# WARREN COUNTY (PEQUEST RIVER) MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

### MINUTES September 17, 2024

Chairwoman Napolitani called the regular meeting of the Warren County (Pequest River) Municipal Utilities Authority to order at 6:57 p.m. The meeting was held at the Authority's Administration building located at 199 Foul Rift Road, Belvidere, New Jersey.

Executive Director Inscho led a tour of the Belvidere plant showing the improvements the Operators have made to the plant, the location of the new garage to be erected before the end of this year, and the need for the thickener and upgrade of the non-potable water system. The Operators were also in attendance.

#### Roll Call:

Laurel Napolitani, Chairwoman Joseph Roth, Vice Chairperson Angelo Accetturo, Treasurer Gerald Norton, Secretary Anne Marie Skoog

Also, in attendance: Kim Francisco, Authority CFO; Brian Tipton, Esq., Authority Legal Counsel; John Inscho, Executive Director; Clifford Wilkinson, P.E., Authority Engineer; Stephen Donati, P.E., Authority Engineer; and Susan Wright, Administrative Assistant.

Chairwoman Napolitani led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and then read the Introductory Statement.

#### **MINUTES**

Ms. Skoog moved, and Mr. Norton seconded to approve the minutes of the August 20, 2024 regular meeting. All in favor, except one abstention by Mr. Accetturo, motion carried.

#### CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Norton recapped the correspondence listed below:

- ASI Environmental Freshwater Wetlands Application Checklist for property located at 501-503 Brass Castle Road, Block 14, Lot 35, in the Township White, County of Warren for a general permit authorization to repair the malfunctioning septic system.
- Legal Notice by Erica Edwards, Esquire on behalf of Michael Baskinger and Candice Green, requesting a variance relief from the requirements of the Township of White Code Section 160-92D(1) to permit the three accessory structures to remain on the property known as 11

Ernella Drive, in the Township of White, County of Warren and designated as Block 16, Lot 24.09 on the Township of White Tax Map.

3. Notice of a hearing before the Belvidere Planning Board in the Town of Belvidere, County of Warren, for a minor site plan to permit the renovation of the second-floor unit from a single-family unit to two, one-bedroom apartments on the premises located at 304 Front Street, and designated as Block 16, Lot 2 on the Town of Belvidere Tax Map.

#### **ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Donati touched on the Engineer report that was submitted to the Board in their agenda packets.

Mr. Donati discussed combining the two capital projects together (Sludge Thickener and Non-Potable Water System Upgrades at the Belvidere plant) and the benefits thereof and asked if there were any questions or concerns in connection with the projects. There was a brief discussion among the Commissioners and Engineers. It was advised by Mr. Wilkinson that they should go out to bid in October, 2024.

#### CFO'S REPORT

Mr. Francisco summarized the monthly financial report.

Mr. Francisco provided the Commissioners with the FY2025 Budget Highlights report, which was discussed with the Finance Committee, along with Chairwoman Napolitani, Ms. Skoog and Mr. Inscho, prior to this meeting.

Mr. Francisco proposed a 5% service fee increase. The increase would allow the Authority not to draw from reserves to satisfy operating expenses.

The Board had a discussion regarding the budget report, salaries, pensions, health insurance, maintenance, and the capital improvements.

Mr. Francisco and the Engineers discussed costs for the capital projects proposed for 2025. It is questionable whether the Authority can comfortably cover funds to satisfy the projects or must they be financed. Mr. Donati will provide the Authority with costs as closely as he can compute so a decision on the financing can be made.

The Board agreed to move forward with the FY2025 Budget as presented by Mr. Francisco.

#### GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

Mr. Tipton had nothing to report.

Chairwoman Napolitani inquired about his findings regarding the possibility of a document outlining the working relationship between the Authority and its service areas. Mr. Tipton advised that he believes that such a document would not benefit our Authority. He suggested continuing the path we are going on, such as scheduling Special Meetings in the future and having the Authority Commissioners report at each meeting any new developments that would impact our Authority.

