

PASSAIC VALLEY WATER COMMISSION MEETING OF

APRIL 20, 2016

(OPEN SESSION)

C O M M I S S I O N E R S P R E S E N T :

RIGO SANCHEZ, President

GLORIA KOLODZIEJ, Vice President **(Absent)**

GERALD G. FRIEND, Treasurer

CHRYSTAL A. CLEAVES, Secretary

DAVID BLUMENTHAL **(Absent)**

JEFFREY LEVINE

ROBERT L. VANNOY

A L S O P R E S E N T :

JOSEPH A. BELLA, Executive Director

GEORGE T. HANLEY, Counsel **(Absent)**

YAACOV BRISMAN, Assistant Counsel

JAMES G. DUPREY, Director of Engineering

YITZ WEISS, Comptroller

LOUIS AMODIO, Administrative Secretary

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

MR. AMODIO: On the roll.

(Roll call was taken, all Commissioners present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner Levine is not present yet. Commissioners Kolodziej and Blumenthal are absent)

MR. AMODIO: You have a quorum.

The time is 12:11 p.m.

All of the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act have been met. Notices have been furnished to all Commissioners; City Clerks of Paterson, Passaic, and Clifton; North Jersey Herald News; The Record - Passaic County edition and the Commission's Executive Staff with a copy posted at the main bulletin board at the Clifton facility.

Will you please rise.

Commissioner Cleaves, would you please lead us.

(Pledge of Allegiance)

PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Counsel, you want to do the members of the public and go into closed

1 session?

2 MR. BRISMAN: That's fine.

3 MR. AMODIO: The first one, what happened
4 to the gentleman? Sy Quentzel?

5 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: If he's not here, I'm
6 going to go with who's next.

7 MR. AMODIO: Bill Linteris.

8 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Mr. Linteris, where
9 are you? Can you say who you are for the Board?

10 MR. LINTERIS: Sure. Bill Linteris,
11 Passaic County Board of Realtors. I'm here today
12 to just followup and find out what the
13 Commission's doing with the 106 Certification and
14 106 Investigation for Levine.

15 What the status of speaking with the
16 Newark Water Supply regarding the Great Notch.

17 And find out what the take is or the
18 understanding on the letter from Mayor Torres
19 regarding reactivating the Raceways and having the
20 reservoir split into an active area to provide
21 water for the Raceways and tanks in the other
22 area.

23 There are a number of things that we'd
24 just like to stay in touch with as far as consumer
25 property rights and what's happening in the Levine

1 Reservoir at this point.

2 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: I don't think we have
3 a process to answer all the questions here, but do
4 we have all the information available?

5 MR. BELLA: Yes, we do. I can give him a
6 quick, if you'd like.

7 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: It's up to you.

8 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Do a quick. Educate
9 us all.

10 MR. BELLA: As far as Newark Watershed,
11 that's in North Jersey's hands now. They've been
12 doing a study and they're very close to coming,
13 you know, to some type of, you know, a finalized
14 report. So I would suspect that they'll have
15 something in the next month or two.

16 What was the other one?

17 MR. LINTERIS: That was Great Notch as far
18 as coordinating with Newark. And then you have
19 Levine and then the Raceways, Mayor Torres had a
20 letter.

21 MR. BELLA: Which we've read and has some
22 very interesting proposals or whatever, and we're
23 looking at that. There's a lot of engineering to
24 look over this. We've talked about this all
25 along.

1 As far as the 106 process goes, that will
2 all come out of our application that we send there
3 and that's all in the works and the State will
4 initiate all of that. It will just go according
5 to whatever the process is.

6 MR. LINTERIS: Okay.

7 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Anything else?

8 Carol?

9 How you doing? What brought you here
10 today, Carol?

11 MS. VAN SAVAGE: The fun meeting. We
12 finally got the pictures changed.

13 I'm Carol VanSavage. I'm a resident of
14 Clifton for 33 years. I'm a member of the Passaic
15 County Board of Realtors and I'm here as backup
16 also checking what's going on.

17 I see we're still using the duck pooping
18 in the glass of water. I'm not happy with that.
19 In the last flier that came out.

20 Interested in finding out how we do get
21 the lead paint testing kits which I believe has
22 been --

23 MR. LINTERIS: Lead water.

24 MR. BELLA: The front door.

25 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: And my understanding

1 that the owner cities have them available. We
2 gave them to the owner cities.

3 MR. BELLA: All the owner cities have them
4 available either in the health departments or --

5 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Fire departments.

