

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
December 5, 2016

Pledge of Allegiance.

The regular meeting of the Landis Sewerage Authority was called to order by Chairman Merighi at 6:00 p.m. The following members were present at roll call: Barse, Reuben, Errickson and Merighi were present. Villar was absent.

The proper notice was given to all members in accordance with the by-laws.

Chairman Merighi stated that public notice of this meeting, pursuant to the Open Public Meeting Act, has been given in the following manner:

1. Posting written notice in the lobby entrance of the Authority.
2. Hand delivering notices to the offices of the Daily Journal and The Press.
3. Filing written notices in the offices of the Authority and City Clerk.

Also present: Dennis W. Palmer	Executive Director/Chief Engineer
Robert A. Schwarz	Field Engineer
A. Steven Fabietti	Solicitor
Carol A. Ricci	Executive Assistant

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Reuben that the reading of the minutes of the regular meeting held on November 21, 2016 be dispensed with and the same be approved in the form submitted to all members by mail. Roll call: Reuben, Errickson and Merighi voted “yes”. Barse abstained.

The Chairman asked if there were any general public comments or comments on the proposed Resolutions. There were none.

Resolutions:

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2016-124, “Be it resolved by the Landis Sewerage Authority, that the following bills of items or demands are hereby approved and authorized for payment out of the Revenue Fund Revolving Payroll Account.....\$155,126.60”, be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Reuben, Errickson and Merighi voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2016-125, “Be it resolved by the Landis Sewerage Authority, that the following bills of items or demands are hereby approved and authorized for payment out of the Revenue Fund

Bills...\$193,392.47”, be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Reuben, Errickson and Merighi voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2016-126, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority establishing regular meeting dates of the Landis Sewerage Authority for the Administrative year beginning February 6, 2017...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Reuben, Errickson and Villar voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Reuben that Resolution No. 2016-127, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing Municipal Unit Purchasing pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:1112 under State contract procedures...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Reuben, Errickson and Merighi voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2016-128, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing raises to Management and non-bargaining personnel...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Reuben, Errickson and Villar voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Reuben that Resolution No. 2016-129, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing correction on credits, charge-offs, refunds and cancellation of accounts in the amount of \$2,140.83...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Reuben, Errickson and Merighi voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Reuben that Resolution No. 2016-130, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority summarizing allocation activity through the close of Allocation Round 166...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Reuben, Errickson and Merighi voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Reuben that Resolution No. 2016-131, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority allocating sewerage capacity for Round 166 for multi-family classification...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Reuben, Errickson and Merighi voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2016-132, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority allocating sewerage capacity for Round 166 for the Industrial Classification...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Reuben, Errickson and Merighi voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2016-133, “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority establishing allocation dates for the Landis Sewerage Authority for the 2017 administrative year...” be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Reuben, Errickson and Merighi voted “yes”.

It was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that Resolution No. 2016-134 “A Resolution of the Landis Sewerage Authority authorizing payment from the Construction Fund of certain costs of the system in the amount of \$14,750.00 to Perna Finnigan, Inc.

for manhole removal and replacement at West and Landis Avenues on November 7, 2016 in accordance with the provisions of the Authority's General Bond Resolution..." be adopted. Roll call: Barse, Reuben, Errickson and Merighi voted "yes".

Reports:

Executive Director

Dennis Palmer reported that it has been quiet coming off of Thanksgiving and into the holiday season. We took action tonight on our first multi family home project to come in since about 2010.

We've had an ongoing issue for the last several weeks with our outside lab. They were purchased by a much larger group and the group we had been using, QC Labs for 25 years either here or in Camden they have been very good. With the new merger they are shutting down one of their labs and consolidating. Quality control has gone down and I've told them that I'm not paying for some of the results they given us. They have little suffix that show up after the lab results which means either dilution water didn't pass the quality control test or some other thing like that. We're having a meeting on Thursday with them to see what is going on and what are they doing to improve their quality. We've had times when they bid it and we have the right to renew it a year later, we may test the waters on bidding and it's getting disappointing with the results and the timeliness of getting data back to us. If one of their results for one of our industries, it's going to drive their billing and we like to give them the option to retest and at worst case, average the numbers together. If they don't respond to us until late in the month, you can't get the test done in time. This is an important meeting.

I've had many conference calls this week and last week and getting ready for another on Wednesday. We've been working with the builders and in response to NJ Builders Association wants to rewrite the rules or the law on connection fees and it's actually been good in that they reached out to us. One is that not statewide to people provide credits for existing use like we do. We are actually bringing other people up to what we've been doing for quite some time. If someone goes into a property and it hasn't been used for a couple of years, the towns don't necessarily give them credit for the previous use. That's part of what will incorporate the bill and also to codify some other things. It's been successful and hopefully into the next year and into another legislative cycle if we actually go in together with the Builder's Association and the AEA on a bill that we can both tell legislators we support and I'm sure someone will be out there against, CIC or the Chemical Industry Council.

