

WILLINGBORO MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

Regular Meeting Minutes

October 19, 2016

The meeting of the Willingboro Municipal Utilities Authority was held on Wednesday, October 19, 2016 in the Authority office. Chairman Clayton Sills called the meeting to order at 4:30 PM, and requested that everyone pledge allegiance to the flag. The Chairman instructed the Secretary to read the following statement:

Public notice of the meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, has been given by the Authority in the following manner:

- A. Posting written notice on the official bulletin board of the Authority building.
- B. Mailing written notice to the Municipal Clerks of Willingboro and Westampton Townships; the Secretary of the Edgewater Park Sewerage Authority and the Executive Director of the Mount Laurel Municipal Utilities Authority.
- C. Publishing a Public Notice in the Burlington County Times and Courier-Post.
- D. Directing the Secretary to enter into the minutes of this meeting this public announcement.

Roll Call: Cmmr. Clayton Sills (Present), Cmmr. Carl Turner (Present), Cmmr. T. Wayne Scott (Present), Christopher Walker (Present), Cmmr. Jacqueline Jennings (Absent), Alt. Cmmr. Webster Evans (Present), Alt. Cmmr. Charles Green (Absent).

Others attending: Russell Trice, Engineer, Diallyo Diggs, Director of Finance, Rita Taliaferro, Office Manager, Nick Talvacchia and Yolanda Melville of Cooper Levenson.

Comments from the Public:

None

Motion to approve the September 21, 2016 Minutes

Moved: Cmmr. Walker

Seconded: Cmmr. Turner

Discussion:

Cmmr. Scott:

Roll Call: Cmmr. Sills Yes, Cmmr. Turner Yes, Cmmr. Scott Yes, Cmmr. Walker Yes, Alt. Cmmr. Evans Yes

*Cmmr. Charles Green has arrived

Motion to approve Treasures Report

Moved: Cmmr. Turner

Seconded: Cmmr. Webster

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Cmmr. Sills Yes, Cmmr. Turner Yes, Cmmr. Scott Yes, Cmmr. Walker Yes, Alt. Cmmr. Evans Yes

Executive Director's Report

Moved: Cmmr. Webster

Seconded: Cmmr. Scott

Discussion:

A Weber: Stated that his report will be discussed in executive session but would like to announce that a very nice article was written about the WMUA in the Willingboro Community News by Wayne Brown.

Roll Call: Cmmr. Sills Yes, Cmmr. Turner Yes, Cmmr. Scott Yes, Cmmr. Walker Yes, Alt. Cmmr. Evans Yes

Motion to accept Resolution 2016-10-19-1 Authorizing Sale of Surplus Property

Moved: Cmmr. Turner

Seconded: Cmmr. Scott

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Cmmr. Sills Yes, Cmmr. Turner Yes, Cmmr. Scott Yes, Cmmr. Walker Yes, Alt. Cmmr. Evans Yes

Resolution 2016-10-19-1 Authorizing Sale of Surplus Property

WILLINGBORO MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION 2016-10-19-1

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY

WHEREAS, The Willingboro Municipal Utilities Authority (“WMUA”) has determined that certain assets by the Authority are no longer needed; and

WHEREAS, NJSА 40A:11-36 provides for the manner and method of sale or other disposition of public property; and

WHEREAS, A Notice of Sale of Surplus Property will be advertised in the Burlington County Times and or the Courier Post;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the WMUA assembled in its regular meetings of October 19, 2016 that:

1. The phones, computers and related assets which were replaced by the newer systems be sold.
2. The Executive Director is hereby authorized to take all steps necessary to sell this property in accordance with NJSА 40A:11-346
3. The money so received shall be deposited in the Revenue Fund of the Authority
4. A copy of the resolution be made a part of the minutes of this public meeting.