6 MR. BELLA: Or fire department in the case
7 of Paterson.

8 MS. VAN SAVAGE: Also, the Passaic County
9 Board of Realtors is having their annual golf
10 outing for the benefit of local veterans in our
11 area, maybe the Passaic Valley Water Commission --

12 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Wait a minute, you're
13 selling something here, Carol.

14 MS. VAN SAVAGE: Hey, you're a realtor.
15 You can play. You're a realtor.

16 But maybe somebody would like to sponsor a
17 hole or play.

18 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: You're selling
19 something here, Carol.

20 MS. VAN SAVAGE: No, no, I'm not selling.
21 It's all in the spin Rigo, you know that. So
22 that's our information.

23 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: I never seen Joe put
24 up \$50 in his life but I'm going to try to get him
25 to.

1 MS. VAN SAVAGE: Okay.

2 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Thank you, Carol.

3 Sharon, is that you? State your name.

4 MS. GARDNER: Sharon Gardner, also from
5 Passaic County Board of Realtors here as backup
6 and support and I'm a resident of Paterson.

7 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: You know, I'm going to
8 say something about the Passaic County Board of
9 Realtors. There's a guy that had a grocery store
10 so the guy is dying so all the family is
11 surrounding him says: Is So and So here. So
12 everybody was like: Wait a minute, who's taking
13 care of my grocery store. He goes nobody. He got
14 on the elevator and went.

15 MS. GARDNER: Well, we have a lot of
16 members, as you know.

17 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Okay. Bob, you have
18 nothing to say.

19 MR. GUARASCI: I'll be short.

20 Good afternoon. I know there would be no
21 meeting complete without my being here on behalf
22 of the 2,000 children and families that my
23 organization represents in the City of Paterson
24 and directly surrounding the Levine Reservoir to
25 say, once again, for the record, that we strongly

1 believe that the right move is to decommission
2 Levine. And particularly in the face of what I
3 think is going to be a very, very high hurdle that
4 has to be surpassed with the 106 Review that is
5 about to come. I simply ask that you once again
6 take a look and make a determination as to the
7 viability of this project in the face of the very,
8 very stringent historic preservation guidelines
9 and determine if in your wisdom it still makes
10 sense to proceed at what will undoubtedly be a
11 great cost to the ratepayer. So I ask you to do
12 that.

13 Secondly, I also don't think this meeting
14 would be complete without a member of the public
15 here to say that we obviously have a lead in the
16 water crisis in the City of Paterson. You know it
17 and we know it. And I commend this Commission for
18 steps that it has taken to do outreach in that
19 regard. But at this very grave time in our
20 nation's history, let alone our area's history
21 with respect to lead in the water, the very
22 pointed question that I have to ask on behalf of
23 those that I represent to this Commission is: Are
24 you convinced that you as the Commissioners in
25 charge of this public body, are you convinced that

1 this body is doing everything it can to ensure
2 that the problem with lead in the water in
3 Paterson is being mitigated as aggressively as
4 possible?

5 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: I'm sorry, Bob, I'm
6 going to cut you off right there because I sit on
7 this Chair and it brings a lot of responsibility.
8 I think every Commissioner at this table feels,
9 and we might have different opinions and I might
10 have a lot of differences with Joe and the staff
11 here and everybody does, but one thing that is
12 certain from all of us here at this table is that
13 these people do the best job possible they could
14 do. And I don't think there's anywhere in this
15 country, any other entity that is more up front
16 than this entity. That's why we have a plant that
17 is one of the more modern plants that you can find
18 in the whole United States. So we are ahead of
19 the curve. And one thing that I am certain about
20 when I go to sleep is that these people here,
21 they're doing everything they can and they're
22 going to do their best no matter what. So in that
23 regard, you can feel assured I'm speaking on
24 behalf of every Commissioner on behalf of this
25 table.

1 MR. GUARASCI: I appreciate that and
2 clearly, you're indicating that you as
3 Commissioners and ultimately you're responsible
4 for the governings of this agency, you're very
5 comfortable that the Commission is doing
6 everything it can in the face of this crisis and
7 that is good to know. So, thank you.

8 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Thank you, Bob.

9 Sy, why are you here today? How are you
10 doing?

11 MR. QUENTZEL: I'm doing fine. Hopefully,
12 you'll be doing things that are fine.

13 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: We are.

14 MR. QUENTZEL: Are you fully aware of
15 what's going on with water in this country? The
16 French own it all. They just changed their name
17 to the U.S. They're the only company that makes
18 big enough ultra violent generators to be able to
19 purify or clean, kill or prevent the spirilla
20 germs from growing.