Field Engineer

Bob Schwarz reported that the Highland Pines Subdivision, off of Palermo Avenue, performed work to finish the project and comply with LSA requirements. Work is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year.

Bob also stated that the school on Lincoln Avenue continues to install pipe prior to testing. Dennis received correspondence from the school where they are trying to have LSA maintain the sewer line however they did not construct the surface to our specifications. Therefore we cannot accept responsibility for maintenance.

We received information on a proposed truck service station on Garden Road between Mill Road and Route 55. A meeting is planned to discuss technical issues and design.

Work on Conrail to perform test pits is scheduled soon to determine why the intersection of Boulevard and Landis Avenue is undermining. City is coordinating construction.

Solicitor:

Steve Fabietti reported that it's been fairly quiet with the holiday. One item is the appeal that is pending in the Appellate Division of the Superior Court in regard to the NJPDES permit fees. We've been waiting for the State's brief in response to our brief and the Deputy Attorney General called me asking for some additional time. I talked to Dennis and we kind of met him half way. December 16th is their new due date.

Chairman: No Report

Issues and Correspondence: None

Committee Reports:

Engineering/Plant:

Dennis reported that we are working in house on specing some of the items going against the bond and not paying engineering and doing it ourselves. There are three center point irrigation systems over at the farm that are original ones from the 80's. They have not collapsed yet but could at any time; a well, a jet truck which we think we can buy off of the other bid list that we got as well as a TV unit. We could get very good pricing off of that.

Budget/Finance:

Dennis stated that DCA has reviewed our budget and they had three comments. They sent Tom and I an email on it and Tom responded and answered their question. Hopefully by the next meeting they will be back to us and we can do a formal adoption.

Tom Merighi asked if they were questions and not requests to change anything. Dennis stated it's how they were reading them and they required fairly simplistic answers from Tom.

Human Resources: None

Public Relations: None

Insurance Committee: None

Allocations/Administration:

Dennis reported that an issue has arisen and Jennifer brought it to my attention that goes back for the whole year. The City's License and Inspection has been slow in giving us updates on billing transfers, building permits and all of those kinds of things so we can keep our billing records current and not have people fall through the cracks that we are not billing yet because we don't know if the buildings are occupied and or transferred of other issues. We sent a letter some time ago and it has not improved. We're going to pull that letter and I am going to write to the acting business administrator for some help.

Joe Reuben stated that quite a few people have retired. Dennis stated that it's potentially costing us money and income because we are not being kept up to speed. Thirty days late would be acceptable but we are just not getting those updates.

DEP has some new rules and I am going up to give testimony on Friday dealing with how you plan the future of your plant as your capacity starts building out. It's almost as if it's going to bring people on sewer ban because they are raising the number. You used to have to start planning at 80 all the way up to 95. You get people caught in a trap that once you get to 95 and you have to start submitting these reports to DEP and start taking action, if we don't do it prudently, we planned ahead for 2040, you will have plants caught behind the eight ball and they will run out of capacity and DEP will not be able to react fast enough to help with new wastewater management plans or amendments. My comment is don't make it any higher than 90. Make sure there is a buffer for plants to have time to design, react and plan but still have some capacity left to allocate to development. It's a triple tsunami. We're in the third year of a drought. Towns that keep their systems tight with good pipe, when the rain comes, their flows are going to shoot up. Second, building permits have doubled over the last five years, not in Cumberland County, but throughout the state. They write 10 or 12,000 a year, they just broke 30,000 in residential building permits. Treatment works approvals which are like what we sign here, these are the permits to put the main sewer line in. Those numbers have also escalated from the high 300's to almost 500 this year. Those permits as they keep rising, the actual flow comes in a year, two or three years later as they build out. The Supreme Court is looking at COAH. You have this 16 year gap when COAH was not in effect, but it could be 300,000 affordable housing units have to be fit someplace in the state. That's 60M gallons. That's my testimony on Thursday and they are going to be behind the curve if they don't look at these other aspects and not just plant numbers look good. The DRBS just had a drought warning two weeks ago and they printed the numbers on how far behind we are on rain, about seven inches. Friday I will be giving testimony.

Tom Merighi asked what was our percentage and Dennis stated that we are at about half. Our permit now is 10.2 million and we're flowing 5.5. We have over 2M gallons of capacity that can be used and that's a lot.

Perry Barse stated that on the other issues with L & I it would be good to copy the mayor elect.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjournment:

At 6:20 p.m. there being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Errickson and seconded by Barse that the meeting be adjourned. Roll call: Barse, Reuben, Errickson and Merighi voted "yes".

THE LANDIS SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

G. STEVEN ERRICKSON, Secretary