

RAHWAY VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
Finance Committee Meeting Minutes – October 20, 2022

Mr. Harms, Finance Committee Chairman, called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m., and asked that the recorder be turned on.

Mr. Harms read the statement on "Open Public Meetings Law"

In accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, State of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting was forwarded to the Star Ledger, the Home News Tribune, and the Clerk of each of the eleven-member municipalities on February 24, 2022. As this is a Committee Meeting, no action will be taken.

If any member of this body believes that this meeting is being held in violation of the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, please state your objection and the reasons for same at this time. ... Hearing no objections, we shall proceed with our scheduled meeting.

Mr. Harms requested a salute to the flag and a moment of silence.

Roll Call

The following members were present:

Frank G. Mazzarella	for the Township of Clark
Chris Kolibas	for the Township of Cranford
Michael Furci	for the Township of Springfield
Robert M. Beiner	for the Borough of Kenilworth
John J. Tomaine	for the Borough of Mountainside
Robert Rachlin	for the City of Rahway
Loren Harms	for the Borough of Roselle Park
Raymond Szpond	for the Township of Scotch Plains
Edward Gottko	for the Town of Westfield
Michael J. Gelin	for the Township of Woodbridge

The following member was absent:

Stephen D. Greet	for the Borough of Garwood
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The following were also present:

James J. Meehan	Executive Director
Karen Musialowicz	Secretary-Treasurer
Doug Reno	Superintendent
Andrea DeCarlo	Purchasing Agent/Board Secretary
John Buonocore	Assistant Director/Chief Engineer
Janet Thevenin	Environmental Compliance Supervisor
Brett Howard	Health & Safety Coordinator
Karen Lesane	Office Assistant
Dennis Estis	General Counsel – Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith
Howard Matteson	Consulting Engineer – CDM Smith

Discussion

Mr. Gelin asked for justification on the natural gas going from \$300K to \$600K for the year. Mr. Meehan stated we knew we would be a little low in 2022 because of the Cogen facility. Now that things are getting back to normal, we are hoping it will be less than \$600K. Mr. Reno stated the previous year's budget was \$700K, so this number is actually lower than normal. He explained that the natural gas contract is up in November, and it will be the same for electricity, which expires in June 2023. Mr. Mazzarella asked if this the same with Cogen; Mr. Reno replied that it is a possibility. Ms. Musialowicz explained that we are not sure of the rates because they are not yet locked in.

Mr. Gelin asked why line item #32 - Maintenance Supplies went up; Mr. Meehan stated that lots of spare parts are needed on the shelf since we are unable to wait for the longer than usual lead times. Aside from this, prices have been going through the roof, with some items doubling in price.

Mr. Gelin asked why we are running so high on permit fees. Mr. Meehan stated that permit fees are based on the effluent loading; which Tony usually calculates within \$10-\$15K.

Mr. Gelin stated that all in all, he thinks this is a good budget. Mr. Mazzarella agreed and said Kudos to Jim and the staff for keeping it under 4%.

Mr. Harms stated that the Finance Committee recommends approval.

New Business

Mr. Harms stated that the Bills and Claims list has been reviewed, and action to approve will be on the Regular Meeting agenda under Bills and Claims.

Adjournment

As there was no further business, on motion of Mr. Furci, second by Mr. Tomaine, the meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m. The motion was approved by those present.

Chairman

Andrea De Carlo
Andrea DeCarlo, Board Secretary