21 We're not using enough ultraviolet here.

22 Also, in Europe they use ozone and
23 ultraviolet. They don't use chlorine. Chlorine
24 in high enough level can cause lead to leach out
25 of the pipes and in Paterson and in Newark and all

1 these other cities, they're leaching the lead
2 right out of the pipes. You got to get rid of
3 chlorine.

4 Now, you might say who am I. I'm a
5 swimming pool man and I've been involved with
6 commercial pools almost my whole life. Over 70
7 years I've been doing this and nobody seems to
8 understand that you have to have a different
9 method of purifying water without chlorine.

10 Now, in swimming pools now guess what
11 they're using, they're using salt systems to
12 create chlorine to save money. You know what
13 happens inside the concrete pool that's been
14 plastered, the chlorine eats up the insides of the
15 pools and everybody's using it because they're
16 saving a few dollars. You got to understand that
17 chlorine is a dangerous thing. A lot of people
18 during World War I were killed with chlorine.
19 We're breathing it. We have it in our water. It
20 is the worst thing to use.

21 And the French, the first thing they
22 bought was Hackensack Water and they took the land
23 that they could and they sold it off to the
24 developers. They made bundles. Then they went
25 over to Morristown and they bought the water

1 supply under the name United Water. And then they
2 went over to Hudson County, which had beautiful
3 Boonton Reservoir and they bought that, sold off
4 the land whatever they could. They made billions
5 of dollars, United Water. Now they changed their
6 name to SUEZ. Actually, SUEZ owned them all
7 along. SUEZ, the French company, says the SUEZ
8 Canal, it's an old, old company.

9 We are the only company, water company, is
10 not owned by people who are looking to make money
11 on it. You're selling your water wholesale to
12 these other counties and sold their water
13 supplies. The first thing people do when they set
14 a city up, they get a water supply. So they sold
15 it off for money. Okay.

16 Passaic Valley is making up the difference
17 and they can't do it. Okay. They got to charge
18 them, first of all, full price. They don't
19 deserve a bargain to get it wholesale. They sold
20 off their water to the interest, the money people.
21 And that's why we're in trouble today. You got to
22 say no more water for you people, you want it, you
23 pay retail price. We'll take that money we make
24 in Passaic County and we'll improve our
25 purification for the people who own it. Clifton,

1 Paterson, Passaic, those areas lived on water.
2 That's what created the great City of Paterson and
3 Passaic, the fact that the water was good water.

4 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: I agree with you, Sy,
5 a hundred percent. This entity is a great asset
6 for these three owner cities and we're planning to
7 continue to have it that way and we appreciate
8 your input.

9 Thank you, Sy.

10 MR. QUENTZEL: You're welcome.

11 MR. AMODIO: Motion to close.

12 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Motion to close.

13 MR. AMODIO: Do I have a motion?

14 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: So moved.

15 COMMISSIONER CLEAVES: Second.

16 MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner Vannoy.

17 Second by Commissioner Cleaves.

18 On the roll.

19

20 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
21 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner
22 Levine is not present yet. Commissioners
23 Kolodziej and Blumenthal are absent)

24

25 MR. AMODIO: Thank you.

1 The time is 12:24.

2 You said you wanted to go into closed
3 session?

4 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Yes.

5 MR. AMODIO: Do I have a motion?

6 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: So moved.

7 COMMISSIONER CLEAVES: Second.

8 WHEREAS, Section 8 of the Open Public
9 Meetings Act permits the exclusion of the public
10 from meeting in certain circumstances; and.

11 WHEREAS, the public body is of the
12 opinion that such circumstances presently exist;.

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the
14 Commissioners of Passaic Valley Water Commission:

15 1. The public shall be excluded from the
16 hereinafter specified subject matters; the general
17 nature of the subject matters being: Financial
18 Insurance Personnel Contracts Negotiations
19 Security and Law, and any other matter as may be
20 discussed in camera.

21 2. It is anticipated at this time that
22 the above-state subject matters will be ratified
23 during public meeting following or as soon
24 thereafter as the reason for discussion no longer
25 exists.

1 3. This Resolution shall take effect
2 immediately.

3 Second by Commissioner Cleaves.

4 On the roll.

5

6 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
7 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner
8 Levine is not present yet. Commissioners
9 Kolodziej and Blumenthal are not present)

10

11

12

13

MR. AMODIO: Roll call.

14

15

16

(Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
present respond in the affirmative. Commissioners
Kolodziej and Blumenthal are absent)

17

18

19

MR. AMODIO: The time is 1:00 p.m.

20

You have a quorum.

21

22

Would you like to go back to the Executive
Director's report? We have a few items there.

23

All right. Joe.

