

**JERSEY CITY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
AUGUST 27, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER – 5:04 P.M.

In compliance with the Sunshine Laws, Chairwoman Hulings ordered and directed that a 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 a copy of the notice be sent to The Jersey Journal, The Star Ledger and the City Clerk. Due to the COVID-19 global pandemic, this public meeting of the Board of Commissioners of the Jersey City Municipal Utilities Authority (“JCMUA”) is being conducted telephonically. As such, to enable members of the public to participate in this meeting, the dial-in information for this conference call was posted at the entrance to JCMUA’s Administrative Offices and was also posted on JCMUA’s website.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ALSO PRESENT:

Jose R. Cunha, Executive Director
Joseph Coviello, Deputy Director
John D. Folk, C.P.A., Director of Finance
Judy Rybka, Recording Secretary
LeKendrick Shaw, Assistant to Executive Director
Krystyna Pawlowska, Administrative Assistant
Francis J. Borin, Esquire, DeCotiis, FitzPatrick, Cole & Giblin, LLP
Ed Traina, CME Associates
John Heinis, 508 Palisade Avenue, Jersey City, N.J.

FLAG SALUTE

PUBLIC COMMENT – Mr. John Heinis, Jersey City resident, addressed the Board with questions concerning the advance franchise agreement payment to the City of Jersey City (Resolution 7/20/24 approved by the Board of Commissioners at their July 23, 2020 meeting).

Chairwoman Hulings advised Mr. Heinis that the Public Comment portion of this meeting is held for comment only (no questions). He was further advised that his questions would be taken under consideration.

Closed Public Comment at 5:05 p.m.

Motioned by Commissioner Nally

Seconded by Commissioner Mastria

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

Following close of Public Comment, Chairwoman Hulings introduced Commissioner Victor Negrón, JCMUA’s new Second Alternate Commissioner. “Commissioner Negrón is a welcome addition to the Board.” The Chairwoman expressed her hope that everyone will soon have the opportunity to meet Commissioner Negrón in person.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes of the July 23, 2020 Commissioners Meeting

Motioned to approve by Commissioner Nally

Seconded by Vice Chairwoman Zampella

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

Prior to Consent Agenda vote, Mr. Folk requested two payments be added to the claims lists as follows:

Resolution 8/20/2 - \$1,000 to JCMUA’s EZ Pass Account

Resolution 8/20/5 - \$118,848 to Shauger Property Services for water treatment improvement project

General Counsel recommended the Board vote on Resolution 8/20/2 and Resolution 8/20/5 separately and as amended.

Resolution 8/20/2 authorizing payments to audited claims for sewer operations

Motioned to approve as amended above by Commissioner Hartye

Seconded by Commissioner Nally

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

Resolution 8/20/5 authorizing payments from the capital improvement, project and note funds

Motioned to approve as amended above by Commissioner Hartye

Seconded by Commissioner Nally

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

RESOLUTIONS - CONSENT AGENCA

Resolution 8/20/1 authorizing transfer of funds for sewer operations

Resolution 8/20/3 authorizing transfer of funds and payments of audited claims for water operations

Resolution 8/20/4 authorizing cash disbursements

Resolution 8/20/6 authorizing the extension of contract with Rapid Pump & Meter Service Co., Inc., pursuant to and in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, for the provision of repair services and parts for variable frequency drives, control panels and associated equipment; JCMUA contract number VFDCP-2019-21

Resolution 8/20/7 authorizing the award of an Extraordinary Unspecified Services Contract to DCX Machine, LLC in accordance with New Jersey Local Unit Pay-to-Play Law to perform internet technology network design services

Resolution 8/20/8 authorizing the award of a contract pursuant to AKRF, Inc. for green infrastructure survey, design and engineering services

Resolution 8/20/9 authorizing the award of a contract to DeCotiis, FitzPatrick, Cole & Giblin, LLP for General Counsel services

Resolution 8/20/10 authorizing closeout of contract for the Van Winkle Avenue combined sewer and water main rehabilitation project; JCMUA contract number VWSWR-2017-30

