

**MINUTES
EIGHTH UTILITIES DISTRICT
ANNUAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2017 – 7:30 P.M.
DON WILLIS HALL
18 MAIN STREET
MANCHESTER, CT 06042**

The Eighth Utilities District of Manchester, Connecticut held its Annual Meeting on Wednesday, May 24, 2017 at 7:30 p.m. at the Don Willis Hall, 18 Main Street, Manchester, Connecticut.

Mrs. O'Marra called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

Mrs. O'Marra stated that the first order of business was to choose a moderator.

Voted: John Topping, 190 Henry Street, moved to appoint John D. LaBelle, Jr. as moderator.
Seconded by Gerard Napoli, 63 Henry Street.

Voted: Mr. Topping moved that nominations be closed.
Seconded by Mr. Napoli.

Mr. LaBelle was appointed as moderator, and he read the warning.

Voted: Mr. Topping moved the approval of the report of the President as included in the Annual Report package.
Seconded by Albert Gionet, 630 North Main Street.

Voted: Mary O'Marra, 20 Schaller Road, moved the approval of the report of the Treasurer as included in the Annual Report package.
Seconded by Deberah Bowen, 183E Oakland Street

Voted: Mr. Topping moved the approval of the report of the Tax Collector as included in the Annual Meeting package.
Seconded by Karen Gionet, 630 North Main Street.

Voted: Mrs. Bowen moved the approval of the report of the Manchester Fire Department as included in the Annual Report package.
Seconded by Mr. Topping.

Voted: Mr. Topping moved the approval of the report of the Fire Marshal as included in the Annual Report package.
Seconded by Regina Cavagnaro, 88 Washington Street.

Voted: Mrs. Cavagnaro moved the approval of the report of the Public Works Department as included in the Annual Report package.
Seconded by Mr. Gionet.

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Mr. LaBelle asked if there were 15 registered voters checked in which would constitute a quorum. He was advised that 33 registered voters had checked in.

Voted: Mr. Topping nominated Mary O'Marra for the position of President.
Seconded by Mrs. Cavagnaro.

Voted: Mr. Tyler moved that nominations be closed.
Seconded by Mrs. Bowen.

There were 18 ballots handed out and unanimously cast for Mrs. O'Marra. Ten votes were needed to elect.

Mr. LaBelle declared Mrs. O'Marra President for the ensuing year.

Voted: Mrs. O'Marra nominated Gerard Napoli for the position of Director.
Seconded by Mrs. Bowen.

Voted: Mr. Topping moved that nominations be closed.
Seconded by Mr. Gionet.

There were 16 ballots distributed and unanimously cast for Mr. Napoli. Ten votes were needed to elect.

Mr. LaBelle declared Mr. Napoli Director for the ensuing three-year term.

Voted: Mrs. O'Marra nominated John Topping for the position of Director.
Seconded by Mrs. Bowen.

Voted: Mr. Tyler moved that nominations be closed.
Seconded by Mrs. Cavagnaro.

There were 20 ballots distributed and unanimously cast for Mr. Topping. Twelve votes were needed to elect.

Mr. LaBelle declared Mr. Topping Director for the ensuing three-year term.

Voted: Mr. Topping nominated Albert Gionet for the position of Tax Collector.
Seconded by Dudley Morrell, 646 North Main Street.

Voted: Mr. Tyler moved that nominations be closed.
Seconded by Mrs. Gionet.

There were 18 ballots distributed and unanimously cast for Mr. Gionet. Ten votes were needed to elect.

Mr. LaBelle declared Mr. Gionet Tax Collector for the ensuing year.

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Voted: Mrs. O'Marra nominated Regina Cavagnaro for the position of Treasurer.
Seconded by Mr. Napoli.

Voted: Mr. Napoli moved that nominations be closed.
Seconded by Mrs. Bowen.

There were 19 ballots distributed and unanimously cast for Mrs. Cavagnaro. Ten votes were needed to elect.

Mr. LaBelle declared Mrs. Cavagnaro Treasurer for the ensuing year.

Voted: Mrs. Bowen nominated Frances McCarter for the position of District Clerk.
Seconded by Mrs. Cavagnaro.

Voted: Mr. Napoli moved that the nominations be closed.
Seconded by Mr. Topping.

There were 19 ballots distributed and unanimously cast for Mrs. McCarter. Ten votes were needed to elect.

