



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

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

Wednesday, September 18, 2019

6:00 PM

Trinity Faith United Methodist Church
19750 W. McNichols Rd.
Detroit, MI 48219

BOWC Evening Meeting Location and Time Change

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Einheuser called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Commissioner Linda Forte, Commissioner Michael Einheuser,
Commissioner Lane Coleman, Commissioner Mary Blackmon,
Commissioner John Henry Davis and Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch
Excused: 1 - Commissioner Jane Garcia

Pastor Markey Gray welcomed the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department Board of Water Commissioners and guests and opened the meeting with prayer.

CHAIR'S COMMENT

Chairman Einheuser began the evening by expressing, on behalf of the entire DWSD family, our sincerest condolences to the family of Tyrone Williams who so tragically died on September 12. Both DWSD and the Detroit Fire Department take very seriously our shared responsibility to ensure that fire hydrants are operational and accessible across the city.

The Chair added, "It's pointless to engage in speculation tonight about the underlying facts that led to this very tragic event. But we want to assure the people of Detroit of two things: First, we are seriously committed to a full and complete investigation of all the facts and circumstances that led to this tragic event. Second, our investigation will be transparent and the results will be made public".

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Einheuser requested approval of the amended agenda.

Wayne Metro Presentation was added to the agenda.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mary Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that the agenda be approved as amended. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Einheuser requested approval of the minutes of August 21, 2019.

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

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 minutes per speaker)

Commissioner Garcia joined the meeting at 6:06 p.m.

1. Brenda Hill came before the Board to express her concern for the City. She said that water is not affordable for fifty percent of the residents.
2. Valerie Glenn came before the Board to complain about being misinformed by security officers about customers attending public meetings.
3. Arlene Lindsay came before the Board for assistance with her water bill.
4. Derrick Kennedy came before the Board on behalf of Wayne Metro to state how he has benefited from their service and how the Water Residential Assistance Program (WRAP) has helped him.
5. James Smith came before the Board because he opposes water shut-offs and that there should be an affordable water plan.
6. Carol Favor came before the Board regarding her drainage charge.
7. Demeeke Williams submitted written communication for a response.
8. Sherry Welch came before the Board because she has been without water for three years.
9. Taneka Hicks came before the Board to praise how she also has benefited from Wayne Metro assistance.
10. Rachel Cavazos came before the Board because she also opposes water shutoffs.
11. Michele George came before the Board to ask what percentage of citizens has had their water shutoff. She also stated that citizens must change their elected officials.
12. Lindsay Thomas came before the Board to express concern about the water shut off issue and resources.
13. Cynthia Carter came before the Board to seek a reduction in her sewage bill.
14. Carol Trowell with Detroit Association of Realtors came before the Board about the difficulty in obtaining a final bill.
15. Lolita Haley with Detroit Association of Realtors also came before the Board about a final meter read.
16. Cindy Darrah came before the Board to ask if the infrastructure is affected by water hammers as a result of water shut offs.
17. James Hedrick came before the Board to inquire about irrigation meters.
18. Vaughan Tolliver came before the Board about sewage backup in the basement.
19. Deborah Parks provided written communication for a response.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

[19-00268](#)

Receipt of Correspondence

Sponsors: Customer Service

Attachments: [Sherreta Bond](#)
[Lateisha Jones](#)
[Diana Diggs](#)
[Dennis Leeny](#)
[Christine Wynn](#)
[Bonnie Whittaker](#)
[Lucinda Darrah](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Mary Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that this Communication or Report be received and filed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

7. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS

Follow-up Items

- a. Joshua Ronnebaum of 19410 Lucerne-pending
- b. Storm Drains on Seminole-Pending
- c. Pastor James-Pending
- d. Beulah Walker-Hydrate Detroit-Pending
- e. Demeeke Williams-Hydrate Detroit-Pending
- f. Valerie Glenn-Hydrate Detroit-Pending
- g. Diamond Woods-Hydrate Detroit-Pending

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was none.

