

**LEHMUA
Regular Meeting**

October 12, 2021

The regular meeting of the Little Egg Harbor Municipal Utilities Authority was held on October 12, 2021, 12:00 PM at the Authority headquarters, 823 Radio Road, Little Egg Harbor, New Jersey and via tele-conference with Commissioners.

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA TELE-CONFERENCE: Joseph Koptic, Chairman; Margaret DePergola, Vice Chair; Marie Skelly, Treasurer; Kenneth Miller, Secretary; Kenneth Laney; Peter Cicco

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Earl F. Sutton, Jr., Executive Director; Michael S. DiFrancia, Superintendent; Nicole M. Princiotti, Executive Secretary/QPA; Trace Dittenhofer, Authority Engineer via tele-conference; Debra Rumpf, Esq., Authority Attorney via tele-conference.

THOSE ABSENT: None

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: None

Nicole M. Princiotti read the following statement:

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, this meeting has been duly advertised in the Atlantic City Press and the Asbury Park Press, posted on the Authority bulletin board and posted and filed in the Office of the Little Egg Harbor Township Clerk. Resolutions are posted on the Authority's bulletin board.

PRIOR MINUTES

A motion was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mrs. Skelly to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on September 14, 2021. Roll call vote, Kenneth Laney – yes, Kenneth Miller – yes, Marie Skelly – yes, Margaret DePergola – yes.

TREASURER'S REPORT

A motion was made by Mrs. DePergola, seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted. Roll call vote, Ken Laney – yes, Ken Miller – yes, Marie Skelly – yes, Margaret DePergola – yes, Joseph Koptic – yes.

BILLS RESOLUTION

A motion was made by Mrs. DePergola, seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the operational bills resolution as submitted. Roll call vote, Ken Laney – yes, Ken Miller – yes, Marie Skelly – yes, Margaret DePergola – yes, Joseph Koptic – yes.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1 – Mr. Sutton stated that he would first like to welcome Mr. Koptic back. We wish him continued good health. He also reminded everyone to continue being safe and to consider getting the COVID booster shot that is now being offered.

2 – Mr. Sutton advised the Board that Resolution #2021-46 is on the agenda for approval. This will approve the purchase of the monopole that is currently in place next door at 823 Radio Road. This will ensure that no cellular equipment is ever mounted on our tank now or in the future. It is recommended that we approve this resolution.

A motion was made by Mrs. Skelly, seconded by Mr. Miller to approve Resolution #2021-46 awarding a contract for the installation of a monopole wireless communication tower to Himalaya Tower, LLC. Roll call vote, Ken Laney – yes, Ken Miller – yes, Marie Skelly – yes, Margaret DePergola – yes, Joseph Koptic – yes.

3 – Mr. Sutton advised the Board that Resolution #2021-47 is on the agenda authorizing a permanent position as Plumber to Patrick Engroff. There was discussion with the Personnel Committee in regard to this and it is their recommendation as well.

A motion was made by Mrs. DePergola, seconded by Mrs. Skelly authorizing the permanent position of Plumber to Patrick Engroff. Roll call vote, Ken Laney – yes, Ken Miller – yes, Marie Skelly – yes, Margaret DePergola – yes, Joseph Koptic – yes.

4 – Mr. Sutton stated that Resolution #2021-48 is being presented authorizing compensation to the Assistant Maintenance Chief, Michael Keller. The Personnel Committee recommends adoption.

A motion was made by Mr. Koptic, seconded by Mrs. DePergola to approve Resolution #2021-48 authorizing a compensation increase for Assistant Maintenance Chief, Michael Keller. Roll call vote, Ken Laney – yes, Ken Miller – yes, Marie Skelly – yes, Margaret DePergola – yes, Joseph Koptic – yes.

Mr. Sutton mentioned that in the packets sent on Friday there was a nice letter from John Bellone of Pinelands Regional High School, commending Michael Keller and Superintendent DiFrancia for the assistance they provided at the alternative building.

Mr. Sutton stated that there was no Customer Committee matters or Executive Session to come before the Board.

Mr. Sutton stated that was all for his report unless there were any questions. There being none, a motion was made by Mr. Koptic, seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the Executive Director's Report as submitted. All in favor.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Mr. Sutton stated that as mentioned in the Executive Director's Report, there were two (2) items discussed and recommended by the Committee. He asked for a motion and second for approval of the Personnel Committee report as submitted.

A motion was made by Mrs. DePergola, seconded by Mrs. Skelly to approve the Personnel Committee Report as submitted. All in favor.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

1 - Mr. DiFrancia stated that per the renewal of the Authority's water allocation permit, we need to decommission and permanently seal well #5. The well has not been in use for at least 12 years and we have been dealing with this well before his tenure as Superintendent. Taking this out of service for our DEP Diversion is very important. Well #5 and #6 are drilled from the same aquifer. We did get a verbal from the DEP that there should be no issues with decommissioning this well. If we were to re-do this well, which is not a necessity at this time, we would not be permitted to drill into the Upper Kirkwood. We would be required to drill into the 800 Foot Sands. Then the treatment plant itself would have to be upgraded and a new chlorine contact tank as well. This would cost millions of dollars for a property that cannot accommodate all the equipment that would be required.