24

25

MR. BELLA: The main thing I wanted to let
you know, we did have an inspection with the EPA

1 in terms of they do an audit of all your lead
2 programs and that kind of thing. I don't believe
3 we have any errors or whatever you want to call
4 it.

5 MR. BRISMAN: Violations.

6 MR. BELLA: Violations.

7 They were very impressed with our
8 organization, not just how organized our people
9 were, but our entire organization. The Commission
10 has been repeatedly trying to do the right thing
11 just like Commissioner, I was glad he said that.
12 So that was really a distressed time because I
13 hate to walk away without having something, but
14 they were really impressed.

15 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Are people returning
16 their water samples back?

17 MR. BELLA: Yes. Good point. We had
18 about 300 samples from citizens outside of our
19 hundred something that we have to do.

20 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: That's not really a
21 lot.

22 MR. BELLA: 300 is a lot. It looks like
23 they're coming in steps. We sent out fliers, but
24 now every bill has on there. So as the bills work
25 their way through the quarter, that's what's -- by

1 the time we're done, we think we should have, you
2 know, about 800 or a thousand.

3 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: It takes what, three
4 weeks or longer?

5 MR. BELLA: It takes longer than that.

6 MR. AMODIO: Six.

7 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Right. I think I
8 called you.

9 MR. BELLA: Six weeks is not unusual. The
10 labs around the country are overwhelmed with this,
11 of course.

12 Interesting, our people, water bottles, we
13 saw this coming and we order a lot, we did a lot
14 now nationwide sort of bottle shortage to do the
15 samples.

16 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: We don't do it
17 inhouse?

18 MR. BELLA: This one we have not been
19 doing inhouse. Initially, the regulatory we did
20 an independent lab just for having transparency so
21 it's not us that's doing it. That's our
22 regulatory samples. The rest of them we would
23 normally do inhouse but it just so happens we were
24 taking our machine out of service because of its
25 age and now moving, so we've been sending them

1 outside to do.

2 COMMISSIONER CLEAVES: Have we thought
3 about going into the owner cities and just
4 educating the residents on the lead issue? You
5 know, I know they get information from here and
6 information from there. But as a water entity,
7 and this is what you specialize in in water, have
8 you thought about doing an outreach, like some
9 forms, in the three owner cities just to educate
10 folks on lead and where it actually comes from
11 and, you know, how we as residents can help with
12 the lead issues and things like that. Have we
13 thought about doing that?

14 MR. BELLA: Well, we have sent out a
15 pamphlet recently to all 135,000 people that
16 talked about lead. We had another one we're
17 working on. And we have on our website, I thought
18 really good lead education where, you know, where
19 all the sources of lead are, what they can do
20 about doing that. So we kind of, you know, so we
21 do that. And, you know, anybody that calls in,
22 we'll talk to them. We'll be happy to go out and
23 do, you know, do a sort of a, you know, a little
24 public education wherever needed.

25 COMMISSIONER CLEAVES: Do they have to

1 contact you for that or you won't take the
2 initiative to go out and do this?

3 MR. BELLA: Well, we haven't been going
4 out. We have been doing all these other things on
5 our own initiative, but we haven't been going out
6 to individual places unless they want us to. What
7 we're finding that our education campaign has been
8 doing a really good job. We get a lot of calls,
9 samples. We're up to about 500 samples we've
10 gotten from the public. So, you know, we expect
11 that we'll, because of the way of the
12 notifications on individual bills that go out
13 quarterly, we expect to get up to between 800 and
14 a thousand.

15 COMMISSIONER CLEAVES: I asked this
16 because I know one of the biggest groups of people
17 that had the most concerns are parents with small
18 children because of the lead and stuff in the
19 schools.

20 MR. BELLA: Sure.

21 COMMISSIONER CLEAVES: So I think, you
22 know, to keep the parents from going into a
23 frenzy, I think they need to really hear more than
24 just on the website and, you know, because
25 everybody doesn't have access to the Internet.

1 MR. BELLA: Sure. Paterson has in their
2 school system, has had an excellent, I can't
3 remember her name, but she's really excellent.
4 She's in charge of the environmental and some
5 facilities kind of thing. She's excellent. And
6 we've talked to her through, not even through
7 this, but going back some years. And she has a
8 very good program and she's worked with CDC and us
9 and the DEP on that. So anything that we need to
10 do, we'll do.

11 COMMISSIONER CLEAVES: Okay.

12 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Anything else? What
13 else?

14 MR. AMODIO: Did everyone see the letter
15 from Mayor Torres? Any comments? Questions?

16 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: I didn't see it.

17 MR. AMODIO: It was in your package. I
18 will give it to Lynann and I will have her record
19 it in the minutes.

20 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Is anyone in charge of
21 replying to the mayor? I think we should reply
22 formally? Is anybody doing that?

