

**Washington Township Municipal Authority
Business Meeting Agenda
October 5, 2021**

1. Business from the Floor
2. Agenda
3. Minutes of September 21, 2021
4. Draft 2021-2022 Operating Budget
5. Discussion re: temporary un-metered Water connections
6. Miscellaneous
7. Adjourn

Washington Township Municipal Authority
Business Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2021

Chairman D. McCarney opened the Meeting in the Public Meeting Room at 7:15 PM. Others present in person were Board members D. Parks, A. Geesaman, S. McCleaf, and D. McLaughlin, as well as Manager S. McFarland.

The Manager asked that an item be added to the agenda following #5 for the Dedication of Utilities for Farm Springs Estates.

Agenda

The Agenda was approved as amended on a D. Parks, A. Geesaman motion (5-0).

Minutes of September 21, 2021

The Board reviewed and approved the Minutes of the September 21, 2021 meeting on an S. McCleaf, D. McLaughlin motion (5-0).

Draft 2021-2022 Operating Budget

The Manager presented a draft of the Operating Budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. The Manger acknowledged that the Board had not had ample time to review it since he sent it out recently. He asked them to spend some time in the next two weeks and ask him or the Director of Business and Finance any questions they may have. He explained that he would like to have another review and adopt it at the next meeting on October 19th, prior to the November 1st fiscal year start date.

He briefly reviewed the draft and noted that there no currently projected increase in the Water rates, but made note the expected costs for the proposed upcoming Water project. The Board discussed the fact that Water rates were increased last year.

He noted that the current budget for the Wastewater department, with no increase in rates, did not meet the Board's goal of budgeting a five percent surplus to be used for Capital projects. The Board briefly reviewed a spreadsheet the Finance Director had prepared showing the impact on the budget of various increases and noted that she would be at the next meeting.

The Board inquired whether the increases in costs, including health insurance, were in line with expectations and the Manager noted a couple of specific items. The also discussed the fact that union negotiations will take place towards the end of the 2022 year. They agreed to discuss it at the next meeting, but no action was required at this meeting.

Discussion re: temporary un-metered Water connections

The Manager explained that the Authority's current Resolution regarding Water rates and rules prohibits un-metered Water connections. He explained that, due to the current supply chain shortages, the WTMA has not been able to obtain new water meters. He noted that although an order for meters was placed several months ago, delivery is not currently expected for another month or two, and its inventory is getting extremely low. He projected that within the month the WTMA would not have any meters remaining.

In an effort to continue to allow building and construction, he proposed the idea of allowing temporary connections, using a 'jumper' that would provide a straight pipe where the meter would be placed. He proposed that for those connections, a daily water rate would be charged. He presented a review that Finance Director had done of the most recent 15 connections to the Authority's system, which spanned a three month period, and their first, full quarter of water use. She determined the average new customer used 21,200 gallons in their first full use, which would work out to a daily charge of \$1.41 under the current billing rates. The Board readily agreed the charge was reasonable for the total water a household uses on a daily basis.

D. McCarney asked some questions about the supply issues for the meters, and the board discussed other impacts supply chain issues are having, or may have for the Authority.

He explained that the affected customers would be prioritized for meter installation once supply is available, noting the WTMA has a current order for 200 meters with LB Water. He will draft a Resolution for presentation at the next meeting. The Board acknowledged there was not another viable, reasonable alternative, and agreed, approving the Manager to move forward.

Dedication of Utilities – Farm Springs Estates / Gulf Drive South

The Manager presented a Dedication of Utilities for a section of Gulf Drive South in the Farm Springs Estates. He noted that in addition to the Dedication, all the required as-built drawings were received and the maintenance bonding was in place, noting that it is a small section of a larger piece of the subdivision that has already been constructed and is currently in place.

The Board discussed the location and had a discussion about the rapid growth in the Township and discussed going as a group to look at the development that has taken place over the last several years. The Board accepted the Deed of Dedication on an S. McCleaf, A. Geesaman motion (5-0)

Miscellaneous

No one had any items for Miscellaneous.

Adjourn

The Board adjourned at 7:37 PM on an S. McCleaf. D. Parks motion (5-0).

Sean McFarland, Manager, respectfully prepared these Minutes, and submitted them on this 19th day of October, 2021.


S. McCleaf, Secretary/Treasurer