Resolution 8/20/11 authorizing closeout of contract for the Ease Side and West Side pumping station improvements project; JCMUA contract number EWPI-2014-10

Resolution 8/20/12 authorizing the award of a contract to Grant Engineering & Construction Group, LLC to provide on-call services

Resolution 8/20/13 requesting the Congressional Delegation from New Jersey and the Governor to support legislation providing economic relief for the implementation of USEPA and NJDEP-mandated long-term control plan for combined sewer overflows

Resolution 8/20/14 authorizing the utilization of various vendors for repairs and purchase of pumps and motors through the North Jersey Wastewater Cooperative pricing system

Resolution 8/20/15 authorizing MMREF expenditure for emergency repair of water main break at Virginia Avenue and John F. Kennedy Boulevard by Shauger Property Services

Resolution 8/20/16 – NO RESOLUTION

Resolution 8/20/17 authorizing the Jersey City Municipal Utilities Authority to adopt the 2020 Hudson County, New Jersey Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Resolution 8/20/18 authorizing change order number 2 to Underground Utilities Corp. for Phase 3-4 water main replacement project; JCMUA contract number WMR-2017-38-C

Resolution 8/20/19 authorizing MMREF expenditure for procurement of insertion valves and installation kits from Advanced Valve Technologies

Resolution 8/20/20 PULLED authorizing the award of a contract to Wielkocz & Company, LLC, for professional accounting services

Motioned to approve by Vice Chairwoman Zampella

Seconded by Commissioner Nally

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

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT – The Executive Director reported on the following:

Storms/Flooding – Mr. Cunha discussed the intensity/frequency of recent storms, particularly the storms that took place during mid July, and the effect of these storms on the downtown area of the City. The area of Sixth Street and Grove Street to Brunswick Street as well as the Newport area experience issues with water not flowing naturally to the river due to tide and elevation. He advised of the urgent need for a pump station. An emergency Resolution may be brought before the Board for approval concerning this matter, and Mr. Cunha stressed the importance of moving quickly before there is additional flooding.

Water in Schools – JCMUA continues to work with Jersey City Board of Education on this issue. Currently, Ferris High School and P.S. No. 9 are next in line to receive new water coolers, and lead- free copper service will be brought into the buildings. It is hoped the contractor will be approved shortly and work can begin in the next several weeks. A November completion date is targeted. Hopefully, there will be three lead-free schools by Thanksgiving.

Commissioner Mastria asked the diameter of the 6th. Street pipe.

Per Mr. Cunha, the pipe is 10 feet by 12 feet. A chamber will be added to the end of the pipe, and the project will include installation of a submersible pump and electric panel. Coordination with property owners has been a “challenge,” but they are beginning to cooperate. “This is a very important project.”

Vice Chairwoman Zampella also discussed the importance of the 6th. Street project. Many residents in the area “suffer” as a result of flooding. She discussed residents whose cars were deemed a complete loss by their insurance companies due to flooding during the July storms. The entire area experiences “terrible flooding.”

Mr. Cunha advised there are ongoing projects, in various phases, which include this area.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – No Committee Reports

GENERAL COUNSEL REPORT – No General Counsel Report

ITEMS OF UNFINISHED BUSINESS – No Unfinished Business

ITEMS OF NEW BUSINESS– No New Business

EXECUTIVE SESSION – No Executive Session

Prior to Adjournment, Commissioner Mastria asked for an update on the flagger program.

Mr. Cunha explained the program has been very busy with peak deployment at approximately 100 flaggers. Flaggers are working a good deal of hours, many of which are off hours. He discussed reinforcing the office to keep track of billing and collections. It is anticipated that activity will level off in October, but next year could be even busier. Under consideration for next year is a hybrid program with the Jersey City Police Department.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

Motioned to approve by Commissioner Hartye

Seconded by Commissioner Nally

Unanimously approved by all Commissioners present.

The next Board of Commissioners meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 24, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Rybka

Judy Rybka
Recording Secretary