

1. EOWC Minutes February 15 2022

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**CITY OF EAST ORANGE, NEW JERSEY
EAST ORANGE WATER COMMISSION
99 South Grove Street
East Orange, NJ 07018
TED R. GREEN, Mayor
REGULAR MEETING
February 15, 2022**

MINUTES

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners held in the Conference Room of the East Orange Water Commission, 99 South Grove Street, East Orange, New Jersey on Tuesday, February 15, 2022.

I. CALL TO ORDER – 5:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:

Commissioners

Alison Rolling
Shantel Harrison
Emmanuel O. Awe
Lauren Shears

Staff

Joseph J. Tomashosky, Finance Consultant
John Liu, Executive Director
Thomas J. Matich, Operations Manager
Sheri Lassiter, Customer Service
Kelly Fields, Administrative Analyst

Counsel

Denis Murphy, Esq. (Weiner Law)

Public

Ted R. Green, Mayor
Marcus – 120 Water

The meeting was called to order, Commissioner Rolling determined that there was a quorum and convened the Regular Meeting.

Commissioner Rolling read the Rate Statement.

II. STATUS OF RESOLUTIONS

The Mayor has not returned Resolutions #1 through #17. All resolutions are in full force and effect.

III. ADOPTION/CORRECTION OF MINUTES

7A: The Minutes of the January 19, 2022, Re-Organization Meeting was approved as amended on a motion made by Commissioner Harrison, seconded by Commissioner Shears and carried on the call for the Board to vote.

Amended to clarify a section of the Director's Report.

IV. EOBWC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Joe Tomashosky advised the Board that the City has still not rolled over the Edmunds System which interferes with their ability to operate in 2022. He believes that it will be fixed soon. Last year's budget collections were exceeded by \$2.1 million. The 2021 expenses were underspent by \$1 million which increases the fund balance to \$12 million. January's collections rate for East Orange is 79.6%.

Tom Matich advised that the Distribution Improvement Program has completed construction. The final restoration and paving will take place after the winter season. The Emergency Generator project is awaiting installations for impact resistance and final tie-ins to the automatic transfer switch. The Disinfection Conversion project is out for bid with a pre-bid site visit taking place last week. The bid opening is slotted for February 24th. Last month Orange only pulled 12 million gallons of water but for the calendar year they pulled out 211 million gallons. Livingston pulled 86.26 million gallons for 2021.

Director Liu spoke about the Lead Service Line notification. He advised that they hired 120 Water to take on the task of notifying the customers. He then advised that Woodland Avenue has a flooding issue that is a big problem for the neighborhood. Pennoni Engineers were hired to do a study that will be done by the end of the month. In connection to Woodland Avenue there is a 72-inch stone sewer line that takes water all the way to Springfield. They are hiring CME to study how to repair the sewer line. That will be a resolution for the Boards approval. He then spoke about the Well Reservoir Inspection. He then spoke about the PFOA's that they suspect are coming from the Canoe Brook Wells.

He then spoke briefly about the \$1.2 million-dollar Ionized study. Because they have severe inflow, they are going to hire a company to come and do a smoke test. He then advised that once they finish all of the studies, the repair bill will probably be in the millions. For that, they are looking to apply for grants.

V. PRESENTATION

NONE

VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Lawsuits – update in Executive Session
Notice to Quit – Water Commission Houses

VII. NEW BUSINESS

120 Water – Denis Murphy advised the Board that Marcus Hargrove is on the line from 120 Water. He explained that the Water Commission is required to do an inventory of its lead service lines and submit the findings within 6 months of the passage to DEP. The law also required that within 30 days of that the Water Commission is required to notice all its customers, non-customers and tenants that they have lead service lines. He then spoke briefly about the costs for same, etc.

VIII. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions 12A through 12L were presented to the Board for approval.

A motion to omnibus and approve Resolutions 12A through 12L was made by Commissioner Harrison, seconded by Commissioner Awe and carried unanimously on the call for the Board to vote.

12A: Resolution authorizing the approval and payment of Operating Bills in the amount of \$18,400.00 to be paid in February

12B: Resolution authorizing Revenue Reimbursements in the total amount of \$6,710.65 for the month of February

12C: Resolution authorizing the purchase of goods and services (Pumps and Motors, repair replacement and installation) through the use of the North Jersey Wastewater Cooperative Processing System (NJWCPS) from Precision Electric Motor Works, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$110,000

12D: Resolution authorizing the purchase of goods and services (Furnish and deliver instrumentation and Equipment, Parts and Supplies) through the use of the North Jersey Wastewater Cooperative Processing System (NJWCPS) from NSI, Neal Systems, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$200,000

12E: Resolution authorizing and approving the execution and award of a professional service agreement with CME Associates for Storm Sewer Inspection and Assessment at a cost not to exceed \$75,000.00

- 12F: Resolution authorizing the solicitation of a Request for Proposals for professional Hydrogeological Services to provide Groundwater Resources Management Services**
- 12G: Resolution authorizing the purchase of goods and services (Pumps and Motors, repair replacement and installation) through the use of the North Jersey Wastewater Cooperative Processing System (NJWCPS) from Municipal Maintenance Co., in an amount not to exceed \$110,000**
- 12H: Resolution authorizing and approving the execution and award of a professional service agreement with Remington & Vernick Engineers for Reservoir Inspection Services at a cost not to exceed \$67,000.00**
- 12I: Resolution amending Resolution No. 16 for the correction of a typographical error in the resolution**
- 12J: Resolution for the appointment of the regular and alternate members of the Employee Training and Development Committee of the East Orange Board of Water Commissioners (Shears, Rolling and Harrison)**
- 12K: Resolution ratifying the payment of January 2022 payrolls in the total amount of \$298,313.30**
- 12L: Resolution authorizing the services of 120 Water to assist in the statutory requirements of the Lead Service Line notice at a cost not to exceed \$14,500.00 for preparation of the Notice and Data Management Services plus \$58,900 for delivery costs of the US Certified Mail in a total amount not to exceed Seventy-Three Thousand Four Hundred \$73,400**

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT

Odell Rolling – 23 Madison Avenue, East Orange

Mr. Rolling wanted to know what the Boards opinion is about a pending matter with regards to compensation during suspended operations.

Denis Murphy asked the Board to refrain from comment about pending litigation.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

14A: Resolution for Closed Session

Resolution 14A was approved on a motion made by Commissioner Harrison, seconded by Commissioner Awe, and carried unanimously on the call for the Board to vote.

The Board went into Executive Session to discuss the following at approximately 5:40 pm:

1. Personnel Committee

2. Contracts and Litigation Matters

The Board came out of Executive Session at approximately 6:57 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:00 pm.

THESE MINUTES ARE OF NECESSITY CONDENSED AND ABRIGED AND DO NOT PURPORT TO CONTAIN THE FULL CONTENTS OF THE MATTERS DISCUSSED.

SONYA BUTLER
TRANSCRIBER