Clayton Sills, Chairman

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify the foregoing resolution was dully adopted by the WMUA at its meeting held on October 19, 2016

Andrew Weber, Assistant Secretary

*Cmmr. Jennings has arrived

Motion to Receive Operations and Maintenance Report

Moved: Cmmr. Walker

Seconded: Cmmr. Turner

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Cmmr. Sills Yes, Cmmr. Turner Yes, Cmmr. Scott Yes, Cmmr. Walker Yes, Alt. Cmmr. Evans Yes

Motion to Receive Engineers Report

Moved: Cmmr. Scott

Seconded: Cmmr. Jennings

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Cmmr. Sills Yes, Cmmr. Turner Yes, Cmmr. Scott Yes, Cmmr. Walker Yes, Cmmr. Jennings Yes

Old Business

2017 Budget Introduction

Discussion:

D. Diggs: Stated that the budget document hasn't changed from what was discussed that the budget discussion meeting so this is the official introduction that we are sending to the state to get approved then we will have the official hearing and adoption in December.

Cmmr. Turner: Stated that there was a discrepancy with one of the operations numbers and just wanted to know if that problem was taken care of.

D. Diggs: Responded stating yes and that they are using the number that the operations committee came up with

Motion to accept bill list

Moved: Cmmr. Walker

Seconded: Cmmr. Scott

Discussion:

Cmmr. Evans: Stated that #6560 Springside Automotive Corp. is \$4634.13. Asked if that number was over a period of time.

D. Diggs: Responded stating that he would have to pull invoices to see and would be sure to get that information and let him know.

Roll Call: Cmmr. Sills Yes, Cmmr. Turner Yes, Cmmr. Scott Yes, Cmmr. Walker Yes, Cmmr. Jennings Yes

Solicitors Report

None

Motion Entering Executive Session

Moved: Cmmr. Jennings

Seconded: Cmmr. Turner

Roll Call: Cmmr. Sills Yes, Cmmr. Turner Yes, Cmmr. Scott Yes, Cmmr. Walker Yes, Cmmr. Jennings Yes

Motion to Exit Executive Session

Roll Call: Cmmr. Sills Yes, Cmmr. Turner Yes, Cmmr. Scott Yes, Cmmr. Walker Yes, Cmmr. Jennings Yes

Motion to Accept Budget

Moved: Cmmr. Scott

Seconded: Cmmr. Walker

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Cmmr. Sills Yes, Cmmr. Turner Yes, Cmmr. Scott Yes, Cmmr. Walker Yes, Cmmr. Jennings Yes

Resolution 2016-10-19-2 2017 Authority Budget

2017 AUTHORITY BUDGET RESOLUTION

WILLINGBORO MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

FISCAL YEAR: FROM: January 1, 2017 **TO:** December 31, 2017

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget and Capital Budget for the Willingboro Municipal Utilities Authority for the fiscal year beginning, January 1, 2017 and ending, December 31, 2017 has been presented before the governing body of the Willingboro Municipal Utilities Authority at its open public meeting on October 19, 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget as introduced reflects Total Revenues of \$ 11,739,000.00 , Total Appropriations, including any Accumulated Deficit if any, of \$ 11,628,268.00 and Total Unrestricted Net Position utilized of \$200,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Budget as introduced reflects Total Capital Appropriations of \$14,359,367.00, which consists of Renewal and Replacement reserve funding of \$1,774,367.00, debt authorizations of \$12,585,000.00 and Total Unrestricted Net Position planned to be utilized as funding thereof, of \$0.00; and

