

**JERSEY CITY MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
JANUARY 23, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER – 5:13 PM

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.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ALSO PRESENT:

Jose R. Cunha, Executive Director
John D. Folk, C.P.A., Director of Finance
Judy Rybka, Recording Secretary
Richard Haytas, PE, Senior Engineer/Infrastructure Maintenance Supervisor
Elmer Andal, Director of Operations
Maria Polimeni, Secretary
LeKendrick Shaw, Project Manager
Krystyna Pawlowska, Administrative Assistant
Rajiv Prakash, Engineering Department
Francis J. Borin, Esquire, DeCotiis, FitzPatrick, Cole & Giblin, LLP
Edward Traina, PE, CME Associates
Gus DeBlasio Maser Consulting
Dennis Davis, Suez Water Environmental Services, Inc.

FLAG SALUTE

PUBLIC COMMENT – No Public Comment

Closed Public Comment Session at 5:15 p.m.

Motioned to approve by Commissioner Mastria

Seconded by Commissioner Nally

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of minutes of the December 30, 2019 Commissioners Meeting

Motioned to approve by Vice Chairwoman Zampella

Seconded by Commissioner Mastria

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

Prior to vote on Resolutions, Chairwoman Hulings requested Commissioners email her prior to the Board meeting with any Resolutions they might want pulled from the agenda and the reason for their request.

Commissioner Mastria requested that he continue to receive hard copy of the agenda/meeting package and that he receive it in time to allow for review prior to the Board meeting. No other Commissioners requested a hard copy.

Per Chairwoman Hulings, the Commissioners receive electronic copy of the agenda/meeting package Tuesday before the meeting, and Commissioner Mastria is to receive his hard copy that day as well. If for any reason the documents might arrive late to Commissioner Mastria, he is to be contacted and arrangements are to be made to get the package to him on time.

RESOLUTIONS – CONSENT AGENDA

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

7
Resolution 1/20/2 authorizing payments of audited claims for sewer operations

Resolution 1/20/3 authorizing transfer of funds and payments of audited claims for water operations

Resolution 1/20/4 authorizing cash disbursements

Resolution 1/20/5 authorizing payments from the capital improvement, project and note funds

Resolution 1/20/6 authorizing amendment to contract with O'Brien & Gere for professional engineering services for the rehabilitation of the lower level outlets at the Boonton Dam

Resolution 1/20/7 authorizing MMREF expenditure for change orders numbers one and two to Suez Water Jersey City, Inc. for repairs to blowoff and air release valves on the aqueduct by J. Fletcher Creamer & Son, Inc.

Resolution 1/20/8 authorizing change order numbers nine and ten for the rehabilitation of the low-level outlets at the Boonton Dam by Montana Construction Corp., Inc.; JCMUA contract number BDLLOR-2018-30-W

Resolution 1/20/9 authorizing the extension of a contract with Genserve, Inc. pursuant to and in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, for the provision of preventative maintenance and repair of emergency generators and associated equipment; JCMUA contract number PMREG-2018-49

Resolution 1/20/10 authorizing MMREF expenditure for replacement of water mains on Bergen Avenue Bridge, Clerk Street and Randolph Avenue crossing New Jersey Transit Hudson-Bergen light rail tracks by J. Fletcher Creamer & Son, Inc.

Resolution 1/20/11 authorizing the award of a fair and open contract pursuant to New Jersey Local Unit Pay-to-Play Law, to Hudson DNA Testing, LLC for the performance of drug testing and CDL physicals

Resolution 1/20/12 authorizing the declaration of an emergency, restoration of homes at 240-244 Clerk Street due to a sewer backup and awarding a contract to Gemini Restoration, Inc.

Resolution 1/20/13 authorizing the award of a contract to Hodulik & Morrison, P.A. for professional accounting services (tabled at December 2019 meeting)

Resolution 1/20/14 authorizing the award of a contract to CME Associates for survey and preliminary design engineering services for the downtown sewer separation and water main transmission project

Resolution 1/20/15 authorizing the award of a contract for the performance of consulting services by Gabel Associates for the Energy Savings Improvement Program

Motioned to approve by Commissioner Mastria

Seconded by Commissioner Nally

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

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

Addition/Change to Services Provided - the State of New Jersey will allow JCMUA (as a municipal utilities authority) to enter into a solid waste collection (trash, recycle, etc.) contract. Review of legalities, cash flow and benefits to JCMUA and Jersey City are underway. Any new contract would replace the current contract which expires April 30, 2020. Potential contracts will require review by the New Jersey Comptroller and possibly by the NJDEP. A meeting will take place at City Hall concerning legalities, benefits, etc. Research regarding collection of solid waste will also be conducted.

Also under review is the procurement of alternative energy sources (Energy Savings Improvement Program) and recommended infrastructure upgrades. Following a study by a consulting company, the use of turbines at the Boonton Dam and potential cost savings will be reviewed/considered.

Personnel – strides are being made regarding personnel. Depending on the position, JCMUA feels it cannot lose an employee without replacing that employee. The Executive Director is working with Engineering, other departments and Suez regarding personnel. A list of recommended personnel improvements will be put together by JCMUA and Suez, and a meeting will be scheduled. JCMUA's training manual is complete and employees are being trained. Signed acknowledgements of training will be collected from employees upon completion of training.

Website – work is underway to improve JCMUA's website to bring it on par with the latest current technology. The goal is to meet or exceed the website technology being used by the water department in Trenton and improve communications between JCMUA and residents of Jersey

City. This project will be coordinated with the Engineering Department to ensure compliance with consent decree requirements and that traffic matters are being addressed.

Commissioner Zampella asked about the possibility of live chat, noting residents are anxious to have their questions answered in a reasonable amount of time.

Per Mr. Cunha, live chat is not under consideration at this time, but there will be a question and answer form. He discussed SeeClickFix and advised the Board will need to sign off on the contract for website service. This matter will be brought before the Board for feedback and will continue to be monitored as it continues to evolve.

Water in Schools – JCMUA met with Jersey City’s Board of Education this week, and discussed P.S. No. 15. JCMUA is close to closing out the project at that location. Water filters have been tested, and less than two parts lead per billion have been reported. Measures to improve water quality in schools will continue, with approximately fifteen (15) more schools needing attention.

Loop Study continues and JCMUA will secure the services of 120WaterAudit, specializing in inventory of local lead lines. Based on permits issued and other information, it is estimated there are approximately 16,000 lead services in the City. Foundation work for funding is in progress. The loop study will help with chemical treatment doses, and lead content continues to drop and is nowhere near the levels found in Newark.

COMMITTEE REPORTS – Chairwoman Hulings reported the Personnel Committee met regarding a new hire to perform inspections. The Committee is in agreement with the new hire decision. LeKendrick Shaw, Project Manager, was introduced and welcomed by all. Chairwoman Hulings further reported the Personnel Committee is in agreement with other personnel recommendations by Mr. Cunha.

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, Chairwoman Hulings advised the next meeting (Annual Reorganization Meeting and Regular Meeting of the Board of Commissioners) will be held February 27, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.
Motioned to approve by Commissioner Mastria
Seconded by Commissioner Nally
Unanimously approved by all Commissioners present.

Respectfully submitted,


Judy Rybka
Recording Secretary