9. NEW BUSINESS

Jerome Drain, Community Activist with the Wayne Metro Community Action Agency, stated that the agency helps people in need in the Wayne Metro and Detroit area. They provide community programs, services, and educational classes. The agency is also the administrator of the Water Residential Assistance Program (WRAP) which helps low-income citizens with their water bills.

A. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA (Items A1 - A9)

- I. [19-00232](#)** The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve Amendment No. 5 to add \$375,110 and extend the term for a period of five months to the City of Detroit Contract No. 2850143 for the continued purchase of diesel and unleaded Fuel for DWSD through Waterfront Petroleum Company**, and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Burgi

A motion was made by Commissioner Mary Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that this Contract Amendment be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- II. [19-00238](#) The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve Contract No. 6002328 with Phoenix Environmental, Inc. for inspections, parts and as needed maintenance and repairs of DWSD owned fuel lines, underground fuel storage tanks and related fuel system equipment for a total contract amount not-to-exceed \$305,000 for a term of two (2) years** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Burgi

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

- III. [19-00247](#) The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve Contract No. 6002295 for a term of nine months with Corby Energy Services, Inc. to utilize National IPA cooperative contract #R170801 to provide the installation for the upgrade and/or replacement of LED exterior lighting at Central Services Facility (CSF) for a total contract amount not-to-exceed \$114,975; ;** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Burgi

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

- IV. [19-00248](#) The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve Contract No. 6002342 for three years with two one year renewals with CDW Government LLC to utilize MiDeal cooperative contract #071B6600110 for the purchase of standardized and as-needed technology commodities and services for DWSD, for a total contract amount not-to-exceed \$5,000,000;** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Burgi

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

V. [19-00249](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve Amendment No. 2 to Contract No. 6000680 (LS-1750) to add \$50,000 in funding, for a total amended contract amount of \$300,000 for “Legal Services for United House of Prayer V City of Detroit, Wayne County Circuit Court Case No. 15-009083-CZ” with Miller, Canfield, Paddock & Stone, P.L.C.,** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Burgi

A motion was made by Commissioner Mary Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that this Contract Amendment be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

VI. [19-00250](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. 2917947 (LS-1791) to add \$100,000 in funding, a total amended contract amount of \$500,000 for “Legal Representation, Consultation and Advice to DWSD in Connection with the Negotiation of Certain Lease Agreements, Service Agreements and Shared Service Agreements in Conjunction with the Stand-Up of the Great Lakes Water Authority and Other Matters” with Miller, Canfield, Paddock & Stone, P.L.C.,** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Burgi

A motion was made by Commissioner Mary Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that this Contract Amendment be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

VII. [19-00251](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve Amendment No. 1 to Contract No. 6001705 (LS-1900) to add \$50,000 in funding, for a total amended contract amount of \$300,000 for “MDEQ Related Legal Services” with Miller, Canfield, Paddock & Stone, P.L.C.,** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Burgi

A motion was made by Commissioner Mary Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that this Contract Amendment be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

- VIII. [19-00252](#) The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve the equipment and service contracts and purchase orders described in Agenda Item 19-00252 with Caterpillar (CAT) equipment**, and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Burgi

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

- IX. [19-00255](#) The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve PO 3036598 with Jack Doheny Companies, Inc. to purchase a Sewer Camera Inspection Vehicle for an amount not-to-exceed \$284,262**, and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Burgi

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

10. **DIRECTOR'S METRICS**

- A. [19-00267](#) **Director's Report**

Sponsors: Office of the Director

Attachments: [Board Report - Metrics - 09182019](#)

This Communication or Report was received and filed.

11. **COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS**

Vice Chair Blackmon stated that she did not receive a telephone communication from Mr. James Smith.

12. **COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR**

The Chair addressed his comments at the start of the meeting.

13. **OTHER MATTERS**

There were none.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Einhueser requested a motion to adjourn.

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