



Detroit Water and Sewerage Department Meeting Minutes - Final Board of Water Commissioners

735 Randolph
Detroit, Michigan 48226
(313) 224-4704 Office
www.dwsd.legistar.com

Wednesday, June 20, 2018

6:00 PM

Jefferson Avenue Presbyterian Church
8625 East Jefferson Avenue
Detroit, MI 48214

Location and Time Change - DWSD Public Hearing-Schedule of Rates and BOWC Regular Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Blackmon called the Public Hearing to order at 6:05 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: 4 - Commissioner Linda Forte, Commissioner Lane Coleman, Commissioner Mary Blackmon and Commissioner John Henry Davis

Excused: 2 - Commissioner Jane Garcia and Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Michael Einheuser

ALSO PRESENT: Elder Howard Riley welcomed the Board of Water Commissioners and the community to the meeting.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice Chair Blackmon requested approval of the agenda as amended.

The following items were added: 18-0123-revised copy; 18-0139; 18-0140; 18-0141; and 18-0142

A motion was made by Commissioner John Henry Davis, seconded by Commissioner Lane Coleman that the agenda be approved as amended. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

4. PUBLIC HEARING

Vice Chair Blackmon opened the public hearing at 6:07 p.m.

Commissioner Kinloch joined the hearing at 6:23 p.m.

Commissioner Garcia joined the hearing at 6:27 p.m.

[18-0143](#)

DWSD Preliminary Rate Review FY2019

Sponsors: Naughton

Attachments: [DWSD Preliminary Rates Review for BOWC - FY 2019 6.20.18_v2](#)

This Communication or Report was received and filed.

5. PUBLIC HEARING and REGULAR MEETING COMMENTS (2 minutes per speaker)

Vice Chair Blackmon stated that staff was available to address the concerns of the citizens and those who submitted comments in writing would be addressed in writing.

1. Ronnie Mixon of 10204 Traverse asked why the owner of a property is responsible for the water bill when they are absent from the home and the property has been invaded by squatters.
2. Richard Tyson, Bishop of Cathedral of Hope Church, asked why the property is being charged for water when the service was interrupted back in 2014.
3. Janet Ware of 531 S. Eastlawn St. asked how is the impervious rate calculated and why is it being implemented.
4. Shirlene Burns of 16570 Washburn asked why are constituents unable to navigate the DWSD website to retrieve information needed.
5. William Davis of 8550 Appoline St. asked what steps has the department taken to employ more minority workers, and how will the department address the massive number of leaks in the system.
6. Mary Ellen Howard of 1099 Van Dyke # 304 asked for adoption of a water affordability plan for low income households.
7. Diane King of 17601 Kentucky asked why Detroiters are paying more for water than the suburban communities.
8. Jennifer Fassbender on behalf of the Peoples Water Board Coalition spoke about the massive toxic waste and opposed expansion of US Ecology
9. Pam Pfeiffer of the Peoples Water Board Coalition came to express her opposition on the expansion of US Ecology.
10. Russ Bellant of 19619 Helen was concern about water running in a home for six weeks. He stated that the Seven Mile/Van Dyke Association will hold a forum on June 28 at 7 p.m. about drainage fees, and asked for representative from the department to participant in the discussion.
11. Tarnetta Carter 3494 Hurlbut St. asked why the department allows water to continue running at abandoned homes.
12. Dorothy Wallingford 3172 E. Lafayette stated that her drainage charge concern was addressed by the customer care division.
13. Debra A. Wooten of 1378 Village Dr had several concerns: how drainage fees are calculated; any communication should be rolled out to constituents; and water bill credits should be refunded.

