

**MANCHESTER UTILITIES AUTHORITY
MONTHLY MEETING MARCH 11, 2024
CONDUCTED REMOTELY VIA ZOOM CONFERENCING
7:30 P.M.**

TIME: 7:36PM

• 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 February 16, 2024. A copy of the Annual Meeting Notice was advertised on February 18, 2024 in the North Jersey Herald News and The Record.

A LINK AND A TELEPHONE NUMBER TO JOIN THE MEETING VIRUTALLY CAN BE ACCESSED ON THE MUA WEBSITE AT WWW.MUAWATER.NET. ELECTRONIC PROVISIONS HAVE BEEN ESTABLISHED FOR THE PUBLIC TO PARTICIPATE DURING THE PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION OF THE MEETING.

Formal Action will be taken.

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

• FLAG SALUTE

• ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE

Present: D'Ambrosio, Flach, Smith

Absent: Chowdhury, Moczo

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

• REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

CHAIRMAN

Victor D'Ambrosio spoke on the following:

He deferred to the professionals for discussion and updates on outstanding items.

The State requires that the following Notice be read into the Minutes of this Meeting:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that there is important information regarding:

BILL ASSISTANCE AND ARREARAGE FORGIVENESS PROGRAMS

The State Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) can help you pay arrears for your water and sewer bills. The program may also be able to help address tax liens due to water and sewer arrears. To get more information and apply, go to *waterassistance.nj.gov* or call NJ211.

The application period for the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs' Low Income Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is currently closed.

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People can apply online through the DCAid application portal at <https://njdca-housing.dynamics365portals.us/en-US/dcaid-services/>. Those without computer or internet access can call 1-800-510-3102.

Please review this special Notice in its entirety at our website at www.muawater.net or contact Water Billing Clerk, Rama Jamoukha, by calling her at (973) 942-6538 extension 2 or emailing her at rjamoukha@haledonboronj.com for additional information.

ENGINEER

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

Action Item: Approval of Arcadis Proposal for Heights Tank Improvements Bidding and CA Services. Approval is needed by the I-Bank as part of the approval process for I-Bank funding for the project. Discussion held on adding items to the Heights Tank Improvements project.

Operations: The latest data is being incorporated into the Final Program Report for the Acoustical Testing Pilot Program. This will be submitted to the BPU in March and will complete the grant. The MUA now owns the acoustical loggers so near the end of 2024 Arcadis will discuss with the MUA implementation of a scaled back leak monitoring plan for 2025.

A TTHM violation was issued for James Court and public notification will be needed. Discussion held on addressing this item.

Facilities: Arcadis is working towards completion of the designs for the Holland Christian Home Water Main Extensions Project.

Arcadis is working on a preliminary cost estimate of all infrastructure improvements needed to provide water service to the North Haledon residents with PFAS contamination of groundwater wells.

Management: The annual rolling average for Non-Revenue Water is still being reviewed.

ATTORNEY

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

Low Income Household Water Assistance Agreement: The MUA received its first payment this month for this program in the amount of \$393.66.

920 Belmont Avenue Project: Letter was sent concerning collection of the outstanding irrigation account connection fee. Discussion held on establishing an escrow account for these matters for future developments to avoid a substantial credit or payment at the end of the review periods.

27 Jasper Account: The property owner paid the balance owed; however, is requesting to continue with estimated payments versus installing a new water service line and meter. The MUA has already installed its portion of the new service line. The owner provided a photograph proving that the meter stopped in 2008 and the bills have been estimated. The MUA's new policy against prolonged estimates must be enforced.

AUDITOR

Robert McNinch did not attend the meeting and no report was provided.

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LICENSED OPERATOR

Robert De Block discussed the following items:

The James Court TTHM violation was discussed further. The Lead and Copper Survey will be added to the public notification.

The Bridge Main is being repaired by Garcia Construction.

• **REVIEW OF MINUTES:**

Minutes for January 22, 2024-HELD OVER DUE TO LACK OF QUORUM TO MOVE

Motion made by Smith seconded by Flach to approve the Minutes for February 12, 2024.

YES: D'Ambrosio, Flach, Smith

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

• **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE-Next meeting scheduled for March 27, 2024.

• **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. NJDEP/NJ Environmental Laboratory Certification Program Renewal Application
2. NJDEP Freshwater Wetlands General Permit 18/Lower Dam Basin Culvert on Pettee Avenue Along the Molly Ann Brook
3. Planning Board Notice/490 Haledon Ave., Haledon
4. Public Notice/88 Roosevelt Ave., North Haledon
5. Public Notice/10 Evergreen Ave., North Haledon

Motion made by Flach seconded by Smith to accept and file correspondence.

YES: D'Ambrosio, Flach, Smith

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

• **OLD BUSINESS**

1. 920 Belmont Avenue, North Haledon/WCA Balance Due-Discussed under Attorney Report.
2. 225 Pompton Road/Water Bill Dispute-No reply received.
3. LIHWAP Language Requirements-No update.
4. 27 Jasper Street, Haledon-Time Extension Request-Discussed under Attorney Report.

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5. ARCADIS/Professional Engineering Services Heights Tank Improvements-
Discussed under Engineer Report.

TIME: 8:42M

• **PUBLIC COMMENT**

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

YES: D'Ambrosio, Flach, Smith

ABSTAIN:

NO: -0-

No Public Present

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

YES: D'Ambrosio, Flach, Smith

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0

RESOLUTIONS TO BE PASSED BY CONSENT

**2024-18 AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE FOR PAYMENT THE
WATER OPERATING BILLS AS SET FORTH IN THE
WATER OPERATING BILLS LIST DATED MARCH 11, 2024**

**2024-19 AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE THE PROFESSIONAL
ENGINEERING SERVICES PROPOSAL DATED MARCH 7,
2024 FOR THE HEIGHTS TANK IMPROVEMENTS
PROJECT**

Motion by Flach seconded by Smith to amend and add Resolution 2024-19 entitled
**“AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE THE PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES
PROPOSAL DATED MARCH 7, 2024 FOR THE HEIGHTS TANK IMPROVMENTS
PROJECT”**

YES: D'Ambrosio, Flach, Smith

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

Motion by Smith seconded by Flach to pass the Resolutions by Consent as amended.

YES: D'Ambrosio, Flach, Smith

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

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• MEETING ADJOURNED

Motion by Smith seconded by Flach to adjourn.

YES: D'Ambrosio, Flach, Smith

ABSTAIN: -0-

NO: -0-

Respectfully Submitted,
Denise Wahad, Recording Secretary