#### **FINANCE**

Mr. Roth moved that Resolution #24-25 (Certificate No. 457: \$51,788.45) be approved to pay all bills from the Operating Fund, as presented. Mr. Accetturo seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Mr. Roth moved that Resolution #24-26 (Certificate No. 461: \$34,236.63) be approved to pay all bills from the Capital Improvements Fund as presented. Ms. Skoog seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Mr. Inscho advised that the personnel policy should be finalized by the end of the year.

#### SERVICE AREA UPDATES

**Belvidere:** Chairwoman Napolitani advised that there was a Planning Board meeting and there was nothing right now that will affect this Authority.

**Oxford:** Mr. Norton advised that the application for the townhouse development will most likely be presented at their October meeting, which would be 122 townhouses and two apartment buildings.

White Twp.: Ms. Skoog advised that the Township deemed the A&P Plaza as an area in need of redevelopment. But it is in the early stages of concept plans.

#### **AUTHORITY CHAIRWOMAN**

Chairwoman Napolitani had nothing to report.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

As there was no more business to come before the Authority, Ms. Skoog moved for the meeting to be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Susan Wright
Susan Wright

Administrative Assistant

#### **RESOLUTION:**

# EXPENDITURES FROM THE OPERATING FUND DURING THE MONTHS OF AUGUST & SEPTEMBER, 2024

I HEREBY CERTIFY, that the bills listed on the attached Resolution of September 17 2024, regarding payment of bills from the Operating Fund were for the operating expenses and were in accordance with the Authority's 2024 budget.

Laurel Napolitani Laurel Napolitani, Chairwoman

Gerald Norton, Secretary

Certificate No. OP 457

Dated: September 17, 2024

Moved by: Mr. Roth

Seconded by: Mr. Accetturo

Yes: \_5\_

No: <u>0</u>

Abstain: <u>0</u>

Absent: \_0\_

#### APPROVAL OF BILLS TO BE PAID FROM THE OPERATING FUND

Meeting: September 17, 2024

**BE IT RESOLVED,** that the following bills are approved by the Authority for payment from the Operating Fund in accordance with the Authority's Bond Resolution:

Vendor Invoices: Date:

Check #22239-22247: 08/27/24 \$1,598.73 Check #22250-22283: 09/16/24 \$50,189.72

*Total:* \$51,788.45

PENTAMATION DATE: 08/27/2024 TIME: 11:11:33 FUND - MUA01 - MUN UTILITY AUTH GEN FUND

MUNICIPAL UTILITY AUTHORITY CHECK REGISTER

PAGE NUMBER: 1
VENCHK11
ACCOUNTING PERIOD: 8/24

CHECK NUMBER CASH ACCT	DATE IS		ADAE NETWORK COLLITIONS II	ACCT 5029	DESCRIPTION		AMOUNT
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	08/27/24	120	BERGER, RUSSELL	5042	R.BERGER C-1 LICENSE		20.00
苦	08/27/24 08/27/24 08/27/24 CHECK	239 239 239	BRIGHTSPEED BRIGHTSPEED BRIGHTSPEED	5076 5076 5076	309373198 309801924 310260175		36.86 9.95 19.90 66.71
10101 10101 TOTAL CH	08/27/24 08/27/24 CHECK	273 273	COMCAST	5076 5076	8499052660035827 8499052660035830		49.30 156.85 206.15
	08/27/24	273	COMCAST	2076	8499052650021506		303.49
	08/27/24	935	JCP&L	5071	FLOW METER		4.69
	08/27/24	840	RICOH USA, INC.	5026	COPIER LEASE		340.29
	08/27/24	2140	VERIZON WIRELESS	2076	MOBILE PHONES & OCC		156.13
	08/27/24	2145	VOIP BILLING SERVICES	5076	BELV PHONE SYSTEM		294.42
						,,,	1,598.73
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PENTAMATION DATE: 09/11/2024 TIME: 10:59:38