14. Jackie Garrett representative for Council President Brenda Jones provided handouts for upcoming community events.
15. Tijuana Morris had several concerns: why are Detroiters the only city paying drainage fees; blocked drains by city trees; how much money will DWSD generate from city revenue through the Dan Gilbert project plan; and why are water bills being charged to occupants.
16. Beverly Brown asked why a social security number is needed to initiate a water bill account.
17. Joanne German of 6500 Piedmont asked how a wooden deck is considered impervious.
18. Margaret Ehiemere of 16585 Muirland had reservations about paying for the increase sewer disposal charge.
19. Demeeco Williams stated that the drainage fees are unaffordable. He is advocating for Detroiters and suggested boycotting this fee.
20. Sylvia Orduno of 28 E. Adams St. expressed opposition to the drainage fee.
21. Vassilis Jacobs of the West Village Association asked the department to help implement a green infrastructure system.
22. Lezley McCall of 19141 Warrington asked if drainage fees were paid on vacant, demolished, or foreclosed properties.
23. Shayne Sisco of 7336 Rockdale requested a refund on the fifty cent donation charge that was added to her bill back in 2000.
24. Marilyn Jordan of 17300 Sunderland Rd and president of Detroit People's Task Force stated thirsty for human dignity.
25. Stephanie Collins of 15296 asked why are the water bill high for a one-person household.
26. Rudolph Markoe of 8162 LaSalle Blvd. asked how are drainage rates calculated for surfaces considered impervious that are surrounded by grass.
27. Pat Bosch asked for an explanation of the hazardous waste discharge permit process.
28. Brenda Goss Andrews, realtor, complained about the slowness in receiving final water bill reads.
29. Larry Bedell asked why City Council is not fighting for citizens to eliminate high sewage bills.
30. Maranova Harvey-Quinn asked what the department is doing about bacteria build-up with the service interruptions.
31. Mark Reynolds of 971 Burns complained about website problems and fire hydrants

issues.

32. Ruby Riley came about running water at a home on Healy Street between Lantz and Davison since November 2016.

33. Lory Parks inquired about whether the landbank pays the same fees as the citizens; what organs were found in the treatment plant; and are service interruptions causing Hepatitis.

34. Joseph Romano of 4475 Kensington needed clarification about the correspondence of April 7 board policy with respect to the new correspondence of October 16 accounts apply to the billing fee.

35. Lila Cabbil of Wildemere asked what was being done about running water and use of fire hydrants by developers without charge, but a cost to the residents.

36. Joanna Underwood, founder, of Detroit Black Womens Council came to state that the drainage tax is unconstitutional; and asked can the department publish all the contracts from 2016 through 2017 for taxpayers to view.

37. Rose Burke of 1911 Crosswick Rd. came to oppose the US Ecology permit.

Vice Chair Blackmon closed the public comments at 7:50 p.m.

6. REGULAR MEETING

7. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Blackmon called the meeting to order at 7:51 p.m.

8. ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Commissioner Linda Forte, Commissioner Lane Coleman, Commissioner Mary Blackmon, Commissioner Jane Garcia, Commissioner John Henry Davis and Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Michael Einheuser

9. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner Jane Garcia that the minutes be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

10. COMMUNICATIONS

A. [18-0134](#) FOIA Request

Sponsors: Pospiech

Attachments: [MAY 2018 FOIA REQUESTS](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner John Henry Davis, seconded by Commissioner Jane Garcia that this Communication or Report be received and filed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

B. [18-0135](#) Status of Pending Lease of Property at 2835 Bagley Avenue, Suites 500-600

Sponsors: Pospiech

Attachments: [Status of Pending Lease of Property](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner John Henry Davis, seconded by Commissioner Jane Garcia that this Communication or Report be received and filed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

C. [18-0137](#) Receipt of Correspondence

Sponsors: Pospiech

Attachments: [Follow-up Response-McKee and McCullough](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner John Henry Davis, seconded by Commissioner Jane Garcia that this Communication or Report be received and filed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

11. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS

There was none.

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was none.

