

Plumsted Municipal Utilities Authority Minutes

October 20, 2020

Chairman Bronson called the October 20, 2020 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, Ricky Brown and Nancy Lawrence.

Solid Waste/Recycling Rate Hearing

Mr. Bronson began the meeting by noting that a Rate Hearing is required by the Board of Public Utilities so the public is made aware of the proposed rate increase and they are allowed the opportunity to comment or ask questions as to the reason for the rate increase. A stenographer was present via Zoom to transcribe the proceedings of the Solid Waste/Recycling Rate Hearing.

Mr. Ylvisaker stated that the PMUA had received one bid from Waste Management on September 2, 2020 for the upcoming Solid Waste Contract which expires at the end of this year. He further noted that Waste Management has been the contracted service provider since July 1, 2011 when the PMUA began to provide this voluntary service to Township residents. Mr. Ylvisaker reported that the Waste Management bid included a significant increase per unit cost from \$24.14 to \$28.46 the first year, with additional increases in each of the four subsequent years of the contract. As such, Mr. Ylvisaker stated that the PMUA will need to increase the current rate of \$80.00 per quarter to a new rate of \$90.00 per quarter. This increase is a price which allows the PMUA to break even economically. Mr. Ylvisaker added that he believes the PMUA will be able to maintain this new rate of \$90.00 per quarter for two years, and possibly a third year, with the existing surplus of \$43,200.00.

In regards to other charges, Mr. Ylvisaker reported that the current rate of \$12.00 per quarter for an extra trash container or recycling container will be revised to the following: \$18.00 per quarter for an extra trash container and a decreased rate of \$9.00 per quarter for an extra recycling container.

In regards to mattresses, Mr. Ylvisaker stated that beginning on January 1, 2021, it will be required, for public health reasons, that all mattresses be wrapped in plastic or be enclosed in a plastic, zippered mattress cover. Mr. Ylvisaker also reported that the amount of

monthly bulk per household will be limited to a 4'x4'x8' area (the approximate size of a sofa).

At the conclusion of Mr. Ylvisaker's testimony, Mr. Bronson opened up the hearing to public comments. Mr. Patrick Ahearn, 8 Lawrence Drive, asked if Freehold Cartage, Inc. (FCI), was included in the Solid Waste Bid process since their quarterly rate is \$81.00 for a private homeowner. Mr. Bronson responded that FCI chose not to submit a Solid Waste Bid to the PMUA. Mr. Ahearn asked if the Solid Waste fees are allocated to anything other than Solid Waste services. Mr. Bronson responded that the Solid Waste fees pay the Waste Management contract fees and some administrative costs of the PMUA.

Since there were no further questions or comments, Mr. Bronson closed the Solid Waste/ Recycling Rate Hearing to the public.

Treasurer Report

Mr. Ylvisaker reported that the Escrow Account with Investors has been closed. He also reported the General Checking Account with Investors had an opening balance in September 2020 of \$61,629.75, with expenses of \$43,596.74 and deposits of \$42,811.82 ending with a cleared balance of \$60,844.83 and an un-cleared balance of \$63,859.15. The check register balance as of October 20, 2020 with payments of the other items listed on the Bill List, is \$35,249.16. He further noted that there are sufficient funds available to pay the bills.

Mr. Bronson asked if there were any questions on the Treasurer's Report. There were no questions or comments on the Treasurer's Report. On a motion of Mr. Weirsky, seconded by Ms. Lawrence, the Treasurer's Report was approved. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes.

Bill List

Mr. Bronson asked if there were any questions or comments on the Bill List. There were no questions or comments on the Bill List. On a motion of Mr. Minter, seconded by Mr. Brown, the Bill List was approved. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes.

Minutes

Mr. Bronson noted that the Minutes from the September 15, 2020 meeting were included in the meeting packet. Mr. Bronson asked if there were any questions or comments on the September 15, 2020 Minutes. There were no questions or comments. On a motion of Mr. Minter, seconded by Mr. Weirsky, the September 15, 2020 Minutes were approved. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes.

T and M Associates Monthly Report

Stephen Schreiber from T and M Associates was present to provide their monthly status report for September 2020. The report is dated October 12, 2020. Given the level of detail of his report, the Engineer's Report for September 2020 is attached to the Minutes.

Mr. Bronson asked Mr. Schreiber to comment on the construction schedule. Mr. Schreiber reported that the Collection System should be completed in approximately forty-five days; including all of the gravity line installation and the majority of the work at the Pump Station. He further noted that the Holding Tank should be completed in that time frame as well, with the possible exception of the electrical service. Mr. Schreiber stated that the majority of the final paving will be completed in the Spring of 2021, unless weather permitting, the paving can be completed before the Winter sets in. Mr. Bronson asked Mr. Schreiber to include a construction schedule in the Engineer's Report, so it may be referenced at a later time, if necessary.

