

**MANCHESTER UTILITIES AUTHORITY
MONTHLY MEETING JUNE 14, 2021
HALEDON MUNICIPAL COMPLEX –HALEDON, NJ
7:30 P.M.**

TIME: 7:33PM

• MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – OPEN PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE READ

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that in accordance with the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et. seq. you are hereby advised that the Manchester Utilities Authority advertised its Annual Meeting Notice on February 14, 2021 in the North Jersey Herald News and The Record. The Annual Meeting Notice was also posted on the Bulletin Board at the Municipal Building on February 14, 2021 and has remained continuously posted as requirement by statute. Formal Action will be taken.

This electronic public meeting is being conducted due to the current situation involving the COVID-19 virus and directives of State and County governments that restrict public gatherings and direct residents of New Jersey to stay at home.

The electronic public meetings will be held via Zoom conferencing (<https://zoom.us>). A link to attend each meeting electronically and/or telephonically will be posted on the website of the Manchester Utilities Authority (www.muawater.net) as well as on the door to the municipal building located at 510 Belmont Avenue. These postings will include the meeting identification number and passcode to join the meeting.

All attendees will be automatically muted upon entering the virtual meeting, everyone will have the opportunity to be unmuted in order to speak and be heard during the Public Comment portion of the meeting. At that time, the Chairman will give the members of the public an opportunity to make any statements during the public hearing. Each member will be fully heard. Afterwards the Public Comment hearing shall be closed and the Commissioners may respond. All relevant meeting documents for the meeting, if any, shall be posted prior to each meeting on the website of the Manchester Utilities Authority: www.muawater.net.

Proper notice having been given, the Secretary is directed to include this statement in the minutes of this meeting.

• FLAG SALUTE

• ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE

ROLL CALL

Present: D'Ambrosio, Chowdhury, Flach, Moczo

Absent: Van Sickle

Other notable attendees: Casey Cordes, Attorney
Jerry Mitchell, Engineer
Robert De Block, Licensed Operator

• REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

CHAIRMAN

Victor D'Ambrosio discussed the following items:

He thanked Commissioner Chowdhury for conducting the last monthly meeting in his absence.

Discussion held on efforts to address the nonrevenue water issue.

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The 2020 Consumer Confidence Report has been drafted for review. Please provide comments by Wednesday so that the document can be finalized for distribution.

He spoke with the Haledon Mayor regarding the Administration Fee for Traffic Control costs. Hopefully the issue will be resolved by Borough Resolution at its upcoming meeting.

Discussion held on delinquent accounts. There is an Executive Order placing a shut off moratorium on delinquent accounts until June 30. There may be additional guidance before that deadline. Cash flows are being impacted due to the increase in the delinquencies. Other governmental agencies may be able to assist customers; however, the only mechanism the Authority has is to offer payment plans.

There is an issue with the standby operators provision in the Interlocal Service Agreement that will be discussed in Executive Session.

The Application for the Clean Energy Program – Acoustical Testing Pilot Program is in progress. Discussion held on conducting in person meetings. Possibly begin in September; however, will be discussed further.

ENGINEER

Jerry Mitchell submitted report, which is on file and discussed the following items:

Spring Flushing has identified several hydrants that are in need of repair and/or replacement which must be addressed as soon as possible. Work will be coordinated with the DPW operators.

Phase 2 Leak Detection Program completed by George Walters of Northeast Water Technology and final report received. A summary is being prepared in order to rank the priority of repairs that are needed to address the leaks found. Repairs will be coordinated with DPW operators.

The immediate repair of a significant leak near #132 Lee Avenue was completed.

Garcia Construction being notified by Authority to restart valve exercise program and exercise hydrants now that Phase 2 Leak Detection Program field work is complete. This work is necessary to satisfy the WQAA requirements.

Update provided concerning 920 Belmont Avenue, North Haledon project. Taps at Belmont Avenue and Dawn Avenue completed. The water main between Belmont Avenue and Dawn Avenue has been flushed, pressure tested, disinfected and placed into service. The project internal water main loop has not been started.

Updated provided concerning 555 Preakness Avenue, Haledon project. The County is paving the road so work may be delayed.

ATTORNEY

Casey Cordes submitted report, which is on file and discussed the following items:

Discussion held regarding plan to pursue payment for delinquent accounts.

Discussion held on account for 82 Church Street.

AUDITOR

Robert McNinch discussed the following items:

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Discussion held on 2020 Audit Report. Despite the increased delinquent accounts, the Authority's finances remain strong. In 2020, the revenues exceeded projections; however, there were many unanticipated costs due to the pandemic, PVWC, emergencies and increased collections. The increased amount of collection directly impacted the cash on hand at the end of the year. However, no corrective actions were noted in the Audit Report. At the next meeting, he requested that the Commissioners consider the Resolution Accepting the Report and the Certification for approval and submission to the Local Finance Board. He thanked Denise Wahad for her assistance in preparing the Audit Report.

LICENSED OPERATOR

Robert De Block discussed the following items:

To date, 13 of 30 Leak and Copper samples have been received back from customers. The Operator's staff will continue to work with the Authority staff in securing the required samples. The draft Annual Water Quality Report has been distributed for comment and we anticipate publishing later this week.

