

**MANCHESTER UTILITIES AUTHORITY
MONTHLY MEETING FEBRUARY 9, 2026
HALEDON MUNICIPAL COMPLEX – HALEDON, NJ
7:30 P.M.**

TIME: 7:34PM

• MEETING CALLED TO ORDER – OPEN PUBLIC MEETING NOTICE READ

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC NOTICE-TAKE NOTICE that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:4-8 and N.J.S.A. 10:4-10 as follows: A notice of the meeting was prominently posted on the bulletin board at the Haledon Municipal Building, located at 510 Belmont Avenue, Haledon, NJ on January 18, 2026. A copy of the revision to the Annual Meeting Notice was advertised on January 18, 2026 in the North Jersey Herald News and The Record.

• FLAG SALUTE

• ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE

Present: Chowdhury, Flach, Smith, Muzibul, Cerna

Absent: McKenney

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

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

*The attorney managed this portion of the meeting.

Motion to nominate and elect Geraldine Flach-Sybesma as Chair of the Authority by Smith seconded by Cerna.

YES: Chowdhury, Flach, Smith, Muzibul, Cerna

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

*At this time, the meeting was administered by the new Chair.

Motion to nominate and elect Dewan Chowdhury as Vice-Chairman of the Authority by Flach seconded by Smith.

YES: Chowdhury, Flach, Smith, Muzibul, Cerna

ABSTAIN:

NO: -0-

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Motion to nominate and elect Anthony Smith as Treasurer and Certifying Finance Officer of the Authority by Flach seconded by Chowdhury.

YES: Chowdhury, Flach, Smith, Muzibul, Cerna

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

Motion to nominate and elect Roxana Cerna as Secretary of the Authority by Smith seconded by Muzibul.

YES: Chowdhury, Flach, Smith, Muzibul, Cerna

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

**2026-07 QUALIFICATION OF THE RESPONSES RECEIVED FOR ITS REQUEST
FOR QUALIFIED PROFESSIONALS AND APPOINTMENT OF THE
MANCHESTER UTILITIES AUTHORITY PROFESSIONALS FOR THE
2026 TERM**

Motion by Chowdhury seconded by Muzibul to appoint SHABAZZ & WOOLRIDGE LAW GROUP, LLP as Attorney.

YES: Chowdhury, Smith, Muzibul, Cerna

ABSTAIN: Flach

NO: -0-

Motion by Chowdhury seconded by Muzibul to appoint ARCADIS U.S., Inc. as Engineer.

YES: Chowdhury, Flach, Smith, Muzibul, Cerna

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

Motion by Chowdhury seconded by Muzibul to appoint Wielkotz & Company, LLC as Auditor.

YES: Chowdhury, Flach, Smith, Muzibul, Cerna

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

Motion by Chowdhury seconded by Muzibul to appoint Hawkins Delafield & Wood as Bond Counsel.

YES: Chowdhury, Flach, Smith, Muzibul, Cerna

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

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Motion by Chowdhury seconded by Muzibul to award the Water Distribution System Maintenance Construction and Emergency Repairs Contract to John Garcia Construction Co., Inc.

YES: Chowdhury, Flach, Smith, Muzibul, Cerna

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

Motion by Chowdhury seconded by Muzibul to appoint De Block Environmental Services, LLC as Licensed Operator.

YES: Chowdhury, Flach, Smith, Muzibul, Cerna

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

ADMINISTRATIVE RESOLUTIONS TO BE PASSED BY CONSENT

2026-08 ADOPTION OF THE OFFICIAL DEPOSITORIES OF MANCHESTER UTILITIES AUTHORITY FOR 2026

2026-09 DESIGNATING DENISE WAHAD AS THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND CUSTODIAN OF RECORDS FOR THE MANCHESTER UTILITIES AUTHORITY

2026-10 ADOPTION OF THE MEETING DATES OF THE MANCHESTER UTILITIES AUTHORITY

2026-11 ADOPTION OF THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS FOR THE MANCHESTER UTILITIES AUTHORITY FOR 2026

2026-12 ADOPTION OF THE OFFICIAL SIGNATORIES OF THE MANCHESTER UTILITIES AUTHORITY

2026-13 AUTHORIZATION TO ADOPT A CASH MANAGEMENT PLAN

Motion by Smith seconded by Chowdhury to pass the Resolutions 2026-08 through 2026-13 by Consent.

YES: Chowdhury, Flach, Smith, Muzibul, Cerna

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

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• REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

CHAIR

Geraldine Flach expressed her appreciation of the commissioners confidence in her abilities and to serve as Chair and affirmed her commitment to uphold the mission of the MUA, the provision of affordable and quality water.

If you are seeking assistance with your water bill, apply for DCAid or call NJ211.

ENGINEER

Jerry Mitchell submitted a report which is on file and discussed the following

Action Items:

- Recommend approval of Payment Application 1 for Kulpeksa, under the Holland Christian Home Water Main Extension Project.
- Recommend appointing John Garcia Construction for the 2026 Emergency Repair Contract.
- Request authorization to update the Asset Management Plan to be consistent with the NH Expansion Project for PFAS to incorporate emergency interconnections, PRVs and water main replacements.
- Request authorization to update the Hawthorne Emergency Interconnection design so it is ready to move forward once an agreement has been made with Hawthorne.

