



Detroit Water and Sewerage Department Meeting Minutes - Final Finance Committee

735 Randolph Street
Detroit, Michigan 48226
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Wednesday, May 18, 2022

1:45 PM

To attend by phone call one of these numbers:
+1 301 715 8592, +1 312 626 6799, +1 267 831 0333
Use Meeting ID: 815 7263 5118
Use Passcode: 482262021

To attend online: <https://cityofdetroit.zoom.us/j/81572635118>
Use Passcode: 482262021

Finance Committee Special Meeting No. 2

To attend In Person:
735 Randolph, Detroit, MI 48226, 5th Floor Boardroom

1. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Coleman called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: 1 - Commissioner Lane Coleman

Excused: 3 - Chairperson Linda Forte, Commissioner Michael Einheuser and
Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch

Commissioner Coleman called for recess at 1:46 p.m.

Chairperson Forte joined at 1:47 p.m.

Commissioner Einheuser joined at 1:52 p.m.

Chairperson Forte returned from recess at 1:52 p.m.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairperson Forte requested approval of the agenda.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lane Coleman, seconded by
Commissioner Michael Einheuser that the agenda be approved. The motion
carried by a unanimous vote.**

The Chair called for recess at 2:08 p.m.

The Chair returned from, recess at 2:09 p.m.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairperson Forte requested approval of the minutes of January 31, 2022, Special Meeting No. 1.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lane Coleman, seconded by Commissioner Michael Einheuser that the minutes be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Commissioner Kinloch joined at 1:59 p.m.

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (3 minutes per speaker)

a. Norrell Hemphill came before the Board about communication she received offering City of Detroit residents an opportunity to enroll in the American Water Resources Program (AWR). The program provides insurance protection to residents for their private water and sewer lateral. Ms. Hemphill stated that the letter seems misleading and that the constituent is basically paying for a service that is already being allocated through the water and sewer line replacement program. She is seeking more information out of concern with the application process terms and conditions. Attorney Pospiech added that the American Water Resources Program (AWR) is the preferred vendor for DWSD. It is a service that will provide the residents of Detroit who have aging and collapsing water and sewer (private) lateral. The warranty program is a monthly policy fee that will pay the repair costs for the homeowners private line. The portion that AWR is contributing, which is from a separate fund, is for low-income residents that are not able to afford the monthly policy stipend. It will be monitored through Wayne Metro.

b. Cecily McClellan stated that the infrastructure funding should replace the lead service lines. She encouraged a water affordability program for low-income based customers designed to help low-income families with their water bills. She also mentioned that the rates in Detroit are extremely high and are not sustainable. She encouraged the Department to look at other means of maintaining the system without increasing the rates. She suggested renegotiating the GLWA contract and the 83/17 sewer improvement contract.

c. Demeeko Williams of Hydrate Detroit came before the Board to ask when the eastside and westside service centers would be reopened? He continues to advocate for a water amnesty and water affordability program. He also inquired about scheduling Hydrate Detroit's meeting with Director Brown.

d. George Cotton Sr. at 12094 E. Outer Drive came before the Board about a \$4800 water bill.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

There were none.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was none.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. [22-0811](#) The City of Detroit Board of Water Commissioners authorizes the Director to amend the previously approved **Detroit Water and Sewerage Department Contract 6002757 with Itron, Inc. for the Water SaveSource Warranty Replacement Program - OpenWay Riva AMI Implementation Agreement to change the contract amount to \$18,240,000, change the communication platform from a DWSD-owned collector system to a third-party owned and operated cellular system, and to make related revisions to the previous Agreement terms and conditions..** This also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Pospiech

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

9. **OTHER MATTERS**

There were none.

10. **NEXT MEETING**

TBD

11. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairperson Forte requested a motion to adjourn.

A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner Michael Einheuser that this be adjourned. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:34 p.m.

How to Make a Request for Public Comment

You may provide your public comment via Zoom link:

<http://cityofdetroit.zoom.us/j/81572635118>

During the public comment section for each committee meeting, raise your hand using the Zoom hand icon on your desktop or mobile device, or if calling into the meeting by phone, press *9 to raise your hand (press *6 to unmute when called upon)

We respectfully request that you maximize your three minutes by sharing all your comments/questions at one time. You will only be called upon once for public comment during the same committee meeting, full board meeting, or hearing.

Once the Chair closes public comment, there will be no other public comments accepted and all the attendees will remain muted for the duration of the meeting.