Mr. DiFrancia stated that it would be his recommendation that we decommission this well and permanently seal it, then ultimately, decommission the building as well. After, it can be determined whether it is in the best interest of the Authority to sell this piece of property.

A motion was made by Mr. Miller, seconded by Mrs. DePergola to authorize the Authority to decommission Well #5 and for Remington & Vernick to prepare bid specifications accordingly. All in favor.

2 – Mr. DiFrancia advised the Board that Phase II of the Mystic Islands Water and Sewer Main replacement is ready to be bid and asked for a motion authorizing the Authority to go out to bid for this project.

A motion was made by Mrs. Skelly, seconded by Mr. Laney authorizing the Authority to go out to bid for Phase II of the Mystic Islands Water and Sewer Main Replacement. All in favor.

3 – Mr. DiFrancia advised the Board that the reports have been received from MBA for the water tank inspections. There were minor recommendations for the tank located at 825 Radio Road that were already addressed by Allied Painting. There is one year remaining on the maintenance bond for this location.

Mr. DiFrancia stated that with regard to the Sea Oaks Tank and the Ground Storage Tank on High Ridge Road, full restoration is recommended within three (3) years. We will be budgeting accordingly for these rehabilitations.

4 – Mr. DiFrancia advised the Board that Well #12 is now fully automated and running on its own. It has been a wonderful journey and learning experience. A special thank you to our Lead Inspector John Mulvihill who was with him each step of the way with this process. Each day we learned something new, how to do things better and more efficiently.

Mr. DiFrancia mentioned that this well is running on its own, and is hooked up to the SCADA System which is monitored everyday. Even though it's fully operational, we will still encounter some hiccups along the way.

5 – Mr. DiFrancia stated that we have reached out to the owners of The Willows apartment complex located at the corner of Oak Avenue and Radio Road to push them to close this project out. This will include going from performance bond to maintenance bond. The punch list items and as-builts have been outstanding for two (2) years. We are waiting for a reply.

6 - Mr. DiFrancia advised the Board that through our valve exercising program, we have found a valve on Route 539 that needs repair. This valve is under a performance bond with Four Seasons at Harbor Bay. A letter was sent out on Friday informing them of the need to repair this valve, as well as a request concerning their performance bonding for water and sewer. The previous request for release was denied in October 2019. The Authority will continue to work on all outstanding bonds that have remained stagnant.

Mr. DiFrancia stated that his work order management report is attached and that he would be happy to answer any questions.

There being none, a motion was made by Mr. Koptic, seconded by Mr. Laney to approve the Superintendent's Report as submitted. All in favor.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Mr. Dittenhofer stated the Engineer's Report has been submitted on behalf of Remington and Vernick Engineers.

Mr. Dittenhofer stated that as far as construction updates, Mystic Island Water and Sewer Replacement Phase I is complete. For Phase II of the Mystic Water and Sewer Project we have responded to the NJDEP BWSE, NJDEP TWA and Ocean County Soil Conservation with regard to the comments we received.

Mr. Dittenhofer advised the Board that for Phase III, surveyors have been working on site, and expanding their scope to include; North Binnacle, North Commodore, North Forecastle, Ship Drive, Tillier Court, Spar Court, North Captains and West Playhouse.

Mr. Dittenhofer advised the Board with regard to development applications, Little Egg 23, LLC has been advised of final compliance conditions via letter dated September 24, 2021.

Mr. Dittenhofer stated that was all for his report unless there were any questions. There being none, a motion was made by Mrs. DePergola, seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the Engineer's Report as submitted. All in favor.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT

Mrs. Rumpf advised the Board that her report has been submitted for approval, and she would be happy to answer any questions at this time.

There being no questions, a motion was made by Mrs. DePergola, seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the Attorney's Report as submitted. All in favor.

Mr. Sutton asked if there were any additional items to come before the Board? There being none, Mr. Sutton asked for a motion to file general correspondence.

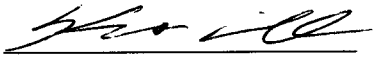
A motion was made by Mrs. Skelly, seconded by Mr. Laney to accept and file general correspondence. All in favor.

Mr. Sutton asked the Board for a motion to open this portion of the meeting to the public. A motion was made by Mrs. DePergola, seconded by Mr. Miller to open this portion of the meeting to the public. All in favor.

Mr. Sutton asked if there were any members of the public on the tele-conference and confirmed that there were no callers on the conference.

Mr. Sutton asked for a motion to close this portion of the meeting to the public. A motion was made by Mr. Koptic, seconded by Mrs. DePergola to close this portion of the meeting to the public. All in favor.

A motion was made by Mr. Koptic, seconded by Mrs. DePergola to adjourn. All in favor.


Kenneth Miller, Secretary