23 MR. BELLA: I'm sorry?

24 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Is anybody replying to
25 the mayor in a formal way?

1 MR. BELLA: Yes.

2 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: I'd like to see that
3 happen soon, because we should do that formally
4 what we intend to do.

5 MR. BELLA: I wanted to make sure that you
6 saw it first --

7 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Now that we saw it, we
8 should reply in a formal way.

9 MR. AMODIO: Okay. We'll have that
10 recorded in the minutes.

11

12 (The following is the letter from Mayor
13 Torres:

14 Dear Mr. Bella,

15 I am writing to formalize the position of
16 my administration with regard to the Levine
17 Reservoir Containment Project that the Passaic
18 Valley Water Commission (PVWC) and NJ DEP have
19 been working on for several years, under mandate
20 of US Environmental Protection Agency/NJDEP.

21 As all parties have been made aware by
22 several formal letters from the NJ Historic
23 Preservation Office (SHPO) in 2014-15, your
24 mandated to drain the reservoir and construct two
25 containment tanks in the reservoir site will

1 constitute an encroachment and negative impact to
2 the Great Falls Historic Preservation Act was
3 triggered only recently by your application for
4 Federal funding through the NJDEP's Municipal
5 Finance and Construction Element to carry out this
6 project, and is being handled by NJ DEP as a
7 prerequisite to any funding award or permits. It
8 is expected that specific conditions, controls and
9 measure will likely be incorporated into your
10 project to mitigate the negative impacts that are
11 created because of it. As part of the Section 106
12 review process, the SHPO will be responsive and
13 sensitive to input by interested parties and the
14 public in its consideration of what finally these
15 measures shall be.

16 With this process in mind, PVWC has been
17 reaching out to the community to inform and
18 educate, and to gather their comments and provide
19 responses to their concerns about the planned
20 project. Following the lead of my numerous public
21 announcements at public meetings since 2014, your
22 public outreach campaign in the fall of 2015
23 included information about a mitigative measure to
24 reuse the reservoir as a component for rewatering
25 the historic Raceway system. It is my intention

1 to provide the following substantial input to this
2 process outlining specific mitigative measures
3 that will have positive outcomes for City of
4 Paterson and Passaic County residents, and
5 visitors to the Great Falls National Historical
6 Park (GFNP).

7 1. Historic Significance of the Raceways

8 - As you are aware, the Raceway system is the
9 GFHD's most historically significant resource. It
10 was constructed by the Society for Establishment
11 of Useful Manufacturers (S.U.M.) following the
12 concept of Alexander Hamilton and engineer Charles
13 Pierre L'Enfant to harness the tremendous
14 potential of the Great Falls of the Passaic to
15 power mill machinery. Although L'Entant's concept
16 was too elaborate and expensive for the new
17 corporation, the S.U.M. did at first construct a
18 simple system in 1794, which it later expanded in
19 1800 and again in 1838. It was this engineering
20 feature that launched Paterson onto its path to
21 greatness and financial success, and earned it the
22 status of "America's first planned industrial
23 city."

24 2. Raceway Rehabilitation, Historic

25 Interpretation & Visitor Amenity - Although the

1 Raceway was first restored in the early 1980s by
2 the city with the assistance of federal funding,
3 it was necessary to temporarily shut it down after
4 it sustained damage from the historic flooding
5 events of Hurricane Irene in 2010. Now that the
6 General Management Plan for the GFNP is completed,
7 we know for certain that the National Park Service
8 (NPS) shares the same goal as we do that the
9 Raceway system must be restored and rewatered, in
10 order to represent the historical interpretation
11 of the story of Hamilton and the S.U.M., as well
12 as a featured amenity for the recreational
13 enjoyment of the national park.

14 3. Engineering Study of the Raceway
15 System & Levine Reservoir concept - We have
16 received a grant from the Passaic County Open
17 Space Fund to conduct a final and comprehensive
18 engineering study of the Raceway's current
19 conditions/deficiencies and hydrology to set it up
20 for phased rehabilitation projects as soon as
21 possible. In conjunction with this study, we are
22 also commissioning an engineering feasibility
23 study into my concept of reusing the Levine
24 Reservoir to assist with keeping the Raceway
25 flowing continuously, even during periods of low

1 river flow. Because the 1838 Raceway was
2 historically fed directly from the Passaic River
3 from the intersection of McBride Ave. and Spruce
4 St., the city obtained a FERC permit in 2002 for
5 continuing to draw the water into the raceway for
6 scenic purposes.

