

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ROCKLEIGH SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
HELD JUNE 5, 2023 AT 6:30 PM
AT 26 ROCKLEIGH ROAD, ROCKLEIGH, NEW JERSEY 07647**

Mr. Cumiskey called the meeting to order and following the Pledge of Allegiance, the Opening Statement was read. It was announced that the meeting of this date was held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of the State of New Jersey, and that adequate notice of same was given in writing to *The Record*, *The Star Ledger* and that notice was also posted on the Borough bulletin board as required.

The Secretary called the Roll Call of the Rockleigh Sewerage Authority:

Present– Chairman Cumiskey, Authority Member Pontone, Authority Member Feulner, Authority Member Schaffer and Authority Member Alternate II Hansen* (*arrived at 6:53 pm)

Absent: Authority Member Photiadis, Authority Alternate Member 1 Mender

Also, Present –Robert T. Regan, Esq., Authority Attorney; Marcella Giampiccolo, RSA Secretary; William J. McGuire, RSA Administrator and Authority CFO, Kunjesh Trivedi and Gary Higgins, Authority Auditor.

MINUTE APPROVAL:

Minutes of the February 6, 2023 meeting were presented for approval. Motion offered by Mr. Pontone seconded by Mr. Schaffer to approve the meeting minutes of February 6, 2023 as presented. No discussion took place. All Members present voted in the affirmative, except Mrs. Feulner, who abstained from the vote, to accept the February 6, 2023 minutes. The Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

FINANCIAL BUSINESS/ PAYMENT OF CLAIMS:

Resolution 2023-8 presented for consideration which was the Bill List for March 6, 2023, April 3, 2023, May 1, 2023 and June 5, 2023. Brief discussion took place regarding pest services. Mr. McGuire confirmed the vendor comes monthly per the contract for the pump station. No further discussion took place. A Motion offered by Mr. Pontone, seconded by Mr. Schaffer to approve the Bill List for June 5, 2023 representing the RSA contractual obligations in the amount of \$62,248.61. The Roll Call vote was recorded as follows:

AYES: Cumiskey, Pontone, Feulner, Schaffer

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Photiadis, Mender, Hansen

ABSTAIN: None

The Motion passed.

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The meeting was opened to the public by a Motion offered by Mr. Pontone, seconded by Mr. Schaffer. All Members present voted in the affirmative. The Motion passed. No public was present for the meeting. A Motion to close the meeting to the public was offered by Mr. Pontone seconded by Mr. Schaffer. All Members present voted in the affirmative. The Motion passed.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

NEW BUSINESS: While waiting for the arrival of Mr. Higgins to the meeting, the RSA Administrator, Mr. McGuire, discussed the rate billing decreases due to the closure of two (2) Bergen County facilities (Intermediate Care and Special Services) which affected the last two (2) quarter billing cycles. The County facility will be demolished sometime in the next months. Discussion ended.

At this time Mr. Higgins arrived to the meeting at 6:40 PM. Mr. Higgins reviewed the 2023 Sewer Study report with the Members. Mr. Higgins commented on the decreased sewer usage (due to closure) of Bergen County Intermediate Care and Special Services facilities, a total of 24 units decreased in 2022. This drop in usage will affect 2023 billing and drive the cost per unit up next year (and future years) or until which time a new entity emerges with usage. In addition, Mr. Higgins noted a discrepancy to the usage data prepared by Veolia. Veolia did not charge BG Rockleigh at 1 Volvo Drive for water usage since their arrival to Rockleigh in late 2022. The water reading issue had been corrected as of this week according to Mr. McGuire. Mr. Higgins reported; however, that the minimum usage amount was charged to 1 Volvo Drive in this year's \$68.00, (with the minimum unit charge equaling 10 units) for 2023 sewer fees.

Upon conclusion of this discussion a Motion was offered by Mr. Pontone, seconded by Mrs. Feulner to open the meeting to the public as to the 2023 Sewer Study. All Members voted in the affirmative. The Motion passed. No members of the public came forward. Motion to close the meeting to the public was offered by Mr. Pontone, seconded by Mrs. Feulner. All Members present voted in the affirmative to close the meeting to the public. The Motion passed. At this time a Motion was offered by Mr. Pontone, seconded by Mr. Schaffer to approve the 2023 Sewer Study dated May 30, 2023. The Roll Call vote was recorded as follows:

AYES: Cumiskey, Pontone, Feulner, Schaffer

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Photiadis, Mender, Hansen

ABSTAIN: None

The Motion passed.

At this time the report of Annual Audit for the year 2022 was presented for discussion. Mr. Higgins led the discussion making a few comments relating to the fund balance and summarized several exhibits with the Members on page 8 and page 10. One (1) comment regarding sewer fees not deposited timely, a 48 hours law, was noted in the comments section of the report. Mr. Higgins ended his presentation. A Motion was offered by Mr. Pontone, seconded by Mr. Schaffer to approve audit report for the year 2022. No further discussion took place. The Roll Call vote was recorded as follows:

AYES: Cumiskey, Pontone, Feulner, Schaffer

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Photiadis, Mender, Hansen

ABSTAIN: None

The Motion passed.

At this time the Secretary circulated the Group Affidavit for signature among the Members present.

Mr. Hansen arrived to the meeting (6:53pm).

Discussion ensued with a question by Mr. Schaffer who inquired about the sewer hook-up underneath Spectrum For Living and the DPW building. Those properties utilize a sewer line belonging to the County through an easement. Mr. McGuire confirmed the County will maintain that sewer line until a new one is installed on Link Drive. The RSA has an easement across the County properties and those buildings will be torn down without disturbing the sewer line running underneath, which is about 7-8 feet below ground. Discussion took place regarding the possibility of the RSA issuing written communication too support to the verbal confirmation previously stressing the need for the sewer line servicing the Spectrum For Living building and the DPW buildings to remain undisturbed during demolition. Mr. McGuire stated the demolition company, believed to be Sanzari, is aware of the underground sewer lines.

With no further business to come before the RSA, a Motion was offered by Mr. Pontone, seconded by Mrs. Feulner to adjourn the meeting. All Members present voted in the affirmative to adjourn the meeting. The Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,



Marcella Giampiccolo, Secretary
Rockleigh Sewerage Authority