

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL
HELD VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCE
MUNICIPAL COURT /COUNCIL CHAMBERS
10 LAWLOR DRIVE, OAKLAND, NEW JERSEY
MONDAY JULY 27, 2020

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: By Mayor Schwager at 9:00 am.

ROLL CALL: Mayor Schwager called the meeting to order and the Clerk called the roll. Present: Mayor Schwager, Councilmembers Knapp, Levy, Pignatelli. Absent: Councilman Biale, Talamini, Van Eck. Also Present: Lisa M. Duncan, Borough Clerk; Richard Kunze, Borough Administrator; Brian Chewcaskie, Borough Attorney.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG:

MOMENT OF SILENCE:

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT: Mayor Schwager announced this meeting is being held in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law duly announced and advertised and held with the guidelines set up for this COVID-19 crisis.

EXCUSE ABSENCES:

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Levy, the absences of Councilmembers Biale, Talamini and Van Eck be excused.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Knapp, Levy, Pignatelli.

OPENED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

On motion of Councilman Levy, seconded by Councilman Pignatelli, this portion of the meeting be opened for public comment.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Knapp, Levy, Pignatelli.

No comments made.

CLOSED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

On motion of Councilman Levy, seconded by Councilman Pignatelli, this portion of the meeting be closed to public comment.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Knapp, Levy, Pignatelli.

COUNCILMAN BIALE ENTERED THE MEETING AT 9:03 am.

RESOLUTION 20-199 AUTHORIZE CONNECTION FEE TO NBCUA TO DECOMMISSION SEWERAGE TREATMENT PLANTS

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Levy, the following resolution be introduced, adopted and duly passed by roll call vote:

WHEREAS, the Borough of Oakland owns and operates three sewerage treatment plants and their related sewerage collection system which serves selected areas within the Borough of Oakland; and

WHEREAS, there are certain violations with respect to the operations of the sewerage treatment plants; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the Borough have agreed to a schedule for the Borough to decommission the three sewerage treatment plants and construct a system for the conveyance of sewerage from the Borough's three sewerage treatment plants to the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority treatment plant; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has committed substantial funds in order to develop a wastewater management plan and to design sanitary sewer improvements; and

WHEREAS, the Borough adopted Resolution #18-355 authorizing a contract to Boswell Engineering in an amount not to exceed \$260,000 to provide for engineering services for Phase I of the sanitary sewer improvements to include decommissioning of the three sewerage treatment plants; and

WHEREAS, the Borough adopted Resolution #20-176 approving an Administrative Consent Order with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection for the decommissioning of the three sewerage treatment plants; and

WHEREAS, the Borough adopted Resolution #20-183 authorizing the treatment works application for the decommissioning of its sewerage treatment plants and constructing a conveyance system to the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority; and

WHEREAS, the treatment works application was submitted to the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority; and

WHEREAS, the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority, by Resolution #70-2020 adopted July 21, 2020, authorized the execution of the application, conditioned on a written commitment of the Borough reflecting payment by the Borough of a connection fee in the amount of \$802,417.56; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has been committed to the decommissioning of these three sewerage treatment plants and is committed to fund any and all costs necessary for the decommissioning of the plants, including the connection fee as required by the Authority;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oakland as follows:

1. The Borough of Oakland is hereby committed to pay a connection fee to the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority in the amount of \$802,417.56 as set forth in the Resolution of the Authority dated July 21, 2020.
2. The Borough of Oakland will negotiate a mutually acceptable timetable for the payment of this fee with Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority;
3. This Resolution is intended to demonstrate the commitment of the Borough of Oakland to pay the necessary fees and charges to the Northwest Bergen County Utilities Authority, including but not limited to the connection fee.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Levy, Pignatelli.

Councilman Levy explained that this resolution is just saying that the Borough is going to work with the NWBCUA for the connection fee to decommission our sewerage treatment plants.

OPENED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

On motion of Councilman Pignatelli, seconded by Councilman Levy, this portion of the meeting be opened for public comment.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Levy, Pignatelli.

No comments made.

COUNCILMAN TALAMINI ENTERED THE MEETING AT 9:06 PM

CLOSED FOR PUBLIC COMMENT:

On motion of Councilman Levy, seconded by Councilman Pignatelli, this portion of the meeting be closed to public comment.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Levy, Pignatelli, Talamini

MEETING ADJOURNED:

On motion of Councilman Biale, seconded by Councilman Pignatelli, the meeting be adjourned at 9:06 am.

ROLL CALL: All yeas, Councilmembers Biale, Knapp, Levy, Pignatelli, Talamini.

Lisa M. Duncan

Lisa M. Duncan, Borough Clerk
August 12, 2020

Date Approved

Linda H. Schwager

Mayor Linda H. Schwager