Mr. Streleckis, of NSU, was present via Zoom. Mr. Bronson asked Mr. Streleckis to report on the WWTP construction schedule. Mr. Streleckis stated the projected completion date is May 17, 2021, although Tomar Construction is proposing an additional 13 days for completion. This would bring the final completion date to May 30, 2021. Mr. Streleckis remarked that the contracted completion date is January 28, 2021. He further commented that Tomar Construction is not meeting their deadlines. Tomar needs to file for a formal time extension and have it approved, in order to exceed the contracted 450 days. Mr. Bronson commented that Mr. Schreiber informed the PMUA, in a pre-meeting, that a licensed operator will be needed for the Temporary Holding Tank. Mr. Streleckis responded that the PMUA will need at least a part-time licensed operator in the interim, until the PMUA is able to go to bid for a long-term operator of the full Collection System and the WWTP. Mr. Streleckis further noted that the Holding Tank will need to be operated until Tomar Construction completes the WWTP. He added that the part-time Holding Tank operator is needed to: monitor the system; respond to sewer back-ups; monitor, repair and replace the pumps, if necessary; maintain the level in the Holding Tank; procure the trucks; create a truck schedule; and be on-site when the trucks arrive to sign the Bill-of-Lading.

Kleinfelder Report

Ray Ferrara was present via Zoom to provide an update to the PMUA. Mr. Ferrara stated that both the Dissolve Oxygen Report and Phosphorus Report have been completed and will be submitted to the NJDEP in the next day or two. Mr. Ferrara also noted he has a phone meeting scheduled with the DEP on Thursday to coordinate administratively, the Permit Modification and Permit Renewal so that they can be completed as quickly as possible. Mr. Ferrara stated that a Public Hearing may not be necessary. He added that the

DEP will issue a Draft Permit to be advertised in the NJ Register, as well as local newspaper outlets. This will allow 30 days for the Public to comment on the Draft Permit Action. After which, the DEP will respond to the Public Comments and decide if a Public Hearing is necessary. If a Public Hearing is not required, the DEP will issue the Final Permit Action.

Executive Director's Report

Audit

Brian Waldron, HFA-Senior Audit Manager, was present to report on the Draft of the June 30, 2020 Year-end Audit. Mr. Waldron stated there are no formal comments or recommendations to issue to the PMUA Committee. He further noted that the June 30, 2020 Year-end Audit will be finalized over the next few week. Therefore, the Committee members can review the draft and contact him with any questions. Mr. Waldron stated that the Committee can formally accept the June 30, 2020 Year-end Audit at the November 17, 2020 PMUA Meeting.

Redevelopment

Mr. Ylvisaker stated that PSE&G is still waiting for a Road Opening Permit from Ocean County for 10 Evergreen Road. In regards to the WWTP at 947 Monmouth Road, the JCP&L Agreement is to be discussed at the November 2020 Township Committee Meeting. Mr. Ylvisaker noted that possibly next week, the sewer piping will be installed on the 6 Evergreen Road property and connected to the Pump Station.

Mr. Ylvisaker reported that he had visited the Lennar site last week with Mayor Marinari and Lennar is finishing the interior work on the models.

Mr. Ylvisaker stated that he will be composing a Step-by-Step Guide for residents on starting new sewer service, as well as an Agreement for affected residents to accept funds from the Sewer Financial Incentive Plan. Mr. Ylvisaker will notify the Sewer Committee when these drafts are completed for their review. Mr. Bronson stated that with the anticipated construction completion date of May 30, 2021, the PMUA would want to allow residents to begin connecting to the sewer service on June 1, 2021.

Public Comments

Mr. Ahearn, 8 Lawrence Drive, asked when will the final paving will be completed, specifically Evergreen Road and Main Street? Mr. Bronson responded that the final paving of Evergreen Road will be completed by the County and since they stop paving in November, it is likely to be completed in the Spring. In regards to Main Street, Mr. Schreiber stated that the County requires a minimum of 30 days of settlement time after the last sewer is installed before you can put final paving on the roadway. He added it is at least 45

days before final paving could be completed on Main Street which would be in December 2020. Mr. Schreiber stated they will have the contractor come back out to level and pave portions of Main Street and North Main Street now to make it a better driving surface. Then, final paving will be completed next year. In regards to Mr. Ferrara's report, Mr. Ahearn asked Mr. Bronson to clarify whether or not a Public Hearing will be required for the DEP Permit. Mr. Bronson responded that the public will have an opportunity to comment on the Draft Permit Action and then the DEP will decide if a Public Hearing is necessary.

Resolutions

Resolution 2021-10: Solid Waste/Recycling Rate Increase. On a motion of Mr. Weirsky, seconded by Mr. Minter, Resolution 2021-10 was approved. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes.

Resolution 2021-11: Solid Waste Contract Award. On a motion of Mr. Weirsky, seconded by Ms. Lawrence, Resolution 2021-11 was approved. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes.

Motions

Motion to Authorize the Executive Director to Advertise for the PMUA Executive Director Position in the New Jersey League of Municipalities. On a motion of Mr. Weirsky, seconded by Ms. Lawrence, Motion was approved. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes.

Motion to Advertise for RFPs from Consultants to Operate, Maintain and Manage the WWTP and Collection System. On a motion of Mr. Minter, seconded by Mr. Weirsky, Motion was approved. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes.

Motion to Authorize a Letter of Recommendation to the Township Committee to Approve Mr. Hagelstein for the Vacant Alternate #2 Position on the PMUA Committee. On a Motion of Mr. Weirsky, seconded by Mr. Minter, Motion was approved. Roll call vote: All Ayes.

Executive Session

Mr. Bronson stated he would like to open an Executive Session to discuss PMUA personal issues. On a motion of Mr. Minter, seconded by Mr. Weirsky, the Executive Session was approved. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes.

No action was taken.

Adjournment

Since there was no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 17, 2020 at 6:30PM.

Respectively submitted by:

Peter Ylvisaker, Board Secretary