergreen Road and fishing and boating on Oakford Lake.

Resolutions:

On Motion of Mr. Minter, seconded by Mr. Weirsky, memorializing Resolution No. 2015-13, appointing T&M Associates as Authority Engineer and Special Projects Engineer. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes

A motion was made by Mr. Weirsky and seconded by Mr. Minter, to adjourn the meeting. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes. The next meeting is scheduled for June 16, 2015 at 6:30PM.

Respectively submitted by:

Nancy Hendrickson, Secretary