7 The basic concept is to pump the river
8 water from the Raceway into the reservoir at the
9 most convenient and feasible spot, and then pipe
10 it back into the Raceway on demand when river
11 water flow drops, such as it does throughout the
12 summer months for example. The back-and-forth
13 flow of the water into and out of the reservoir
14 would need to be controlled by automatic equipment
15 that measure flow levels and in turn activates
16 pumps and valves as needed to transfer water flow
17 between the Raceway and the reservoir. The river
18 water held in the reservoir would likely need to
19 be managed with aerators and other apparatus to
20 keep it moving and to prevent stagnation.

21 4. Historic Precedent for Raceway Water
22 Storage - There has been substantial documentation
23 of water power system configurations in early
24 America. These are typically set up to best
25 provide for a reliable source of flowing water on

1 a daily basis. To do so, it was in most
2 situations essential to engineer a way to hold
3 water in reserve. This was done either directly
4 within its naturally-flowing path, or by
5 channeling the water out of its path and into a
6 flooded area called a "mill pond" or "reservoir".
7 The 1838 Raceway utilizes a large masonry
8 diversion dam across the Passaic River that slows
9 and holds back the flowing water enough to create
10 a swollen area from where surplus water can be
11 then drawn from. The dam is not designed to
12 completely stop the flow of the river waters. The
13 water from behind the dam is then allowed into the
14 mouth of the Raceway system, and its flow is
15 controlled by a gate and floating trash rack. In
16 the earlier 1794 configuration of the S.U.M.
17 Raceway, however, the opposite system was laid
18 out. River water was held back by a wooden dam in
19 the river, and it was diverted to a reservoir
20 (holding area) in the vicinity of where Libby's
21 Restaurant and McBride Ave. are located today.
22 The end of the reservoir was gated so the flow of
23 water into the Raceway could be controlled (see
24 attached illustrations prepared by the NPS
25 Historic American Engineering Record in 1973).

1 The concept that I am presenting is not
2 different from the 1794 configuration in purpose -
3 it uses the Levine Reservoir for what it was
4 constructed for in 1884: To hold water temporarily
5 in order to create a more reliable, continuous
6 resource. In this case, the water would be used
7 for supplementing the Raceway and not for
8 drinking. What I am proposing would require
9 minimal changes to both the Raceway and the Levine
10 Reservoir in order to accomplish.

11 5. Tank Design, Placement & Reuse of the
12 Levine Reservoir Site - Under this concept, the
13 portion of the reservoir designated to receive the
14 tanks would be engineered according to PVWC's
15 proposed plans to separate the tanks from the rest
16 of the site with an earthen berm. The rest of the
17 reservoir would store the water pumped into it
18 from the Raceway. The concrete tanks must be
19 screened with vegetation and also painted
20 accordingly to better camouflage them as
21 demonstrated by the renderings you presented in
22 public. A walking path with benches should be
23 established around the perimeter of the reservoir.
24 A connecting path would lead visitors from the
25 reservoir path to a fabulous nearby promontory

1 observation point overlooking the upper Raceway
2 and also the Great Falls. The promontory
3 observation pathway is scheduled to be improved
4 and formalized by the NPS this summer. The
5 promontory point will be accessible from an
6 entrance from the reservoir path, the McBride
7 Avenue path from the vicinity of Libby's
8 Restaurant, and also from the Stoney Road trail
9 leading up from the upper Raceway (see attached
10 map and illustration).

11 The reservoir pathway should be
12 landscaped, paved, and marked with signage that
13 explains the history of the reservoir site and the
14 Passaic Water Company (est. 1850). There should
15 also be a way finding kiosk nearby the Grand
16 Street entrance that can show visitors the trail
17 network, including how to cross the Rt. 80 bridge
18 (New Street) in order to reach the trails at
19 Garrett Mountain Preserve and to Overlook Park
20 where they can visit the Great Falls.

21 I look forward to submitting at a future
22 date the engineering feasibility study that will
23 outline and describe the concept I am presenting
24 in further technical detail. In the meanwhile, I
25 would like to provide for reference a hydrology

1 study of the Raceway completed in 2004 by
2 Lichtenstein Engineering that points out its
3 historic and technical operation, and identifies
4 the necessity of maintaining a steady flow of
5 water through the system for scenic purposes and
6 to prevent stagnation and invasive weed growth.

7 Please do not hesitate to contact me for
8 further clarification or information regarding
9 this topic, my staff and I will be pleased to be
10 of further assistance.

11 Very Truly Yours,

12 Mayor Jose "Joey" Torres)

13 MR. AMODIO: Next we have three requests
14 to advertise. Would you like me to do that as
15 one?

16 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Yes, please.