WHEREAS, the schedule of rates, fees and other charges in effect will produce sufficient revenues, together with all other anticipated revenues to satisfy all obligations to the holders of bonds of the Authority, to meet operating expenses, capital outlays, debt service requirements, and to provide for such reserves, all as may be required by law, regulation or terms of contracts and agreements; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Budget/Program, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:31-2, does not confer any authorization to raise or expend funds; rather it is a document to be used as part of the said Authority's planning and management objectives. Specific authorization to expend funds for the purposes described in this section of the budget, must be granted elsewhere; by bond resolution, by a project financing agreement, by resolution appropriating funds from the Renewal and Replacement Reserve or other means provided by law.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing body of the Willingboro Municipal Utilities Authority, at an open public meeting held on October 19, 2016 that the Annual Budget, including all related schedules, and the Capital Budget/Program of the Willingboro Municipal Utilities Authority for the fiscal year beginning, January 1, 2017 and ending, December 31, 2017 is hereby approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the anticipated revenues as reflected in the Annual Budget are of sufficient amount to meet all proposed expenditures/expenses and all covenants, terms and provisions as stipulated in the said Authority's outstanding debt obligations, capital lease arrangements, service contracts, and other pledged agreements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Willingboro Municipal Utilities Authority will consider the Annual Budget and Capital Budget/Program for adoption on December 21, 2016.

(Secretary's Signature) (Date)

Governing Body Recorded Vote

Member: Aye Nay Abstain Absent

Motion Authorizing the Executive Director to Continue Advertising and Hire Clerk 1

Moved: Cmmr. Walker

Seconded: Cmmr. Turner

Discussion:

Cmmr. Walker: Asked if we have a salary range for the position

D. Diggs: Responded stating that we do have a salary range which is between 28k-35k and has been approved by the board.

Roll Call: Cmmr. Sills Yes, Cmmr. Turner Yes, Cmmr. Scott Yes, Cmmr. Walker Yes, Cmmr. Jennings Yes

Motion to Accept Recommendation of the Executive Director Concerning the Position of Chief Water Plant Operator and Salary as discussed

Moved: Cmmr. Walker

Seconded: Cmmr. Jennings

Discussion: None

Roll Call: Cmmr. Sills Yes, Cmmr. Turner Yes, Cmmr. Scott Yes, Cmmr. Walker Yes, Cmmr. Jennings Yes

Comments from Authority Members and Public

Willingboro Community Development Corporation

P. O. Box 2571, Willingboro, NJ 08046

October 19, 2017

Dear Commissioners:

The Willingboro Community Development Corporation is a 501 (c)3 non-profit organization dedicated to quality of life issues. It is our mission to promote a variety of services to help achieve and maintain the highest quality of life in Willingboro. It is our desire to see Willingboro become a destination and the "Home of the American Dream".

We are so delighted to see that the Willingboro Municipal Utilities Authority (WMUA) is concerned with quality of life also as outlined in its Resolution 2016-9-21-1. Paragraph one states, "Whereas, the infrastructure that brings water and wastewater to and from homes and businesses is essential to the quality of life and economic vitality of the Township of Willingboro".

To that end we are aware of the issues facing us with regards to lateral pipes. Our homes contain Orangeburg, a fiber conduit pipe, or Asbestos Cement pipe.

Orangeburg pipe was used for sewage conveyance systems in many areas of the United States between the 1870s and 1970s. This type of piping has a limited structural life expectancy of approximately 30 to 50 years. Over time the fibers of the pipe collapse which can cause raw sewage to back up into a home or in a back yard as well as causing damage to the sewer main.

Asbestos cement pipes were used between the mid-1940s and 1970s. Likewise, this type of pipe has a limited structural life expectancy of approximately 50 years. By the nature of it containing asbestos, it poses an added potentially dangerous health and environmental problem when it fails and must be replaced. Also particles from asbestos and cement can cause damage to sewer main and WMUA machinery.

Eventually everything, including our infrastructure, needs to be replaced. In the case of our lateral pipes, they should be replaced immediately due to its age especially given the potential health and environmental risk.

In this regard, we do understand that the WMUA is responsible for the sewer connection from a home to the sewer main, and the resident is responsible for the lateral which is on their private property. But, Willingboro has an aging population. Many of our seniors are living on a fixed income, and an expense for this type of repair (approximately \$4000 or more) could be catastrophic. It is the intention of the Willingboro Community Development Corporation to seek funds to conduct a feasibility study to determine ways in which to assist our residents. For instance, the findings of the study could bring forth information regarding insurance companies who offer policies to cover this type of repair or financial assistance programs to help to offset the cost. All of this information would be invaluable to our residents.