MUNICIPAL UTILITY AUTHORITY CHECK REGISTER

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		ACCT	5011	5025 5025 5025	5029	5042	5076 5076 5076	5025 5025	5028	5545 5545 5545	5030	5026	5024	5027	5071 5071 5071 5071 5071 5071	5024	5521	5024	5011	5072	5021
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10:59:38	- MUA01	NUMBER CASH ACCT	10101	10101 10101 10101 TOTAL	10101	10101	10101 10101 10101 TOTAL	10101 10101 TOTAL	10101	10101 10101 10101 TOTAL	10101	10101	10101	10101	10101 10101 10101 10101 10101 10101 10101	10101	10101	10101	10101	10101	10101
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PENTAMATION DATE: 09/11/2024 TIME: 10:59:38

MUNICIPAL UTILITY AUTHORITY CHECK REGISTER

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59:38	- MUA01	CHECK NUMBER CASH ACCT	10101	10101	10101	10101	10101	10101 10101 10101 10101 10101 10101 10101 10101 10101	10101	10101 10101 10101 10101 10101 10101 10101	10101	10101	10101	10101	10101	10101	10101	FUND	_ REPORT
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#### **RESOLUTION:**

# EXPENDITURES FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS FUND FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 2024

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the bills listed for CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS are in accordance with the Authority's budget.

Laurel Napolitanie
Laurel Napolitani, Chairwoman

Gerald Norton, Secretary

Certificate No. CI 461

Dated: September 17, 2024

Moved by: Mr. Roth

Seconded by: Ms. Skoog

Yes \_\_5\_\_

No <u>0</u>

Abstain \_\_0\_

Absent \_\_0\_

### CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BILLS LIST

Dated: September 17, 2024

B&K Builders, LLC – Belvidere Garage:	\$ 5,000.00
CP Engineers – Sludge Thickener:	\$ 17,038.85
CP Engineers – Scum Pipe Improvements:	\$ 3,087.00
Frank Rymon & Sons, Inc. – New Kawasaki Mower:	\$ 9,110.78
Total	\$ 34,236.63

PENTAMATION DATE: 08/27/2024 TIME: 11:17:46

MUNICIPAL UTILITY AUTHORITY CHECK REGISTER

PAGE NUMBER: 1 VENCHK11 ACCOUNTING PERIOD: 8/24

5,000.00 -----DESCRIPTION-----BELV GARAGE CONSTRUCTION 19001 ACCT B&K BUILDERS, LLC ---VENDOR----FUND - MUA01 - MUN UTILITY AUTH GEN FUND DATE ISSUED ----86 08/28/24 CHECK NUMBER CASH ACCT 10101 TOTAL REPORT TOTAL FUND 22248

AMOUNT 5,000.00 5,000.00

PENTAMATION DATE: 09/11/2024 TIME: 11:03:43

PAGE NUMBER: 1 VENCHK11 ACCOUNTING PERIOD: 9/24

MUNICIPAL UTILITY AUTHORITY CHECK REGISTER FUND - MUA01 - MUN UTILITY AUTH GEN FUND

3,087.00 17,038.85 20,125.85 AMOUNT 206.021 SCUM PIPE IMPROV 206.022 SLUDGE THICKENER -----DESCRIPTION-----GASKET KAWASAKI MOWER 19002 19002 19002 19002 ACCT FRANK RYMON & SONS INC. FRANK RYMON & SONS INC. CP ENGINEERS NJ, LLC CP ENGINEERS NJ, LLC --VENDOR----579 579 293 DATE ISSUED 10101 09/17/24 10101 09/17/24 TOTAL CHECK 10101 09/17/24 10101 09/17/24 TOTAL CHECK CHECK NUMBER CASH ACCT 22284 22284 22285 22285

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29,236.63

TOTAL REPORT

TOTAL FUND