17 MR. AMODIO: Request to advertise for
18 Project 16-P-63 "Professional Architectural
19 Services For Rehabilitation of Passaic Valley
20 Water Commission's Main Pump Station Building, the
21 Superintendent's Building, and the Jackson Avenue
22 Pump Station."

23 3(d) Request to advertise for Project
24 16-P-62 "Professional Architectural Services For
25 Rehabilitation of Two Passaic Valley Water

1 Commission Buildings in the Great Falls National
2 Park."

3 3(e) Request Permission to Present a
4 Proposed Shared Services Agreement with the City
5 of Paterson for the Provision of Emergency Rescue
6 and Preventive Services and Consultation Related
7 to Confined Spaces.

8 Any questions?

9 Motion.

10 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Move by Jeff Levine.

11 Second by Commissioner Cleaves.

12 MR. AMODIO: On the roll.

13
14 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
15 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioner
16 Vannoy is out of the room. Commissioners
17 Kolodziej and Blumenthal are absent)

18
19 MR. AMODIO: Motion approved.

20 Move onto Controller's Report.

21 MR. WEISS: Cash on hand is 7.3 million.

22 Our reserves are full.

23 Our bond service fund is also full.

24 Our accounts receivable is 15.6 million.

25 Our 30 days or less accounts receivable is

1 at 14.6 million which is about 94 percent.

2 And our accounts payable is at
3 2.7 million.

4 In other news, we have the auditors coming
5 in. They'll be coming in the beginning of May to
6 be able to start the audit. And the audit that
7 we're doing on reviewing payroll and personnel
8 issues is mostly done. They said they should be
9 finished with that by mid May.

10 That's all I have.

11 MR. AMODIO: Any other questions?

12 Commissioner Friend, Treasurer. No.

13 We'll move onto Consent Agenda.

14 We have the minutes of Passaic Valley
15 Water Commission in camera session and regular
16 public meetings held March 16, 2016.

17 Do I have a motion?

18 COMMISSIONER CLEAVES: So move.

19 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Second by Commissioner
20 Vannoy.

21 MR. AMODIO: On the roll.

22

23 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
24 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioners
25 Kolodziej and Blumenthal are absent)

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

MR. AMODIO: Next, does the Chair accept, receive, and file miscellaneous purchase orders placed?

PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: I do.

MR. AMODIO: Thank you.

Next we have Resolutions. Would you like to do them as one?

PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Yes, please.

MR. AMODIO: I will recite them.

First Resolution 6(a). Resolution authorizing State contract purchases for furniture and fixtures from WB Mason Company of Secaucus, New Jersey in the amount of \$38,232.83.

(b) State contract purchases for replacement servers, computer work stations, and related appurtenances to upgrade PVWC's disaster recovery and e-mail servers to facilitate use of PVWC's GIS system from Dell Marketing in the total amount of \$30,030.00.

6(c). Resolution authorizing two-year Shared Services Agreement with Brick Township MUA for Analytical Laboratory Services in the total amount of \$214,830.00

COMMISSIONER FRIEND: Question, quick

1 question on that one.

2 MR. AMODIO: Yes.

3 COMMISSIONER FRIEND: If I may. Okay.

4 Did we obtain bids from other MUAs or whoever else
5 might do this type of work?

6 MR. BELLA: Initially, we did. We went to
7 the three other owner cities and they did not, you
8 know, express any interest. So that's as far as
9 we went with that.

10 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: Which one?

11 MR. BELLA: We went to Clifton.

12 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: For what though?

13 COMMISSIONER CLEAVES: The MUA.

14 MR. AMODIO: Joe, we're at lab services.

15 MR. BELLA: Oh, I'm sorry.

16 COMMISSIONER FRIEND: This is for
17 analytical.

18 MR. BRISMAN: Why did we choose Brick?

19 MR. DUPREY: We actually reached out to
20 them in the past. They've done an excellent job.
21 In fact, the Commission actually approved this
22 previously for the same not-to-exceed dollar
23 amount. What happened was it went down to the
24 BTMUA. They got a new attorney. The new attorney
25 made some modifications, so it went back and forth

1 for a few weeks because it just came back to us.
2 We agreed to the changes.

3 COMMISSIONER LEVINE: He's asking why
4 Brick and why no one else?

5 MR. BELLA: They're the only ones --

6 MR. DUPREY: Our laboratory managers
7 recommended. They do a good job.

8 COMMISSIONER FRIEND: It goes back and
9 forth and whatever is tested.

10 MR. BELLA: They pick it up.

11 COMMISSIONER FRIEND: They pick it up
12 because I saw something in the bid proposal about
13 UPS and Fed Ex.

14 MR. BELLA: They mostly pick it up. It
15 depends on what's going on. Most of these samples
16 have to be back and forth within a day. But
17 sometimes we send things just because it's cheaper
18 to send it UPS or something else. It's just a
19 mix.

