



Board of Commissioners

Senator Robert Singer, Chairman

Mayor Raymond Coles, Vice Chairman

Craig Theibault, Treasurer

Anne Fish, Assistant Secretary

P.G. Waxman, Commissioner

Samuel Flanbaum, Alt. Commissioner

Meir Lichtenstein, Alt. Commissioner

THE LAKEWOOD TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

Water and Sewer Connection Fee Hearing

January 7, 2020

- I. Senator Singer opened the hearing at 10:00 A.M. in the conference room of the Lakewood Township Municipal Utilities Authority, 390 New Hampshire Avenue, Lakewood, New Jersey.
- II. It was announced that in accordance with Chapter 231, Public Law, adequate notice of this Water and Sewer Connection Fee Hearing was given and that a notice of this scheduled hearing was filed with the Township Clerk and posted in the Municipal Building in a place accessible to the public and was published in the Asbury Park Press on November 21, 2019 and The Tri Town News on November 27, 2019.
- III. **Salute to the Flag**
- IV. **Roll Call of Commissioners**
On roll call the following Commissioners were present: Mr. Lichtenstein, Mr. S. Flanbaum, Mr. Theibault, Mr. Waxman and Senator Singer. Mr. Lichtenstein and Mr. S. Flanbaum are seated as alternates. The following professionals and key personnel were present: Mr. Adam Pfeffer, Esq., Mr. Gerwin Bauer, Auditor, Mr. Justin Flanbaum, Executive Director, Mr. Daniel Rappoccio, CFO, Mr. Colin Farrell, CEng MIEI, Director of Engineering, Mr. Adam Ponsi, P. E., Mrs. Nechama Lapa, Secretary, Mr. Robert Farina, Instrumentation Department Supervisor and Mr. Kyle Smith of Mott MacDonald.
- V. **Water and Sewer Connection Fee Hearing**
Mr. Pfeffer swore in Mr. Gerwin Bauer as the expert witness and established his identity as a Certified Public Accountant in the State of New Jersey and auditor of the Authority. Mr. Pfeffer asked Mr. Bauer if he had the opportunity to review the proposed Water and Sewer Connection Fees for 2020. Mr. Bauer responded he did. Mr. Bauer said he prepared and supplied all the historical data, capital improvements and such items to the engineering firm. Mr. Pfeffer asked Mr. Bauer to describe the process for the preparation of the water and sewer connection fee schedule. Mr. Bauer said he prepares all the debt service schedules for the bond issues, all the capital improvements from the previous year that were put into service for both water and sewer and the consumption figures. He hands the information to the engineering firm. Mr. Pfeffer asked if the rate is in accordance with State regulations and generally accepted accounting

LAKEWOOD TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

390 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE, LAKEWOOD, NEW JERSEY 08701

PHONE (732) 363-4422 | FAX: (732) 905-0712 | WWW.LAKEWOODMUA.COM

practices. Mr. Bauer said yes, it is. Mr. Pfeffer asked if this year the rates have increased or decreased. Mr. Bauer said both rates have increased. Mr. Pfeffer asked if there any questions. Senator Singer said that it should be understood that the calculations are State calculated and is statutory. It is the same for every Authority in the State.

Mr. Pfeffer swore in as an expert witness Mr. Kyle Smith, established his identity as a Licensed Engineer in the State of New Jersey. Mr. Smith works for Mott MacDonald as a consulting engineer for the Authority. Mr. Pfeffer asked Mr. Smith if he had the opportunity to prepare this year's water and sewer connection fees. Mr. Smith said yes. Mr. Pfeffer asked Mr. Smith how he prepared and what information he used to base it on. Mr. Smith said he received information from the Authority's personnel and consultants. Mr. Smith said he received the historical figures on the total invested into the system and calculated the connection fee per State Statute. Mr. Pfeffer asked if Mr. Smith if he is of opinion that the schedule prepared is in to State regulations and general accepted accounting practices. Mr. Smith said yes. Mr. Pfeffer asked if there any questions. Mr. Waxman asked what the net change is. Mr. J. Flancbaum said that the net change is \$582.00 water and sewer combined. That is a 10.71% increase from last year. The combined fee will be \$6,028.00. Last year's fee was \$5,445.00. Mr. Waxman thought that it is a drastic increase. Mr. Pfeffer said last year the fee went down. Mr. J. Flancbaum said it depends on how the formula works out. Last year the fee actually went down. Neighboring towns are higher. For example Jackson MUA is just over \$6,100.00, Brick is over \$8,500.00 and Lacey is \$8,000.00. We are right in line, or less than neighboring towns. This is based on State Statute.

The Chairman Opened the Hearing to the Public

No response from the public.

The Chairman Closed the Hearing to the Public.

Mrs. Lapa read **Resolution #20-01 Adoption of Water Connection Fee for 2020**. A **motion** was made by Mr. S. Flancbaum and seconded by Mr. Theibault to adopt the Resolution. On a **roll call**, all commissioners **voted, "Yes"**. **Adopted**.

Mrs. Lapa read **Resolution #20-02 Adoption of Sewer Connection Fee for 2020**. A **motion** was made by Mr. S. Flancbaum and seconded by Mr. Theibault to adopt the Resolution. On a **roll call**, all commissioners **voted, "Yes"**. **Adopted**.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

A **motion** was made by Mr. Theibault, seconded by Mr. Waxman to close the hearing. On a **voice vote**, all members present voted, "**Aye**". The hearing was adjourned at 10:07 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Nechama Lapa,
Secretary, LTMUA