

**MANCHESTER UTILITIES AUTHORITY
MONTHLY MEETING JANUARY 10, 2022
HALEDON MUNICIPAL COMPLEX –HALEDON, NJ
7:30 P.M.**

TIME: 7:30PM

• 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.

• REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

CHAIRMAN

Victor D'Ambrosio discussed the following items:

THMM Notice and plans to address the issues were discussed at length. There is an ongoing issue at James Court. The operators are continuing to manually flush; however, it is not as effective in certain time periods. The automatic flusher is still in the process of being repaired or replaced.

The shut-off moratorium for delinquent accounts has been extended by the State to March 15, 2022. The State has also required utility authorities to adopt Winter Termination Policies. At the last meeting the MUA adopted its own policy based upon the Board of Public Utilities' policy.

The remainder of the items will be addressed by the Professionals.

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ENGINEER

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

Discussion concerning new project financing options. The Heights Tank project should qualify for funding this year and if there is a need to upgrade the mixing system to a THMM removal system then the tank ranking will be increased even further to address THMMs.

Discussion concerning the James Court situation. Request was made for authorization for Phase I to implement a sampling and analysis plan with the Licensed Operator this month for presentation of results and proposed method to be implemented to reduce THMMs at the February meeting.

Discussion concerning a new sampling station location at Preakness. Request was made for authorization to conduct certain tasks so that a new sampling and flushing station can be installed in the Spring of 2022.

Leaks identified in the Phase 2 Leak Detection Project are nearly all repaired. Monitoring of the NRW is being reviewed monthly as data is collected. NRW decreased in August and September but was up in October. However, November was again down to about 20% with the annual average down to 30%.

Garcia Construction has exercised some additional valves as part of the valve exercise program and exercised hydrants to satisfy WQAA requirements. With limited MUA time to confirm valve locations the work on the smaller valves is progressing slowly.

ATTORNEY

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

Discussion concerning new law requiring that the shut-off moratorium be extended and implementation of a Winter Termination Program. The MUA either has or is in the process of complying with all state requirements.

Discussion on the status of holding meetings in person or remote measures. The Board agreed to hold meeting remotely until further notice. The Operations Committee will continue to meet remotely since it is both more productive and cost-effective to do so.

The Emergency Contract will be reviewed to determine whether or not it would cover the new pumping station needed for the Spring of 2022.

AUDITOR

Robert McNinch discussed the following items:

2022 Budget was discussed. The Local Finance Board approved of the 2022 Budget and it was introduced and hearing held at the last meeting.

Discussion concerning cash flow challenges.

LICENSED OPERATOR

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

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THMM is the top priority. The Public Notification for the fourth quarter TTHMs exceedance at James Court was issued on December 7, 2022. The Notice was reviewed by the NJDEP as well as by the Operations Committee and communicated to the municipal leaders prior to publication. The Licensed Operator and staff visited 23 Church Street to inspect the meter on January 6, 2022. The low flow meter head was discovered on a shelf in the closet. It was reinstalled, meter readings recorded by hand and appeared to be working properly following installation. Staff confirmed the radio read was functional that same day. The meter will be read again this week. The Licensed Operator and Arcadis will review the readings and will be available to work with the staff to review the Edmunds calculations of the customer bill.

The records and meter information for Account 1037-2 was reviewed and the previous readings and bills appear to be in order. Arcadis is continuing to follow up with staff on this account.

The 4” meters for Camp Varitans and Stone Industries have arrived. Installation is being scheduled as it requires a Confined Space entry.

Staff is continuing to monitor TTHM development on the dead end main on Preakness Drive. Samples have been collected upstream of the sample location as well as from the Central Avenue Pump Station servicing the 515 zone. The data is being reviewed in order to develop additional plans to address the TTHM development on this main.

The WQAA Annual Certification has been uploaded.

The compressor at Reservoir Drive station requires replacement. The information has been provided to the staff. Once the equipment arrives, the Licensed Operator will work with the staff to perform the installation.

• **REVIEW OF MINUTES**

Motion by Chowdhury seconded by Flach to approve Minutes for December 13, 2021.

YES: D’Ambrosio, Chowdhury, Flach

ABSTAIN:-0-

NO: -0-

• **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. North Haledon Zoning/20 Rothesay Avenue, North Haledon

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

YES: D’Ambrosio, Chowdhury, Flach

ABSTAIN:-0-

NO: -0-

• **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE- Commissioner Flach discussed the TTHM Notice and advised that she provided notification to the Mayor of North Haledon. Additional items that the Committee addressed have been outlined by the professionals. The next meeting date has not been finalized.

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• **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Water Bill Dispute/595-591 High Mountain Road, North Haledon-Discussion held. Meter tested and was accurate. Therefore, the only options are to offer to waive the testing fee as a one-time courtesy and offer an interest free payment plan.
2. ARCADIS/Professional Engineering Services Heights Tank Improvements-Held pending available financing for project.

• **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Badger Meter/Order Registers-Discussion held.
2. Water Bill Dispute/ 936 High Mountain Road, North Haledon-Discussion held. The MUA cannot waive the flat service fee since it is a flat fee for the connection regardless of usage; therefore, the bill must be paid.
3. Water Bill Dispute/591 High Mountain Road, North Haledon

Motion by Flach seconded by Chowdhury to approve Badger Meter Order for an amount not to exceed \$2,500.

YES: D'Ambrosio, Chowdhury, Flach

ABSTAIN:-0-

NO: -0-

• **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

YES: D'Ambrosio, Chowdhury, Flach

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

No Public Present

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

YES: D'Ambrosio, Chowdhury, Flach

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

MUA COMMISSIONERS RESPONSES TO PUBLIC COMMENT/INQUIRES

None

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RESOLUTIONS TO BE PASSED BY CONSENT

- 2022-01 AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE FOR PAYMENT THE WATER OPERATING BILLS AS SET FORTH IN THE WATER OPERATING BILLS LIST DATED JANUARY 10, 2022**
- 2022-02 ADOPTION OF 2022 (2022-2023) AUTHORITY BUDGET**
- 2022-03 AUTHORIZATION FOR PROFESSIONALS TO PERFORM TASKS NECESSARY TO LOCATE AND OBTAIN A NEW SAMPLING & FLUSHING STATION ON PREAKNESS AVENUE, HALEDON**

Motion by Flach seconded by Chowdhury to add Resolution 2022-03 to read:
“AUTHORIZATION FOR PROFESSIONALS TO PERFORM TASKS NECESSARY TO LOCATE AND OBTAIN A NEW SAMPLING & FLUSHING STATION ON PREAKNESS AVENUE, HALEDON.”

YES: D’ Ambrosio, Chowdhury, Flach
ABSTAIN: -0-
NO: -0

Motion by Chowdhury seconded by Flach to pass Resolutions by Consent as amended.

YES: D’ Ambrosio, Chowdhury, Flach
ABSTAIN: -0-
NO: -0

TIME 9:01PM

• MEETING ADJOURNED

Motion by Chowdhury seconded by Flach to adjourn meeting.

YES: D’ Ambrosio, Chowdhury, Flach
ABSTAIN: -0-
NO: -0

Respectfully Submitted,
Denise Wahad,
Recording Secretary

01/10/22