13. NEW BUSINESS

A. [18-0122](#) The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **award Bid No. RFBITB2018, “Provide Network Equipment for DWSD Parallel Network Project” and issue a Purchase Order to Groundwork LLC (Consultant), at a cost not to exceed \$608,220.12, and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.**

Sponsors: Naughton

A motion was made by Commissioner John Henry Davis, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

B. [18-0123](#) The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **secure change order #2 for Contract no. 6000749 with MSC Industrial Supply Company for Maintenance, Repair,**

and Operations (MRO) Supplies for an increase amount of \$3,000,000 for a three (2) year period not to exceed the total contract amount of \$3,695,340.22 and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Naughton

A motion was made by Commissioner Linda Forte, seconded by Commissioner John Henry Davis that this Contract be approved as amended. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

C. [18-0124](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **secure a one-time purchase with Bell Equipment Company for Sewer Cleaning Tools for a total amount not to exceed \$108,830.00** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Naughton

A motion was made by Commissioner Lane Coleman, seconded by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

D. [18-0128](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department **approves the proposed schedule of Detroit Retail water and sewerage charges consistent with the FY 2018-19 revenue requirement and water and sewer system budgets approved by the Board of Water Commissioners on May 16, 2018** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Naughton

Attachments: [2019 Rate Card v2](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner John Henry Davis, seconded by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch that this Resolution, BOWC be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

ROLL CALL VOTE

A motion was made that this be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Commissioner Forte, Commissioner Coleman, Commissioner Blackmon, Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Davis and Commissioner Kinloch

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Einheuser

E. [18-0130](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve Change Order No. 1 to First**

Amended Technology Agreement with Diversified Data Processing and Consulting, Inc, (DivDat) and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Rainey

A motion was made by Commissioner Jane Garcia, seconded by Commissioner Lane Coleman that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

F. [18-0138](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit Water and Sewerage Department **Approval of the 2018 Memorandum of Understanding (“2018 MOU”) between the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department and the Great Lakes Water Authority.**

Sponsors: Pospiech

Attachments: [2018 MOU final](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner John Henry Davis that this Resolution, BOWC be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

ROLL CALL VOTE

A motion was made that this be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Commissioner Forte, Commissioner Coleman, Commissioner Blackmon, Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Davis and Commissioner Kinloch

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Einheuser

[18-0139](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to enter into **Contract # 6001504, with Jack Doheny for the purchase of one Combination Vacuum Loader and Jet Rodder Truck for the Detroit Water & Sewerage Department (DWSD) as a one-time capital funded purchase at a cost not to exceed \$491,344.00** and authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Naughton

A motion was made by Commissioner Linda Forte, seconded by Commissioner John Henry Davis that this Procurement, Goods be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

[18-0140](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to enter into **Contract # 6001503, with Jack Doheny for the purchase of two Combination Vacuum Loader and Jet Rodder Trucks with “Recyclers” for the Detroit Water & Sewerage Department (DWSD) as a one-time capital funded purchase at a cost not to**

exceed **\$1,188,032.00** and authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Naughton

A motion was made by Commissioner Lane Coleman, seconded by Commissioner John Henry Davis that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

18-0141

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **purchase of two fully assembled 1.5 ton capacity 4x4 utility trucks, in the amount not to exceed \$241,246.00 from Jorgensen Ford** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Naughton

A motion was made by Commissioner Linda Forte, seconded by Commissioner John Henry Davis that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

18-0142

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to enter into **Contract # 3024995, with Jorgenson Ford for the purchase of a fully assembled TV Truck for the Detroit Water & Sewerage Department (DWSD) as a one-time capital funded purchase at a cost not to exceed \$226,542.00** and authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Naughton

A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner Jane Garcia that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

14. DIRECTOR'S METRICS

18-0164

Director's Metrics

Sponsors: Brown

Attachments: [Board Report - Metrics - 06202018](#)

15. COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS

There was none.

16. COMMENTS BY THE VICE CHAIR

There was none.

17. OTHER MATTERS

There was none.

18. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Blackmon requested a motion to adjourn.

A motion was made by Commissioner John Henry Davis, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

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