

**MANCHESTER UTILITIES AUTHORITY  
MONTHLY MEETING NOVEMBER 8, 2021  
HALEDON MUNICIPAL COMPLEX –HALEDON, NJ  
7:30 P.M.**

**TIME: 7:31PM**

**• 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](http://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](http://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: Van Sickle, Chowdhury

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

**• REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

**CHAIRMAN**

Victor D'Ambrosio discussed the following items:

The Chairman welcomed Mayor Stampone to the meeting. He explained that he previously spoke with the Mayor concerning the North Haledon well contamination. Commissioner Flach stated that she spoke with the North Haledon Mayor George, who advised that the Borough is still in the

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assessment phase. A letter has been prepared and sent to North Haledon indicating the MUA's willingness to help in any way possible.

This is the first month showing positive cash flows in many months since the COVID-19 pandemic has significantly affected the ability to collect monies owed.

The Resolution Approving the Standby Operator stipend is on the Agenda for consideration and approval.

The Non-Revenue Water concern continues to be the focus of the MUA's efforts at this point in time.

The Acoustical Testing Pilot Program to identify leaks and additional system problems is moving forward with the Grant monies received for this important project. The hope is that this Program will assist the MUA in identifying and addressing issues proactively.

**ENGINEER**

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

The Acoustical Testing Pilot Program - Northeast Water Technology has ordered the acoustic meters and the anticipated delivery date is November 18. The hope is that the project will be underway in January 2022. The grant covers all first year costs. The MUA is responsible for the second year monitoring costs only.

Arcadis is working with the Licensed Operator to evaluate measures to be taken to reduce increasing THMM levels. The results of the evaluation and subsequent plan will be presented to the MUA Board and then to the NJDEP in a combined quarter report for 2021.

Hurricane Ida exposed the 6-inch and 12-inch water mains crossing a stream at the Circle Avenue Bridge. Arcadis has evaluated an appropriate method of repair and is currently in communications with the County on restoration of the stream channel and the MUA's need to protect these water mains. Arcadis will research if FEMA funds may be available to cover these costs.

Most of the fire hydrant replacements have been completed with some repairs still to be done. Any fire hydrants not repaired that are leaking will be next to be completed. Flow rate analysis is underway.

Arcadis continues to review meters with estimated values and to identify reason for estimated meter readings in order to correct the problem at each meter as they are identified.

920 Belmont Avenue Project – The project internal water main loop has been completed and flow meters install. Connection to Club House has been completed. The temporary meter for irrigation is to be removed and the permanent meter installed. This project should be completed with NJDEP notification some time in November.

555 Preakness Avenue Project – Service connection is being installed at this time. A new sampling station and fire hydrant will be installed along the entrance drive and are being coordinated with Owner's engineer.

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**ATTORNEY**

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

The operators reviewed the Draft Amendment to the Interlocal Service Agreement implementing the discussed changes and approved of same. The Amendment and Resolution authorizing execution of the Amendment have been submitted to the MUA Board for further review, discussion and consideration. Once authorized, the documents will be forwarded to the Borough for approval.

Work is continuing with the Billing Clerk to prioritize and address the delinquent accounts in the most efficient way possible. The *third* round of letters offering deferred payment plans will be sent to delinquent accounts with balances exceeding \$750.00. To date, the staff has received two responses to the offer of deferred payment plans.

Estimated customer billing accounts are continuing to be addressed on an ongoing basis. Estimated policies along with the Winter Protection Program will be added to the annual Rate Schedule and considered at the next meeting.

**AUDITOR**

Robert McNinch discussed the following:

Handouts concerning the 2022 Budget, Connection Fee and Rate Increase were distributed and discussed. PVWC will likely impose a 2% rate increase; therefore, the recommendation is to similarly implement a 2% rate increase in order to at least absorb this cost. The Connection Fee is calculated to be \$4,219.00 for 2022, which is still lower than most utilities. The 2022 Budget shall be introduced in December and the Rate Increase and Connection Fees shall introduced and considered for adoption at the December meeting.

**LICENSED OPERATOR**

Robert De Block submitted report, which is on file and discussed the following items:

The Licensed Operator's staff is scheduled to inspect the meter at 27 Church Street on November 9<sup>th</sup> with MUA staff. Based on the results of the Arcadis analysis, the staff will review the meter at 397 Haledon Avenue.

MUA staff have ensured increased flushing at James Court and 555 Preakness. The next round of disinfectant by-product sampling is scheduled for this month. The James Court automatic flusher remains out of service. MUA staff are in communication with the equipment vendor to secure the parts needed to return the unit to service.

PVWC will be confirming the appropriate contact person to secure the specific energy information required to complete the BPU grant reporting.

**• REVIEW OF MINUTES**

Motion by Moczo seconded by Flach to approve Minutes and Executive Minutes for October 18, 2021.

YES: D'Ambrosio, Flach, Moczo

ABSTAIN:-0-

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NO: -0-

• **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE- Next meeting is on November 29<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

• **OLD BUSINESS**

ARCADIS/Professional Engineering Services Heights Tank Improvements-On Hold.

• **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

YES: D'Ambrosio, Flach, Moczo

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

*Mayor Dominick Stampone  
3 Lewis Street  
Haledon, NJ 07508*

*Mayor Stampone made the following written statement: "Good evening everyone. Thank you for allowing me to address you this evening. I am appearing for my parents who live at 16 Dykers Farm Road in North Haledon. They live on a street with 14 homes all of which have failed wells. My parents and their neighbors would like the MUA to be aware that they are very much interested in public water connections. Thank you for your time and service.*

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

YES: D'Ambrosio, Flach, Moczo

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

MUA COMMISSIONERS RESPONSES TO PUBLIC COMMENT/INQUIRES

*Discussion was held on next steps to address the North Haledon residents well contamination issues. A letter has been prepared; however, additional steps and information are needed. This matter will be followed up by the Operations Committee and will have further discussion at the next meeting.*

**RESOLUTIONS TO BE PASSED BY CONSENT**

**2021-29      AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE FOR PAYMENT THE  
WATER OPERATING BILLS AS SET FORTH IN THE  
WATER OPERATING BILLS LIST DATED NOVEMBER 8,  
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**2021-30      AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE FOR PAYMENT THE MANCHESTER UTILITIES AUTHORITY ESCROW ACCOUNT BILLS LIST DATED NOVEMBER 8, 2021**

**2021-31      APPROVAL OF AND AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO THE INTERLOCAL SERVICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE MANCHESTER UTILITIES AUTHORITY AND THE BOROUGH OF HALEDON**

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

YES: D' Ambrosio, Flach, Moczo

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0

**TIME 8:58PM**

**• 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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