

BOARD OF FINANCE
The Metropolitan District
555 Main Street
Hartford, Connecticut 06103
Wednesday, February 5, 2018

PRESENT: Commissioners Luis Caban, Allen Hoffman and Pasquale J. Salemi;
Citizen Members Martin Courneen and Linda King-Corbin and District
Chairman William A. DiBella (6)

ABSENT: Ram Aberasturia and Ron Angelo (2)

ALSO

PRESENT: Commissioner Timothy J. Fitzgerald
Commissioner Denise Hall
Commissioner David Ionno
Commissioner Kathleen J. Kowalyshyn
Commissioner Alphonse Marotta
Commissioner Dominic M. Pane
Commissioner Raymond Sweezy
Commissioner Richard W. Vicino
Commissioner Dominic M. Pane
Commissioner Bhupen Patel
Scott W. Jellison, Chief Executive Officer
R. Bartley Halloran, District Counsel
John M. Zinzarella, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Business Services
Christopher Stone, Assistant District Counsel
John S. Mirtle, District Clerk
Robert Constable, Director of Finance
Christopher Levesque, Director of Operations
Sue Negrelli, Director of Engineering
Kelly Shane, Director of Procurement
Tom Tyler, Director of Facilities
Robert Zaik, Director of Human Resources
Marcy Wright-Bolling, Manager of Human Resources
Kerry E. Martin, Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer
Carrie Blardo, Assistant to the Chief Operating Officer
Cynthia A. Nadolny, Executive Assistant
Victoria S. Escoriza, Executive Assistant
David Silverstone, Consumer Advocate
Vanessa Rossitto, Blum Shapiro
Brenda Watson, Operational Fuel

CALL TO ORDER

District Counsel R. Bartley Halloran called the meeting to order at 5:28 PM

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

District Counsel R. Bartley Halloran called for the election of the Chairman. Commissioner Hoffman placed Commissioner Pasquale J. Salemi's name in nomination, Citizen Member Courneen seconded the nomination.

There being no further nominations, the nominations were closed. Commissioner Pasquale J. Salemi was elected Chairman of the Board of Finance for 2018 and 2019. Chairman Richard W. Vicino assumed the Chair and thanked the Board of Finance.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

Chairman Salemi called for the election of the Vice Chairman. Chairman Salemi placed Commissioner Allen Hoffman's name in nomination, and the nomination was duly seconded by Citizen Member Courneen.

There being no further nominations, the nominations were closed. Commissioner Allen Hoffman was elected Vice Chairman of the Board of Finance for 2018 and 2019.

PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATIVE TO AGENDA ITEMS

David Silverstone, Consumer Advocate, spoke regarding Operational Fuel.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion made by Commissioner Caban and duly seconded, the meeting minutes of the Board of Finance meeting of January 8, 2018 were approved.

REQUIRED AUDITOR COMMUNICATIONS

Vanessa Rossitto of Blum Shapiro presented the Fiscal Year 2017 Auditor Communications.

CUSTOMER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY OPERATION FUEL

Brenda Watson of Operations Fuel presented on the Customer Assistance Program.

Without objection, Agenda Items 8 "APPROVAL FOR STATE OF CONNECTICUT FINANCING DWSRF NO. 2018-7061" and 9 "APPROVAL FOR STATE OF CONNECTICUT FINANCING DWSRF NO. 2018-7062" were consolidated and considered together.

**APPROVAL FOR STATE OF CONNECTICUT FINANCING
DWSRF NO. 2018-7061**

To: Board of Finance for consideration on February 5, 2018

Staff seeks approval from your Board to execute and deliver the Interim Funding Obligation and Project Loan Obligation to the State of Connecticut having a principal amount of \$2,115,361.50 and having an interest rate of 2.00%.

The low interest loan will fund the replacement of water mains in the vicinity of Montclair Drive and Linbrook Road in West Hartford.

The State of Connecticut, through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program, will provide \$2,115,361.50 in low interest loans at 2.00% to fund the expenses associated with this agreement.

Bond Counsel prepared the following resolution for your approval.

