

1 MANASQUAN RIVER REGIONAL SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

2 PUBLIC MEETING

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4 PUBLIC HEARING RE:  
5 ADJUSTMENT OF 2019/2020  
6 CONNECTION FEE

7 -----

8 Manasquan River Regional  
9 Sewerage Authority  
89 Havens Bridge Road  
10 Farmingdale, New Jersey

11 Wednesday, July 17, 2019  
Time: 5:30 p.m.

- 12 BEFORE:
- 13 JAMES DALY - FARMINGDALE BOROUGH
- 14 JULISA GARCIA, FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP
- 15 STEPHEN R. JOHNSON, HOWELL TOWNSHIP
- 16 OLGA R. McKENNA - WALL TOWNSHIP
- 17 MICHAEL J. ROMANO, FARMINGDALE BOROUGH
- 18 RICHARD J. GARTZ - FREEHOLD BOROUGH
- 19 A. RICHARD GATTO - FREEHOLD TOWNSHIP
- 20 JESSE J. TANTILLO - HOWELL TOWNSHIP
- 21 MARY DeSARNO - WALL TOWNSHIP

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## 1                    E X H I B I T S

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4        NUMBER                    DESCRIPTION

5        (Exhibits marked prior to Proceedings)

6        1            Affidavit Certifying Publication Hearing of  
7                    Notice in the Asbury Park Press 6/29/198        2            Affidavit Certifying to Publication Hearing  
                  of Notice in the Star Ledger 6/29/199        3            Letters Notifying Member Municipality Clerks  
10                    Of Public Hearing 6/27/1911        4            Mott & MacDonald 2018 Certified Wastewater  
                  Flow Letter

12        5            MRRSA Memorandum to HFA, PC 7/2/19

13        6            Letter from HFA, PC 7/2/19

14        7            MRRSA Memorandum to Commissioners 7/12/19

15                    (Exhibits marked prior to proceeding)

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1 (Transcript of proceedings, following  
2 preliminary matters on Wednesday, July 17,  
3 2019, commencing at 5:30 p.m.)

4 THE CHAIR: I'll entertain a motion to  
5 enter public hearing for the adjustment of the  
6 the 2018/'19 connection fees.

7 MR. JOHNSON: So moved.

8 MR. GARTZ: Second.

9 THE CHAIR: Moved by Mr. Johnson,  
10 seconded by Mr. Gartz.

11 All in favor?

12 (Affirmative Unanimous Response)

13 THE CHAIR: Roger?

14 **Mr. McLaughlin**  
~~MR. LICHT:~~ Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15 As the Board knows, this is the Annual  
16 Hearing to both, substantiate and adopt a  
17 connection fee for the coming 12 months, and  
18 we do this as required by the Statute.

19 We have premarked seven exhibits this  
20 evening. They are as follows: Exhibit  
21 Number 1 is an Affidavit Certifying to the  
22 Publication of the Hearing Notice in the  
23 Asbury Park Press on June 29th.

24 Exhibit Number 2 is an Affidavit  
25 Certifying Publication of the Hearing Notice

1 in the Star Ledger, also on June 29th.

2 Exhibit Number 3 are Certified Letters  
3 Notifying all of our Member Municipality  
4 Clerks of the Public Hearing scheduled for  
5 today.

6 Exhibit Number 4 is a Mott MacDonald  
7 2018 Certified Wastewater Flow Letter, which  
8 is dated February 11th of 2019. Mr. Kocsik  
9 will address that in a moment.

10 Exhibit Number 5 is a MRRSA Memorandum  
11 to Holman, Frenia & Allison, PC, detailing the  
12 calculation of the 2019/2020 connection fee.  
13 That's dated July 2nd of this year.

14 Exhibit 6, also dated July 2nd, is a  
15 Letter from HFA, PC Confirming Calculation of  
16 the 2019/2020 Connection Fee.

17 And, finally, Exhibit Number 7 is a  
18 MRRSA Memorandum to the Commissioners  
19 Detailing the 2019/2020 connection fee, and  
20 that memorandum is dated July 12, 2019.

21 We'll have two witnesses, Mr. Kocsik  
22 and Mr. Brach. If we can swear both of those  
23 gentlemen in.

24 I would ask the reporter to do that,  
25 please.

1 (Brian Brach and Peter Kocsik, being  
2 duly sworn according to law by the Court  
3 Reporter)

4 ~~MR. LICATA:~~ **Mr. McLaughlin** Mr. Kocsik, I will address  
5 you first.

6 If you would just state for the record  
7 your name, your affiliation and your licensure.

8 MR. KOCSIK: Sure. My name is  
9 Peter Kocsik. I'm the Executive -- Senior  
10 Vice President with Mott & MacDonald. We are  
11 the facilitating engineers for the Manasquan  
12 River Regional Sewerage Authority.

13 I am a licensed PE in the State of New  
14 Jersey.

15 ~~MR. LICATA:~~ **Mr. McLaughlin** And how long have you  
16 served as the facilitating engineer for the  
17 Sewerage Authority?

18 MR. KOCSIK: 25 years, I believe would  
19 be the answer.

20 ~~MR. LICATA:~~ **Mr. McLaughlin** Okay. I'm going to refer  
21 you to Exhibit 4, which was a letter from  
22 Mott & MacDonald dated February 11, 2019  
23 certifying wastewater flows.

24 That letter was signed by you. Was  
25 that prepared by you or by your staff at your

1 direction?

