

**Meeting of January 20, 2011**  
**Maintenance**

A meeting of the Joint Meeting was held on the above date at the Maplewood Municipal Building at 4:00 p.m. Chairperson Leventhal in the Chair.

The Executive Director read the following statement:

Pursuant to Section #5, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, notice of this meeting has been provided to the public by posting the notice of the meeting of the Joint Meeting on the bulletin board of the Maplewood Municipal Building; by mailing the notice of the meeting to the Star Ledger, The Home News Tribune and to the offices of the Municipal Clerks of the 11 member municipalities of the Joint Meeting and to the City Clerk of the City of Elizabeth and to the County Clerks' Offices of Essex and Union, all on December 17, 2010.

On roll call the following members were present: Messrs. Green, Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango.

Counsel Webster stated that although a letter has not been received from Roselle Park we are treating their representative as a hold over with all rights accorded to Board members

Also in attendance were Messrs. McGhee, Bonaccorso, Sforza, Barry, Ms. Martinson and Rufolo of Joint Meeting; E. Webster and J. Nobel Esq. of Trenk, DiPasquale et al., H. Johnsen of CME Associates and Mayor J. Accardi of Roselle Park.

The Chairperson led the pledge of allegiance.

Since this is the reorganization meeting, Counsel Webster stated that nominations for the offices of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson/Secretary and Treasurer would be in order.

Mr. Brewer nominated Mrs. Leventhal for the office of Chairperson which nomination was seconded by Mr. Florio .

Counsel asked if there were any further nominations. There being none, on motion by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mr. Brewer, the nomination for Chairperson was closed. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Green, Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none.

There being only one (1) nominee, on roll call; ayes; Messrs. Green, Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none; Mrs. Leventhal was elected Chairperson. (R-001)

Counsel stated that nominations were now in order for the position of Vice-Chairperson/Secretary.

Mrs. Leventhal nominated Mr. Brewer for the office of Vice-Chairperson/Secretary which nomination was seconded by Mr. Madden.

Counsel asked if there were any further nominations. There being none, on motion by Mrs. Leventhal, seconded by Mr. Rice, the nomination for Vice-Chairperson/Secretary was closed. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Green, Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none.

There being only one (1) nominee, on roll call; ayes, Messrs. Green, Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none; Mr. Brewer was elected Vice-Chairperson/Secretary. (R-002)

Counsel stated that nominations were now in order for the position of Treasurer.

Mr. Brewer nominated Mr. McDermott for the position of Treasurer which nomination was seconded by Mr. Rice.

Counsel asked if there were any further nominations. There being none, on motion by Mr. Brewer, seconded by Mrs. Leventhal, the nomination for Treasurer was closed. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Green, Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none.

There being only one (1) nominee, on roll call; ayes, Messrs. Green, Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none; Mr. McDermott was elected Treasurer. (R-003)

On motion by Mr. Brewer, seconded by Mr. Rice, Resolution 001, electing Mrs. Leventhal as Chairperson; Resolution 002, electing Mr. Brewer as Vice-Chairperson/Secretary and Resolution 003, electing Mr. McDermott as Treasurer, effective immediately were adopted. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Green, Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none.

The Board congratulated Mrs. Leventhal and Messrs. Brewer and McDermott on their election as officers of the Joint Meeting.

The new officers thanked the Board for their support.

On motion by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mr. Brewer, Resolution 004, designating publications as The Star Ledger, Home News Tribune, El Nuevo Coqui and City News Publications, Resolution 005, designating Official Financial Institutions and Resolution 006, designating Bank Signatories were adopted. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Green, Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none.

On motion by Mr. Rice, seconded by Mr. Levison, the minutes of the last meeting were approved as printed. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Green, Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none.

The **Treasurer's Report** having been mailed to the Board members, on motion by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mr. Florio, was received and ordered printed. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Green, Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none.

The following verbal report was given:

**Personnel & Procurement Committee:** Mr. Brewer stated that the Committee had met, discussed and recommends authorization of the following: General Counsel (R-007); Labor and Employment Counsel/Special Counsel for Pretreatment (R-008); General Engineering Services (R-009); Auditing Services (R-010); Public Relations Services (R-011); Site and Entrance/Emergency Access Road Improvements Construction Administration-Birdsall Services Group (R-012); Purchase Order in Excess of \$17,500.00 for Certified Laboratory Services (R-013); RFQ's for Administrative and Accounting Services (R-014), awarding bid for Site and Entrance/Emergency Access Road Improvements to Hutton Construction, LLC (R-015) and the purchase from Metro Valve & Actuation for furnishing Varec Brand Flame Arrestor Parts (R-018).

On motion by Mr. Madden, seconded by Mr. McDermott, Resolution 007, reappointing the Law Firm of Trenk DiPasquale, et al. as General Counsel was adopted. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none; abstaining, Mr. Green.

On motion by Mr. Rice, seconded by Ms. Jones, Resolution 008, reappointing the Law Firm of Hunt, Hamlin & Ridley to serve as Labor & Employment Counsel/Special Counsel for Pretreatment was adopted. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none; abstaining, Mr. Green.

On motion by Mr. Madden, seconded by Mr. McDermott, Resolution 009, Reappointing CME Associates for Engineering Services was adopted. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none; abstaining, Mr. Green.

