

**MANCHESTER UTILITIES AUTHORITY
MONTHLY MEETING SEPTEMBER 13, 2021
HALEDON MUNICIPAL COMPLEX –HALEDON, NJ
7:30 P.M.**

TIME: 7:34PM

• 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, Flach, Moczo

Absent: Chowdhury, 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:

The Mayor of Haledon issued an Executive Order concerning COVID-19 vaccination measures for Borough employees, contractors and volunteers. Discussion was held regarding implementation of the Order.

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The issue of the operators' standby time is still open. He apologized for the delay and is hoping to follow-up with the operators prior to the next meeting in order to finalize.

PVWC Boil Water Notice was discussed. The Notice is not applicable to the MUA service area.

The ongoing non-revenue water issue and efforts to resolve it will be discussed under the Engineer report.

Cash flows are still lower than normal and are being monitored by the Auditor.

There is a free upgrade request from Edmunds for review and discussion.

Assistance Programs for COVID-19 were discussed. There are some online sources that need to be researched further.

Hurricane Ida update provided. There were no major issues with the MUA system.

ENGINEER

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

920 Belmont Acquisition Urban Renewal LLC has filed a revised service connection application for the irrigation system and is requesting approval for the revised plan. Arcadis recommends approval with one condition: The applicant will pay half of the connection fee (\$30,030.00) as a good faith deposit towards the total fee of \$60,060.00. An adjustment will be made up or down to the connection fee amount based upon actual water usage after one year of operation.

Arcadis prepared two letters notifying property owners that the MUA will be repairing their service leaks due to inaction of their part and will bill the property owners for the repair costs.

Board approval is requested to register the MUA with NJStart.gov which will allow electronic payments by the BPU.

Hurricane Ida exposed a 6-inch water main crossing a stream at the Circle Avenue bridge. An emergency repair is being coordinated.

Three second notice leak repair letters were sent. The largest of them, the shopping center, has completed its repair. The other two will be completed by the MUA as explained above.

Working with the Licensed Operator to obtain a contact person at PVWC in order to coordinate anticipated communication needed for the BPU Acoustical Testing Pilot Program.

Started review of meters with estimated values and to identify reason for estimating meter readings in order to implement plan to eliminate estimating customer billings.

Discussion held on PFAS contamination of private wells on Tambor Drive in North Haledon and potential for MUA to assist.

ATTORNEY

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

Work is continuing to prioritize and address the delinquent accounts in the most efficient way possible. The first round of letters offering deferred payment plans have been sent for the largest delinquent accounts (11 accounts with balances over \$1,500.00). The next phase will be implemented next month. To date, no responses have been received.

Estimated customer billing accounts are continuing to be addressed on an ongoing basis.

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AUDITOR

Robert McNinch discussed the following:

Handouts were reviewed with general Budget numbers to prepared for the 2022 Budget.

Discussion held concerning relief information for delinquent customers.

LICENSED OPERATOR

Robert De Block discussed the following items:

Third Quarter disinfectant byproduct samples indicated higher concentrations at James Court and 555 Preakness, which will be addressed further.

Additional flushing is being done manually at 555 Preakness since the automatic flusher is out of service. The operators have contacted the equipment vendor to get the parts to repair the unit to service.

To date, 22 of the 30 lead and copper samples have been received back from residents. The staff has been visiting targeted sample locations including on the weekend to confirm participation and schedule sample pickups. The effort by the staff has greatly improved the responses and will continue until the 30 are achieved.

Badger Meter has provided a quote to offer alternatives for accurate meter data for several bulk customers. The Engineer is scheduling a meeting with Badger Meter for additional information.

During a hydrant replacement on September 3, a valve failed restricting flow to two homes on Hoxsey Place. The valve repair required a controlled shut down impacting 25 homes, repairs were completed, and follow-up sampling was absent for total coliform.

Discussion held regarding the Boil Water Advisories (BWA) issued by PVWC and Hawthorne Water. The MUA received several questions; however, neither BWA impacts the MUA water customers.

Neal Systems quote received today in the amount of \$3,500.00 for repairs needed due to lightning strike a few weeks ago. The quote was reviewed by Arcadis and the repairs are necessary and is a specialized service. Board approval is requested.

• CORRESPONDENCE

1. Applications for Freshwater Wetlands Letter of Interpretation/35 Chalmers Avenue
2. Paterson Zoning Board Notice/555 Preakness Ave-322-324 Berkshire Ave., Totowa
3. Haledon Board of Adjustment/100 W Haledon Ave & Pompton Road
4. Haledon Board of Adjustment/357 W Clinton Street

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

YES: D'Ambrosio, Flach, Moczo

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

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• COMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE-Commissioner Flach explained that many of the action items were included in the committee's discussions. Next Meeting is September 29.

• OLD BUSINESS

1. Water Connection Application-Irrigation/920 Belmont Avenue, North Haledon – Discussed under Engineer Report.
2. ARCADIS/Professional Engineering Services Heights Tank Improvements-On Hold.

• NEW BUSINESS

1. Edmund's Upgrade WorldPay /WIPP (Web Inquiry Payment Portal)
2. Discussion on MUA Meetings/Remote or in Person/COVID-19/Administrative Policies In place-Denise Wahad is maintaining file with necessary information. After discussion, it was decided that meetings would remain remote until the end of the year.
3. Neal Systems Quote to Make Telemetry Repairs-Discussed under Licensed Operator Report.

Motion made by Moczo seconded by Flach to upgrade Edmund's WorldPay/WIPP Payment Portal.

YES: D'Ambrosio, Flach, Moczo

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

Motion made by Flach seconded by Moczo to accept Neal Systems quote to repair telemetry for the amount not to exceed \$3,500.00.

YES: D' Ambrosio, Flach, Moczo

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

• PUBLIC COMMENT

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

YES: D'Ambrosio, Flach, Moczo

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

No Public Present

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

YES: D'Ambrosio, Flach, Moczo

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

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MUA COMMISSIONERS RESPONSES TO PUBLIC COMMENT/INQUIRES

None

RESOLUTIONS TO BE PASSED BY CONSENT

2021-24 AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE FOR PAYMENT THE WATER OPERATING BILLS AS SET FORTH IN THE WATER OPERATING BILLS LIST DATED AUGUST 9, 2021

2021-25 AUTHORIZATION TO RESCIND RESOLUTION 2021-23 entitled “AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE 920 BELMONT AVENUE WATER CONNECTION APPLICATION SUBJECT TO ENGINEERING RECOMMENDATIONS” AND APPROVE THE REVISED WATER CONNECTION APPLICATION SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS.

Motion made by Flach seconded by Moczo to add **RESOLUTION 2021-25 AUTHORIZATION TO RESCIND RESOLUTION 2021-23 entitled “AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE 920 BELMONT AVENUE WATER CONNECTION APPLICATION SUBJECT TO ENGINEERING RECOMMENDATIONS” AND TO APPROVE THE REVISED WATER CONNECTION APPLICATION SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS.**

YES: D’Ambrosio, Flach, Moczo

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

Motion by Moczo seconded by Flach to pass Resolutions by Consent as Amended.

YES: D’ Ambrosio, Flach, Moczo

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0

TIME 9:19PM

• MEETING ADJOURNED

Motion by Moczo seconded by Flach to adjourn meeting.

YES: D’ Ambrosio, Flach, Moczo

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0

Respectfully Submitted,
Denise Wahad,
Recording Secretary

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