Mr. LaBelle declared Mrs. McCarter District Clerk for the ensuing year.

Voted: Mrs. Cavagnaro moved the approval of the proposed budget as included in the Annual Report package.
Seconded by Mrs. O'Marra.

Mrs. O'Marra explained to the members of the electorate that it was difficult to plan a budget again this year. The state legislature has still not determined whether the mill rate cap on motor vehicles will be lowered to 32 mills or if it will remain at 37 mills. If the cap is lowered, the Eighth District will not be able to collect motor vehicle taxes this year. If it remains at 37 mills we can collect motor vehicle taxes at a 2.15 mill rate for full service and 1.08 for half rate.

Because we strive to provide the same level of services to the citizens of the Eighth Utilities District, the 2017-2018 budget was designed to fund the operational accounts on July 1st and to fund the reserve accounts if and/or when we get the promised funds from the state or we are allowed to collect motor vehicle taxes. The District has always made it a priority to fund the reserve accounts so that we did not have to bond our capital purchases. Because of this we have rarely had any long-term debt. We are going to have to come up with new ways to budget for the reserve accounts in future years.

Every year the auditor questions the plans for the Major Improvement Reserve. This account can be used by any department. It is our intent to make needed improvements to 32 Main Street with the funds this year. The building has to be repointed, and the repairs the remainder of the roof and flashing repairs have to be completed. Mrs. O'Marra stated that if any other

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major improvements that are not planned for in the department budget arise during the year, the funds from the Major Improvements Reserve will be used.

Voted: Mrs. Bowen moved that a tax of **FOUR AND THIRTY ONE-HUNDREDTHS (4.30) MILLS** on REAL PROPERTY AND PERSONAL PROPERTY (other than motor vehicles) taxable in this District the same is hereby levied on the assessment list of the Town of Manchester last made and completed for the purpose of paying the current bills of the District for the ensuing year and/or to pay other existing obligations of the District, said tax to be due and payable on the first day of July, 2017, provided that any taxpayer who is furnished only sewer facilities and no fire protection is furnished only one-half of the mill rate for tax assessment shall be levied. If only fire protection is furnished to any taxpayer and no sewer facilities and services are furnished, one-half only of the mill rate for tax assessment shall be levied. The assessment list shall be of the Grand List of the Town of Manchester for October 1, 2016 with no reduction for any phase-in of the Grand List assessment adopted by the Town of Manchester. No exemption for taxable property shall be allowed based on any tax abatement agreement between the Town of Manchester and any property owner to which the Eighth Utilities District is not a party.
Seconded by Mrs. Cavagnaro.

Mr. LaBelle explained that as indicated by Mrs. O'Marra in her commentary on the budget the District may not be legally able to levy the 4.30 mill rate on motor vehicles, and that there may be a different mill rate applicable to motor vehicles. It could be either of the amounts indicated by Mrs. O'Marra or a different amount. The amount of that mill rate will not be determined until the legislature changes or leaves in place the maximum mill rate which can be charged on motor vehicles.

Voted: Mr. Napoli moved the authorization for the officers to designate the following entities as official Depositories for the funds of the District: Bank of America, N.A., Berkshire Bank, Citibank, National Association, State of Connecticut Short Term Investment Fund, Farmington Bank, Jewett City Savings Bank, JP Morgan Chase Bank, National Association, Key Bank, Liberty Bank, United Bank, People's United Bank, Savings Institute Bank and Trust Company, Simsbury Bank & Trust Company, Santander Bank, Stafford Savings Bank, TD Bank, N.A., Webster Bank, National Association, Wells Fargo Bank, NA, Windsor Federal Savings and Loan Association.
Seconded by Mr. Cavagnaro.

Voted: Mrs. Cavagnaro moved that the voters authorize its officers to borrow sufficient funds to meet the necessary obligations of the District and give the District's note, notes or other obligation or obligations therefore, when in their opinion, it is in the interest of the District to do so, not to exceed \$100,000.
Seconded Mrs. Bowen.

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Voted: Mr. Napoli moved to adjourn.
Seconded by Mr. Tyler.

There being no other business the meeting adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Note: All votes were unanimous unless otherwise noted.

BY FRANCES McCARTER
CLERK
EIGHTH UTILITIES DISTRICT