On May 20, a controlled shutdown was required to complete a repair at 38 N. 13th Street. The follow-up sample was collected and analyzed by our contact laboratory because the DPW operators had a conflict in scheduling.

On May 28 a Notice from the DEP Hotline was received by DEP Representative, Lisa Tracey regarding an issue at 920 Belmont Avenue, North Haledon. Upon investigation, the issue was determined to be a groundwater issue that did not involve the Authority. The owner will address.

• REVIEW OF MINUTES:

Motion by Chowdhury seconded by Flach to approve Minutes for March 8, 2021,

YES: D'Ambrosio, Chowdhury, Flach

ABSTAIN: Moczo

NO: -0-

Motion by Moczo seconded by Flach to approve Minutes for April 12, 2021,

YES: Chowdhury, Flach, Moczo

ABSTAIN: D'Ambrosio

NO: -0-

Motion by Moczo seconded by Flach to approve Minutes for June 1, 2021,

YES: D'Ambrosio, Flach, Moczo

ABSTAIN: Chowdhury

NO: -0-

• CORRESPONDENCE

1. Totowa Board of Adjustment/555 Preakness Avenue
2. North Haledon Planning Board/659 Belmont Avenue

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3. North Haledon Planning Board/33 Pettee Avenue
4. North Haledon Zoning Board/20 Pettee Avenue

Motion by Moczo seconded by Flach to Accept and File Correspondence.

YES: D' Ambrosio, Chowdhury, Flach, Moczo

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

• COMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

1. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE- Commissioner Flach advised that the meetings will continue to be held virtually. Next meeting is July 7 at 10:00 a.m.

• OLD BUSINESS

1. Water Dispute/879 High Mountain Road, North Haledon-Chairman to follow-up.
2. Water Dispute/ 79 Mountain Avenue, Haledon-Chairman to follow-up.
3. ARCADIS/Professional Engineering Services Heights Tank Improvements-held pending financing status of Project.

• NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion on MUA Meetings/Remote or In Person-Discussed under Chairman Report
2. Badger Meter/To replace Antenna for Mobile Read Collection-Discussion held.
3. Ratepayer Request/723 Belmont Avenue, North Haledon-Chairman to follow-up.
4. New Jersey Board of Public Utilities Request/Aged Accounts Receivable-Information requested and provided.
5. Go Organic Contract to treat weeds on property locations-Discussion held.

Motion by Chowdhury seconded by Moczo to Approve replacing Badger Meter Antenna for Mobile Read for a cost not to exceed \$3,426.00.

YES: D' Ambrosio, Chowdhury, Flach, Moczo

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

Motion by Moczo seconded by Flach to Approve Go Organic pending the Engineer's Impact Assessment.

YES: D' Ambrosio, Chowdhury, Flach, Moczo

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

• PUBLIC COMMENT

Motion made by Flach seconded by Moczo to open public hearing.

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YES: D' Ambrosio, Chowdhury, Flach, Moczo
ABSTAIN: -0-
NO: -0-

No Public Present

Motion made by Moczo seconded by Flach to close public hearing.

YES: D' Ambrosio, Chowdhury, Flach, Moczo
ABSTAIN: -0-
NO: -0-

MUA COMMISSIONERS RESPONSES TO PUBLIC COMMENT/INQUIRES

None

RESOLUTIONS TO BE PASSED BY CONSENT

**2021-18 AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE FOR PAYMENT THE
WATER OPERATING BILLS AS SET FORTH IN THE
WATER OPERATING BILLS LIST DATED JUNE 14, 2021**

**2021-19 AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE FOR PAYMENT THE MANCHESTER
UTILITIES AUTHORITY ESCROW ACCOUNT BILLS LIST DATED JUNE
14, 2021**

Motion made by Chowdhury seconded by Moczo to pass the Resolutions by Consent.

YES: D' Ambrosio, Chowdhury, Flach, Moczo
ABSTAIN: -0-
NO: -0-

**• EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR CERTAIN SPECIFIED PURPOSES: LITIGATION
AND/OR CLAIMS, CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS, PERSONNEL, OTHER**

WHEREAS, the MUA is a public body subject to the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act requires a Resolution of this MUA in the event the MUA determines it has a need and is permitted by law to exclude the public from an executive session;

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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the MUA that the public be excluded from its meeting for the purpose of discussing matters covered under N.J.S.A. 10:4-12B, set forth as follows:

A. LEGAL/CONTRACT MATTER

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the public shall not be admitted to the portion of the meeting at which time the foregoing matters will be discussed, and it is not known when or if the matters to be discussed in closed session can be disclosed to the public; and

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that at the conclusion of Executive Session, formal action may be taken.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED, that the within shall take effect immediately upon passage and publication as provided by law.

TIME 8:43PM

Motion by Moczo seconded by Flach to go into executive session as indicated above.

YES: D' Ambrosio, Chowdhury, Flach, Moczo

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

TIME: 9:01PM

Motion by Moczo seconded by Flach to reconvene the regular meeting

YES: D' Ambrosio, Chowdhury, Flach, Moczo

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0

TIME 9:02PM

• MEETING ADJOURNED

Motion by Moczo seconded by Chowdhury to adjourn meeting.

YES: D' Ambrosio, Chowdhury, Flach, Moczo

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0

Respectfully Submitted,
Denise Wahad,
Recording Secretary

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