20 COMMISSIONER FRIEND: That was part of my
21 question. It seems like a lot of samples going
22 back and forth and wouldn't it just be quicker to
23 assemble them in a day or two and have someone
24 drive them down rather than using Fed Ex?

25 MR. BELLA: No, no. Like all these lead

1 samples, we're sending the lead samples with that.
2 That's driven back and forth and actually they've
3 been picking those up. Sometimes there's a small
4 amount of samples.

5 MR. DUPREY: And some of them have a
6 shorter shelf life, you can't accumulate them.

7 MR. BELLA: We use them a lot of times
8 with, let's say we have an instrument that goes
9 down and we don't want to invalidate a whole bunch
10 of samples that we collect. They'll do the same
11 thing with us.

12 The other thing is right now we have our
13 and Inductive Coupled Plasma Spectrophotometer
14 that's out of service. We're replacing it. And
15 so all those metal samples are being done by them
16 until that gets done and that takes nine months
17 sometimes to get the machine up and running.
18 They're sophisticated machines and if we have a
19 lot of samples, they'll come and pick them up or
20 we'll send them down. But mostly they pick them
21 up.

22 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Okay. Let's move on.

23 MR. AMODIO: Next. Resolution 6(d).
24 Contract 16-B-17 "Furnish and Deliver Water Meter
25 Repair Parts" Recommendation to reject and rebid

1 the contract.

2 6(e). Resolution Project 16-P-57
3 "Professional Services Feasibility - Point View
4 Raw Water Transmission Main" Recommendation to
5 award to Hatch, Mott, MacDonald, LLC of Iselin,
6 New Jersey in the amount not-to-exceed \$63,500.00.

7 Any further questions?

8 Motion.

9 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: So moved by
10 Commissioner Vannoy.

11 Second by Commissioner Levine.

12 MR. AMODIO: On the roll.

13
14 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
15 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioners
16 Kolodziej and Blumenthal are absent)

17
18 MR. AMODIO: Move onto New Business. We
19 have Summary of Disbursements and Payrolls through
20 April 20, 2016, in the amount of \$6,274,593.23.

21 Does the Treasurer make a motion?

22 COMMISSIONER FRIEND: I move it.

23 MR. AMODIO: Motion by Commissioner
24 Friend.

25 Do I have a second?

1 COMMISSIONER CLEAVES: Second.

2 MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner he Cleaves.

3

4 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
5 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioners
6 Kolodziej and Blumenthal are absent)

7

8 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: I abstain on Montana.

9 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: Abstain on American
10 Hose.

11 MR. AMODIO: Next we have recommendations
12 from closed session.

13 We have Zackary Miranda to Water Treatment
14 Plant Operator with a proposed salary of
15 \$51,937.60 and a proposed range of \$17,804.80 to
16 \$64,209.60.

17 Do I have a motion?

18 COMMISSIONER VANNOY: So moved.

19 COMMISSIONER CLEAVES: Second.

20 MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner Vannoy.

21 Second by Commissioner Cleaves.

22 On the roll.

23

24 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
25 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioners

1 Kolodziej and Blumenthal are absent)

2

3 MR. AMODIO: Motion approved.

4 Under Good and Welfare, the Weiss family
5 had a new addition earlier this month, a baby
6 girl. Yitz is Grandpa for the first time.

7 I believe, Joe, you have something.

8 MR. BELLA: This time every year we go out
9 with the fair and open process for different
10 consultants and that kind of thing, so before we
11 send them out, we'll send you all a copy.

12 MR. AMODIO: They received them already.

13 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: When's the next
14 meeting?

15 MR. AMODIO: The next meeting is May 18th.

16 PRESIDENT SANCHEZ: Okay.

17 MR. AMODIO: Motion to adjourn.

18

19 (Whereupon, the proceedings concluded at
20 1:19 p.m.)

21

22

23

24

25

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, LYNANN DRAGONE, License No. XIO1388, a
Certified Court Reporter and Notary Public of the State
of New Jersey, certify that the foregoing is a true and
accurate transcript of the hearing at the time and the
date hereinbefore set forth.

I further certify that I am neither attorney
nor Counsel for, nor related to or employed by any of the
parties to the action in which this hearing was taken.

I further certify that I am not a relative or
employee of anyone employed in this case, nor am I
financially interested in this action.

LYNANN DRAGONE, CCR
Certified Court Reporter