2 MR. KOCSIK: Yes, it was.

3 ~~MR. LICATA:~~ **Mr. McLaughlin** Would you explain to the  
4 commissioners -- summarize the information  
5 that's contained in that report and describe  
6 the calculations that you've made there?

7 MR. KOCSIK: Sure. At the end of each  
8 year we are asked to review the flow meter  
9 data that we get from the Ocean County Utility  
10 Authority, which is a total of the gallonage  
11 that the Authority has been to the OCUA. And  
12 the Authority maintains ten internal  
13 wastewater flow meters so we can distribute  
14 those flows to the five member towns.

15 So at the end of January, when data  
16 comes from Ocean County Utilities Authority,  
17 we review the flow data from January through  
18 December 31st of 2018 and come up with the  
19 flow for each town. The total flow from the  
20 Authority to OCUA in 2018 was 2,606,758  
21 gallons of flow, total flow.

22 And when you put it down to a per daily  
23 basis the, number is 7,142,000 gallons per day  
24 or MGD 7.142.

25 ~~MR. LICATA:~~ **Mr. McLaughlin** And how does that compare

1 to the flow from the prior annual period?

2 MR. KOCSIK: 2018 was a very wet year  
3 as far as rainfall and weather. Because of  
4 that, there was inflow infiltration into the  
5 system. The flows recorded in 2018 were  
6 \$326 million gallons greater than that of  
7 2017.

8 ~~MR. LICHTA:~~ **Mr. McLaughlin** Okay. And, finally,  
9 Mr. Koscik, discussing the calculations that  
10 you have made in your report, they are  
11 consistent, are they not, with the statutory  
12 mandates that cover our operation?

13 MR. KOCSIK: Yes, they are.

14 ~~MR. LICHTA:~~ **Mr. McLaughlin** Okay. Thank you very  
15 much.

16 Mr. Brach, you serve as the executive  
17 director to the authority; do you not.

18 MR. BRACH: Correct.

19 ~~MR. LICHTA:~~ **Mr. McLaughlin** Okay. I'll refer you to  
20 Exhibit 5, which is the memorandum pertaining  
21 to the calculation of the connection fee that  
22 you sent to HFA and ask if you would again  
23 briefly summarize the contents for the  
24 commissioners.

25 MR. BRACH: Yes. So providing the

1 summary of the July 2nd memo, which was also  
2 provided to the Board in a memo July 12th.  
3 The connection fee is calculated by taking the  
4 total depth service and capital improvement  
5 money spent by the Authority to date, which  
6 was \$46,904,266.54.

7 And dividing that by the number of  
8 equivalent flowing units that were flowed last  
9 year, which was 23,806.67 meters used. And  
10 you come up with a calculation of 1,970.22 per  
11 equivalent unit. And as per Authority  
12 practice, we ran that to the nearest dollar.  
13 So it's \$1,970 per equivalent dwelling unit.

14 **Mr. McLaughlin**  
~~MR. LICATA~~: And how does that rate  
15 compare to the rate that's currently in place.

16 MR. BRACH: It's actually a \$206  
17 decrease from the rate we established last  
18 year.

19 **Mr. McLaughlin**  
~~MR. LICATA~~: How, you sent that to HFA,  
20 and they sent back a letter to you indicating  
21 that they confirmed and agreed with those  
22 calculations; did they not?

23 MR. BRACH: That's correct.

24 **Mr. McLaughlin**  
~~MR. LICATA~~: And we've marked that as  
25 Exhibit 6 tonight?



1 MR. BRACH: Correct.

2 ~~MR. LICHTA:~~ **Mr. McLaughlin** And then you have also  
3 advised the commissioners prior to the hearing  
4 of that calculation, and that was marked as  
5 Exhibit 7.

6 Is that correct?

7 MR. BRACH: Correct.

8 ~~MR. LICHTA:~~ **Mr. McLaughlin** What would you propose to  
9 be the effective date of the new connection  
10 fee?

11 MR. BRACH: The effective tomorrow  
12 would be tomorrow, Thursday, July 18, 2019.

13 ~~MR. LICHTA:~~ **Mr. McLaughlin** Thank you, Mr. Brach.

14 That's all we have.

15 Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, we would  
16 ask at this time for the Board to approve the  
17 new connection fee and adopt the new  
18 resolution that's been prepared to that  
19 effect.

20 THE CHAIR: Any questions from the  
21 Board or comments?

22 And since there's nobody here from the  
23 public, the public portion will be closed.

24 I will entertain a motion to adopt the  
25 resolution.

1 MR. JOHNSON: So moved.

2 MR. GARTZ: Second.

3 THE CHAIR: Okay. All in favor?

4 (Affirmative unanimous response.)

5 THE CHAIR: Motion to adjourn the  
6 public hearing.

7 Mr. Johnson: So moved.

8 MR. GARTZ: Second.

9 THE CHAIR. Meeting adjourned.

10 (Adjourned at 5:37 p.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, MARY ANN FICSOR, a Notary  
Public and Certified Court Reporter of the  
State of New Jersey, do hereby certify that  
the foregoing is a true and accurate  
transcript of the testimony as taken  
stenographically by and before me at the time,  
place and on the date hereinbefore set forth,  
to the best of my ability.

I DO FURTHER CERTIFY that I am  
neither a relative nor employee nor attorney  
nor counsel of any of the parties to this  
action, and that I am neither a relative nor  
employee of such attorney or counsel, and that  
I am not financially interested in the action.

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Dated: October 3, 2019

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