Finally, we are pleased to see that the WMUA is thinking proactively as stated in your Resolution 2016-9-21-1 Paragraph seven states, "Whereas, investing in our drinking water and wastewater systems will secure a bright and prosperous future for generations to come." Paragraph 13 states, "Further Resolved that the Willingboro Municipal Utilities Authority is dedicated to investing in water and wastewater infrastructure and calls on our federal and state partners to bring much-needed and innovation to protect and restore our critical water infrastructure".

Thank you so much for your time. We look forward to working with the WMUA and the Township to help find a solution to this potential health and environmental issue. Going forward please let us know how we can be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

Pat Lindsay-Harvey
President

Cc: Township Council
Green Team
Environmental Commission

*Willingboro Resident did not state her name.

Resident: Stated that she was looking at the budget and is concerned about the rate increase because it is a huge increase

D. Diggs: Responded stating that the thought process behind the rate increase was after the breakdown of all the 29 townships in Burlington county and when you look at all the higher usage rates pretty much all towns are taking the stance that if you want to inspire water conservation you have to charge people those higher rates otherwise you are going to encourage waste. So the idea was to get us more in line with the water conservation efforts of people wanting to restrict their usage. One of the big things we looked at and one of the things I spoke with the budget committee about was because of the aging population of the community and most seniors don't only use that minimum amount, we just wanted to put as little impact on that minimum base as we could. That was the other part of the reason that we were looking at raising those higher rates a little bit higher

Resident: So what you going to do is hit families really hard that have children and trying to put their kids through school.

D. Diggs: Most of them would hit that 10-13 rate. Even with the 13-26 rate any other township in Burlington County you would be way higher.

Resident: I don't live in another county

D. Diggs: When you are looking at our water rates and how we set them you have to look at what it cost to present the water and along those rates Willingboro is one of the most efficient water companies in Burlington County. That is a part of the reason why we provide our residents with the lowest rate in the county other than Moorestown so we have to invest back into our infrastructure.

Resident: Wouldn't you think that education of teaching people more about conservation vs hitting them in the pockets

D. Diggs: You need both because a lot of people don't listen. Unless water cost more people are going to keep using it. If it cost more people are less likely to use it.

Joy Seagram: How is the WMUA going to go forward with helping to eradicate some of the problems as far as a homeowner who has a problem who is very much aware or should be aware that it is their responsibility to fix the problem? Hopefully there can be a coalition between the residents and the WMUA that we can come together to really explore the insurance factor for these residents and as far as them being able to get help. Who do they call the WMUA if they have a broken pipe or what happens at that particular point

Cmmr. Sills: I think that until we come up with or community development corporation comes up with a workable solution it is just going to have to be the way that it has always been which is the homeowner would be responsible for call their own plumber.

Joy Seagram: Wouldn't it be a great idea if we can all come together and think of ways to bring the community into working together and that they feel that they are not alone out there because there are a lot of senior citizens but if there is a program or information that is given to these individual homes throughout Willingboro to really alert them.

Cmmr. Walker: I think that maybe if you have time you can actually come up here and speak with the executive director because that is very in depth what you are asking for and I don't think they have the answer at this time. I don't think that lies within the CBC, it starts with us here at the MUA internally.

A Weber: Stated that he would be more than happy to sit down and talk about the issue.

Cmmr Evans: Mentioned that there is a parade Nov. 12 and would like help from MUA if we can.

Motion to Adjourn

Moved: Cmmr. Scott

Seconded: Cmmr. Walker

Roll Call: Cmmr. Sills Yes, Cmmr. Turner Yes, Cmmr. Scott Yes, Cmmr. Walker Yes, Cmmr. Jennings Yes

Certification of Minutes

I hereby certify the above to be a true and correct copy of the approved Minutes of the October 19, 2016, Regular Meeting of the Willingboro Municipal Utilities Authority approved on December 14, 2016.

Andrew Weber, Secretary