On motion by Mr. Madden, seconded by Ms. Jones, Resolution 010, Reappointing the Firm of Suplee, Clooney & Company for Auditing Services to perform the 2011 Audit was adopted. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none; abstaining, Mr. Green.

On motion by Mr. Rice, seconded by Mr. Madden, Resolution 011, Renewal of a Contract with Zinn Graves & Field Inc. for Public Relations Services was adopted. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none; abstaining, Mr. Green.

On motion by Mr. Madden, seconded by Mr. McDermott, Resolution 012, awarding a contract to Birdsall Services Group for Site and Entrance/Emergency Access Road Improvement Construction Administration Professional Engineering Services was adopted. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none; abstaining, Mr. Green.

On motion by Mr. Madden, seconded by Ms. Jones, Resolution 013, awarding a contract to APL-Aqua Pro Tech Labs for providing Certified Laboratory Services for 2011 was adopted. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none; abstaining, Mr. Green.

On motion by Mr. McDermott, seconded by Mr. Madden, Resolution 014, approving the Qualifications for Various Professional Services (Auditing Services) was adopted. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none; abstaining, Mr. Green.

On motion by Mr. Rice, seconded by Ms. Jones, Resolution 015, awarding a contract to Hutton Construction, LLC for Site and Entrance/Emergency Access Road Improvements was adopted. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none; abstaining, Mr. Green.

On motion by Mr. Madden, seconded by Mr. Brewer, Resolution 018, authorizing a Purchase Order to Metro Valve & Actuation for Furnishing Varec Brand Flame Arrestor Parts was adopted. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none; abstaining, Mr. Green.

On motion by Mr. Florio, seconded by Mr. Miranda, the **Treatment Plant Report and Industrial Pretreatment Report** having been mailed to the Board members were received and ordered printed. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Green, Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none.

On motion by Mr. Florio, seconded by Mr. Brewer, **Counsel and the Engineer's Reports** having been mailed to the Board members were received and ordered printed. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Green, Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none.

The Correspondence will be printed.

The Chairperson asked if there was anyone wishing to address the Board on any Joint Meeting matter with a five-minute limit. Hearing no one the Public Session was declared closed.

On motion by Mr. Levison, seconded by Mr. Madden, Resolution 016, Payment of Bills was adopted. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Green, Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none.

The Executive Director read Resolution 017, appreciation to Ms. Alicia Holman, which on motion by Mr. Brewer, seconded by Mr. Miranda, was adopted and ordered printed. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Green, Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none.

**New business** – the Executive Director stated that he is sure the members are aware of the articles that have been in the newspaper recently about a treatment facility (PVSC). Therefore, to alleviate and hopefully answer any concerns the Board may have about Joint Meeting, a comparison sheet was distributed to the members.

In regard to the issues in the articles such as high salaries, wasteful spending, improper awarding of contracts and nepotism and patronage hiring Counsel Webster explained that for the past two (2) years the Governor has stated that there should be no employee working in a State Agency or Public Entity that earns more than the Governor. The Governor took particular exception to the Passaic Valley Sewerage Commissioners (PVSC) Executive Director earning a salary of \$313,000.00. Joint Meeting has seven (7) employees earning over \$100,000.00 but below \$175,000.00 which is the Governor's figure (the Executive Director, Deputy Executive Director/Chief Engineer, Superintendent, Senior Project Manager, Asst. Superintendent Collection System, Chemical Engineer and the IPP Coordinator). All pay raises, for union and non-union employees, come before the Board for approval; "wasteful spending": PVSC spent approximately \$182,000.00 on lobbyists which Joint Meeting does not have; improper award of contracts, Joint Meeting's contracts are RFQ'd or RFP'd, fair and open. We comply with the "Pay to Play" regulations and because of our business, in some part, everything we do benefits one and all of the municipalities within Joint Meeting. Nepotism and patronage hiring: the Commissioners kept a scorecard and tracked jobs that they could give out. Joint Meeting has no such scorecard or process. The Attorney General commenced an investigation into large pay raises, employee thefts, personal use of cars and cell phones and tuition reimbursement for courses that have never been taken. A bill has been introduced in the Legislature this week to make PVSC and North Jersey District Water Supply Commission subject to Executive veto powers. It has not been suggested that Joint Meeting be part of that process.

The Chairperson stated that she believes one (1) of the issues with PVSC was conferences and asked if Joint Meeting has a policy.

Counsel Webster stated that although Joint Meeting has gone to conferences there is no policy for the Board.

The Executive Director stated that Joint Meeting encourages employees to attend conferences that relate to their field. However, anyone interested in attending a conference has to submit a request prior to that has to be approved and signed by the Superintendent, Executive Director and Human Resource Director.

The Executive Director further stated that with regard to a policy, this will be reported on at the February meeting.

Counsel Webster stated that when looking at the conflict issues there is no Board member who has relatives working at Joint Meeting.

In answer to a question as to how the municipalities bill for sewer charges, the Superintendent stated that he will prepare a list of the billing methods and charges from the municipalities.

There being no further business on motion by Mr. Levison, seconded by Mr. Brewer, the meeting then adjourned to meet again on Thursday, February 17, 2011, at the Maplewood Municipal Building at 4:00 p.m. unless called earlier by the Chair. On roll call; ayes, Messrs. Green, Brewer, McDermott, Rice, Miranda, Levison, Madden, Florio, Ms. Jones, Leventhal and Spango; nays, none.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Rufolo  
Assistant Secretary