

**JERSEY CITY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE WATER AND SEWER SERVICE CHARGE RATE HEARING AND
REGULAR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
APRIL 25, 2019**

CALL TO ORDER – 5:02 PM

In compliance with the Sunshine Laws, Chairwoman Hulings ordered and directed that a Public Notice of a Public Meeting of the Jersey City Municipal Utilities Authority be posted in the main lobby of the Jersey City Municipal Utilities Authority Administration Building and that a copy of the notice be sent to The Jersey Journal, The Star Ledger and the City Clerk.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chairwoman, Maureen C. Hulings
Vice Chairwoman, Jeannine Zampella
Commissioner, Thomas M. Gibbons
Commissioner, Vincent N. Mastria
Commissioner, Maureen Nally
First Alternate Commissioner, Rahat A. Chatha
Second Alternate Commissioner, Kathleen Hartye

ALSO PRESENT:

Joseph Coviello, Acting Executive Director
Judy Rybka, Recording Secretary
Francis J. Borin, Esquire, DeCotiis, FitzPatrick & Cole, LLP
John D. Folk, CPA, Director of Finance
Krystyna Pawlowska, Administrative Assistant
Lisa Dominquez, Administrative Assistant
Ed Conti, Director of Compliance
Richard Haytas, PE, Senior Engineer/Infrastructure Maintenance Supervisor
Rajiv Prakash, Engineering Department
Elmer Andal, Director of Operations
Kevin J. Carr, RPPO, QPA, Purchasing Agent
John Hroncich, Suez Water Environmental Services, Inc.
Edward Traina, PE, CME Associates
Jeff Enright, NW Financial
Laura Garucci, Rizman, Rappaport, Dillon & Rose, LLC, Certified Court Reporters
Sunny Kumar, 107 Thorne St., Jersey City, NJ
Jim Lutz, 6 Carla Ct., Rockaway, NJ

FLAG SALUTE

Prior to Public Comment, Chairwoman Hulings was sworn in by Mr. Borin as a re-appointed Commissioner of the Jersey City Municipal Utilities Authority (JCMUA) Board of Commissioners for a five (5) year term, and as Chairwoman for the 2019-2020 term.

PUBLIC COMMENT – Mr. Sunny Kumar, Jersey City resident, addressed the Board concerning a 42 unit project at 74-76 Cottage Street, Jersey City. He explained the JCMUA issued a tap water permit for the project but has not issued a permit for the sewer side. Per Mr. Kumar, the JCMUA advised him that certain fees must be paid and he did not agree to pay these fees. He did, however, agree to pay for upgrades to the sewer on Cottage Street in the amount of approximately \$160,000 but was later advised by the JCMUA that the sewer was in good condition and did not require upgrades.

Mr. Borin advised Mr. Kumar that the Board of Commissioners could not take action on this matter at this evening's meeting. He asked Mr. Kumar to submit to him documentation/information for review and discussion with appropriate personnel, and those individuals will be advised accordingly.

Mr. Kumar asked that the Board "hear his case" this evening and once again explained the situation. Drawings were submitted to the JCMUA staff and approved, a permit for water tap has been issued but not the sewer side, and he has now been advised that there is a problem with the water line.

Mr. Borin reiterated the Board of Commissioners cannot make a decision at this meeting. He recommended Mr. Kumar have his attorney contact Mr. Borin and/or the Executive Director in writing so that the matter can be reviewed/discussed/considered and a recommendation can be made regarding future action. Mr. Borin explained the function of the JCMUA's Board of Commissioners and the role of the Executive Director position at the JCMUA.

Mr. Borin advised Mr. Kumar that the matter will be evaluated with staff, and he will follow up with Mr. Kumar's attorney. At Mr. Borin's request, Mr. Kumar submitted documentation/information for review.

WATER AND SEWER SERVICE CHARGE RATE HEARING

The Water and Sewer Service Charge Rate Hearing (Resolution 4/19/6) began at 5:16 p.m. and concluded at 5:29 p.m. The Rate Hearing portion of the meeting was transcribed by Court Reporter, Laura Garucci.

Motioned to enter Rate Hearing by Commissioner Gibbons

Seconded by Commissioner Mastria

Roll call vote: Commissioner Gibbons	Aye
Commissioner Nally	Aye
Vice Chairwoman Zampella	Aye
Commissioner Mastria	Aye
Chairwoman Hulings	Aye

Resolution 4/19/6 authorizing the revision of water and sewer service charges in accordance with the Municipal and County Utilities Authority Law

Motioned to authorize revision of water and sewer service charges by Commissioner Gibbons

Seconded by Commissioner Mastria

Roll call vote: Commissioner Gibbons	Aye
Commissioner Nally	Aye
Vice Chairwoman Zampella	Aye
Commissioner Mastria	Aye
Chairwoman Hulings	Aye

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes of the March 28, 2019 Commissioners Meeting

Motioned to approve by Commissioner Nally

Seconded by Vice Chairwoman Mastria

Roll call vote: Commissioner Gibbons	Aye
Commissioner Nally	Aye
Vice Chairwoman Zampella	Abstention
Commissioner Mastria	Aye
Chairwoman Hulings	Aye

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 4/19/1 authorizing transfer of funds for sewer operations

Resolution 4/19/2 authorizing payments of audited claims for sewer operations

Resolution 4/19/3 authorizing transfer of funds and payments of audited claims for water operations

Resolution 4/19/4 authorizing cash disbursements

Resolution 4/19/5 authorizing payments from the capital improvement, project and note funds