ATTORNEY

Casey Anne Cordes submitted report which is on file as referenced:

- Heights Tank Improvements Project: Reviewed ongoing communications regarding project. Prepared necessary Resolutions.
- Holland Christian Homes Water Main Extension Project: Reviewed ongoing communications regarding project. Prepared necessary Resolutions.
- OPRA: Two requests received and responded to this month.

AUDITOR

Robert McNinch spoke on the following: the budget is being prepared for submission to the state as required.

LICENSED OPERATOR

Robert De Block discussed the following items:

Water Main Breaks

- January 23, Pompton Road, Authority Staff mobilized Garcia Construction for a common service leak on Pompton Rd. A controlled shutdown was required.

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- Authority Staff collected a confirmation sample for analysis by PVWC, and it was absent for total coliform.
- January 28, Church Street, Authority Staff mobilized Garcia Construction. The leak was a result of a crack on a 16” valve on the transmission main. A controlled shutdown was required, and a new valve was installed.
 - Confirmation samples were collected following completion, and all results were absent for total coliform.
- January 28, Aberdeen Ave. Authority staff mobilized a second crew from Garcia Construction while work continued on Church Street. Repairs were completed under pressure (low pressure event) which does not necessitate confirmation sampling.
- January 29, Oxford St. Garcia Construction’s crews were unable to mobilize at this location due to extended work hours and ongoing repairs to Church Street. In order to complete a repair in a timely fashion it was determined in consultation with the Authority Engineer that we proceed with solicitation of rates from other contractors among those only Montana could mobilization in line with emergency response needed as an ongoing leak could present a potential threat to the public health.
 - The repair was completed under pressure (low pressure event) which does not necessitate confirmation sampling.
- February 5, Morrissee Ave. Authority staff mobilized Garcia Construction. Repair required a controlled shutdown.
- February 5, Lake Street, upon completion of Morrissee Ave, Garcia Construction moved to Lake Street. Repair required a controlled shutdown.

Affirmed the criticality of a full review and update to the Authority Asset Management plan that can also be reported as part of our WQAA annual certification due in December 2026.

• **REVIEW OF MINUTES**

Motion made by Smith seconded by Muzibul to approve the Minutes for January 12, 2026.

YES: Chowdhury, Flach, Smith, Muzibul

ABSTAIN: Cerna

NO: -0-

• **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Water Connection Application/987 Belmont Avenue, Haledon-under review

• **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. North Haledon Public Notice/25 Dietrich Lane, North Haledon

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2. NJDEP/Change Order No. 2-Heights Tank Rehab

Motion made by Chowdhury seconded by Muzibul to accept and file correspondence.

YES: Chowdhury, Flach, Smith, Muzibul, Cerna

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

• **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

1. OPERATIONS COMMITTEE-Next meeting scheduled for March 4, 2026.

• **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Motion made by Smith seconded by Muzibul to open public hearing.

YES: Chowdhury, Flach, Smith, Muzibul, Cerna

ABSTAIN:

NO: -0-

Mayor George 103 overlook North Haledon, NJ 07508

- Thanked the MUA for its efforts and affirmed the need to enhance the system with updated infrastructure including new interconnections.

Motion made by Chowdhury seconded by Smith to close public hearing.

YES: Chowdhury, Flach, Smith, Muzibul, Cerna

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0

RESOLUTIONS TO BE PASSED BY CONSENT

**2026-14 AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE FOR PAYMENT THE WATER
OPERATING BILLS AS SET FORTH IN THE WATER OPERATING BILLS
LIST DATED FEBRUARY 9, 2026**

**2026-15 AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE FOR PAYMENT THE CAPITAL
IMPROVEMENTS BILLS AS SET FORTH IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS
BILLS LIST DATED FEBRUARY 9, 2026**

**2026-16 APPOINTMENT OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE FOR
INFRASTRUCTURE BANK PROJECT NO. 1603001-001:**

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HEIGHTS TANK IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

- 2026-17 APPOINTMENT OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE FOR PURPOSES OF FILING APPLICATIONS WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND THE INFRASTRUCTURE BANK FOR PROJECT NO. S340650-22: METER REPLACEMENT PROJECT**
- 2026-18 APPOINTMENT OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE FOR INFRASTRUCTURE BANK PROJECT NO. 1603001-004: HOLLAND CHRISTIAN HOME WATER MAIN EXTENSION**
- 2026-19 AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE PAYMENT APPLICATION NO. 001 FOR THE CONTRACT FOR THE FOLLOWING PROJECT: MANCHESTER UTILITIES AUTHORITY HOLLAND CHRISTIAN HOME WATER MAIN EXTENSION, PROJECT NO. 1603001-004**

Motion by Chowdhury seconded by Muzibul to pass the Resolutions by Consent.

YES: Chowdhury, Flach, Smith, Muzibul, Cerna

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

TIME: 9:12PM

• MEETING ADJOURNED

Motion by Smith seconded by Muzibul to adjourn meeting.

YES: Chowdhury, Flach, Smith, Muzibul, Cerna

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

Respectfully Submitted,
Denise Wahad, Recording Secretary