It is therefore RECOMMENDED that it be

VOTED: That the Board of Finance recommends to the District Board passage of the following resolution from Bond Counsel

RESOLVED:

Section 1. The Chairman and the District Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer are authorized to execute and deliver any and all Interim Funding Obligations and Project Loan Obligations in the aggregate amount not to exceed \$2,115,361.50. Such Interim Funding Obligations shall be dated as of their date of issue, shall mature within six months of the Scheduled Completion Date, shall bear interest at the rate of two percent (2.00%) per annum, shall be payable as to principal and interest as provided in the Project Loan and Subsidy Agreement DWSRF No. 2018-7061 to be entered into with the State of Connecticut (the "Agreement") and, to the extent not paid prior to maturity from The Metropolitan District funds, may be renewed by the issuance of Interim Funding Obligations or Project Loan Obligations, all as provided in the Agreement. Capitalized terms used herein and not defined shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Agreement.

Section 2. The Project Loan Obligations shall be dated as of their date of issue, shall mature no later than twenty years from the Scheduled Completion Date, shall bear interest at the rate of two percent (2.00%) per annum and shall be payable as to principal and interest as provided in the Agreement.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott W. Jellison
Chief Executive Officer

**APPROVAL FOR STATE OF CONNECTICUT FINANCING
DWSRF NO. 2018-7062**

To: Board of Finance for consideration on February 5, 2018

Staff seeks approval from your Board to execute and deliver the Interim Funding Obligation and Project Loan Obligation to the State of Connecticut having a principal amount of \$1,461,991.65 and having an interest rate of 2.00%.

The low interest loan will fund the replacement of water mains in the vicinity of Garden Street in Wethersfield.

The State of Connecticut, through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program, will provide \$1,461,991.65 in low interest loans at 2.00% to fund the expenses associated with this agreement.

Bond Counsel prepared the following resolution for your approval.

It is therefore RECOMMENDED that it be

VOTED: That the Board of Finance recommends to the District Board passage of the following resolution from Bond Counsel

RESOLVED:

Section 1. The Chairman and the District Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer are authorized to execute and deliver any and all Interim Funding Obligations and Project Loan Obligations in the aggregate amount not to exceed \$1,461,991.65. Such Interim Funding Obligations shall be dated as of their date of issue, shall mature within six months of the Scheduled Completion Date, shall bear interest at the rate of two percent (2.00%) per annum, shall be payable as to principal and interest as provided in the Project Loan and Subsidy Agreement DWSRF No. 2018-7062 to be entered into with the State of Connecticut (the "Agreement") and, to the extent not paid prior to maturity from The Metropolitan District funds, may be renewed by the issuance of Interim Funding Obligations or Project Loan Obligations, all as provided in the Agreement. Capitalized terms used herein and not defined shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the Agreement.

Section 2. The Project Loan Obligations shall be dated as of their date of issue, shall mature no later than twenty years from the Scheduled Completion Date, shall bear interest at the rate of two percent (2.00%) per annum and shall be payable as to principal and interest as provided in the Agreement.

Respectfully Submitted,

Scott W. Jellison
Chief Executive Officer

***On motion made by Citizen Member Courneen and duly seconded,
the reports for "APPROVAL FOR STATE OF CONNECTICUT
FINANCING DWSRF NO. 2018-7061" and "APPROVAL FOR STATE
OF CONNECTICUT FINANCING DWSRF NO. 2018-7062" were***

received and the resolutions adopted by unanimous vote of those present.

OPPORTUNITY FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

Judy Allen of West Hartford spoke in support of the Customer Assistance Program and submitted the following written comments:

Public comments for the Board of Finance Meeting 2/5/18

I would like to support the MDC's willingness to establish a program to assist low income customers who have difficulty paying their water bills. Operation Fuel is a well established program and by joining in partnership with them the MDC will have the experience and expertise needed to make this an excellent program for MDC's low income customers. Brenda Worth has done an excellent job in researching just how this program will benefit MDC and its customers in danger of getting their water service terminated or turned off.

Brenda Worth, the Director of Community Programs at Operation Fuel, Inc. has put together an excellent proposal which I encourage you to include in the minutes of this meeting.

I'd like to highlight some of the benefits to the MDC

1. Reduce collections
2. Promote bill paying among hardship customers
3. Expand public image
4. Reduce call time with hardship customers

This program can be an important part of a customer's safety net when facing financial hardships. Given the escalating water and Clean Water Project rates, the MDC would be helping to mitigate some of that for your most vulnerable customers.

Judy Allen
West Hartford

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Salemi suggested creating a subcommittee consisting of 3 members of the Board of Finance, along with members of the Water Bureau and Bureau of Public Works regarding historical water usage trends and operational costs.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:14 PM

ATTEST:

John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk

Date of Approval