Resolution 4/19/7 authorizing MMREF expenditure for change order numbers 1 and 2 to Suez Water Jersey City, Inc. for underwater screening services to repair raw water screens at the Boonton Water Treatment Plant

Resolution 4/19/8 authorizing a contract award for professional engineering services to French & Pirelli Associates for relocation of water mains for the County of Hudson's Central Avenue Extension Project

Resolution 4/19/9 authorizing the award of a contract extension to American Wear, Inc., pursuant to and in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, for rental, cleaning and maintenance of employee uniforms; JCMUA contract number EUS-2018-12

Resolution 4/19/10 authorizing the extension of contract with Sander Power Equipment Co., pursuant to and in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law for the provision of emergency and non-emergency rental, delivery, set up and return of various size trailer-mounted, self-priming pumps, trailer-mounted diesel generators, submersible pumps and associated equipment; JCMUA contract number RTMSP-2018-17

Resolution 4/19/11 authorizing the award of a contract, pursuant to New Jersey Local Pay-to-Play Law, to T-Star Communications, Inc. for the performance of installation and repair of communication and surveillance equipment

Resolution 4/19/12 authorizing an amendment of a contract, in accordance with the New Jersey Local Pay-to-Play Law, to Edmunds and Associates, Inc. for the provision of additional accounting software

Resolution 4/19/13 awarding a contract to Scafar Contracting, Inc. for water treatment plant residuals handling project; JCMUA contract number WTPRHI-2018-15

Resolution 4/19/14 authorizing change order number 2 to contract with William J. Guarini, Inc. for provision of emergency and non-emergency plumbing repair services in compliance with N.J.A.C.5:30-11.9 for change order exceeding 20 percent of contract price and contract extension

Motioned to approve by Commissioner Mastria

Seconded by Commissioner Nally

Roll call vote: Commissioner Gibbons Aye
 Commissioner Nally Aye
 Vice Chairwoman Zampella Aye
 Commissioner Mastria Aye
 Chairwoman Hulings Aye

OTHER RESOLUTION(S) CONSIDERED INDIVIDUALLY

Resolution 4/19/15 approving and authorizing the execution of a utility extension construction agreement with New Jersey Transit Corporation and an amendment to an easement from New Jersey Transit Corporation for the construction of the 18th. Street combined sewer outfall pipeline in the Long Slip Canal

Commissioner Gibbons noted this is a good opportunity to install storm water retention facilities.

Mr. Coviello explained that they had discussions along those lines with New Jersey Transit (NJT) but that NJT would not to allow such facilities to be installed under its rail lines. The JCMUA was able to negotiate with NJT so that a \$10 million obligation of the JCMUA would be made payable in equal installments over three (3) years. At completion of payment, the JCMUA can install a chamber at the end of the outfall for storage and pumps.

Per Mr. Haytas, eight (8) 10-million gallon capacity storage tanks will capture overflows.

Motioned to approve by Commissioner Gibbons

Seconded by Commissioner Mastria

Roll call vote: Commissioner Gibbons Aye
 Commissioner Nally Aye
 Vice Chairwoman Zampella Aye
 Commissioner Mastria Aye
 Chairwoman Hulings Aye

COMMUNICATIONS – No Communications

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – Mr. Coviello reported on the following:

1. Bayfront – The JCMUA has been invited to participate in the Bayfront development project. A meeting recently took place with the State and included representatives from the City, the Jersey City Redevelopment Agency and the JCMUA. The JCMUA was asked to participate in design and funding of the sewer system. “Feedback was very positive.”

Commissioner Gibbons noted the Bayfront project elevation was raised 10 – 15 feet by Honeywell.

Mr. Coviello briefly discussed flooding potential on Highway 440 and Kellogg Street, and the possibility that flooding could worsen following development.

2. Elm Street Project – the JCMUA is working with the City involving a green infrastructure project on Elm Street designed to help with drainage.
3. Lead in School Water Supply – meeting took place this morning with the Jersey City Board of Education concerning the water supply in City schools, and “we made good progress today.” JCMUA is looking forward to the start of the pilot project, and a more definitive schedule should be available in the coming weeks.
4. Litigation – no updates on pending litigation since the March 2019 Commissioners meeting.
5. Pot Hole Repairs – the JCMUA was asked by the City to work with the Department of Public Works on pothole repairs so that repairs may be completed more quickly.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – No Committee Reports.

GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT – One item for report during Executive Session.

ITEMS OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS – No Items of Unfinished Business

ITEMS OF NEW BUSINESS – No Items of New Business

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Closed Regular Session/Entered Executive Session at 5:44 p.m.

Motioned to approve by Vice Chairwoman Zampella

Seconded by Commissioner Gibbons

Roll call vote: Commissioner Gibbons Aye

 Commissioner Nally Aye

Vice Chairwoman Zampella Aye
Commissioner Mastria Aye
Chairwoman Hulings Aye

EXECUTIVE SESSION ENDED/REGULAR SESSION REOPENED AT 5:53 P.M.

Motioned to approve by Vice Chairwoman Zampella

Seconded by Commissioner Nally

Roll call vote: Commissioner Gibbons Aye
Commissioner Nally Aye
Vice Chairwoman Zampella Aye
Commissioner Mastria Aye
Chairwoman Hulings

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

Motioned to approve by Commissioner Gibbons

Seconded by Commissioner Mastria

Unanimously approved by all Commissioners present.

Respectfully submitted,


Judy Rybka
Recording Secretary