



The Metropolitan District

water supply · environmental services · geographic information

**DISTRICT BOARD
555 MAIN STREET, HARTFORD, CT
REGULAR MEETING
MONDAY, JANUARY 10, 2022 5:30 PM**

The general public is welcome to call into the meeting. Everyone on the call will need to mute their phone to limit background noise disrupting the meeting.

Dial in #: (415)-655-0001; Access Code: 43808661#

[Meeting Video Link](#)

1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER
2. ROLL CALL
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON
5. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON
6. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION
7. RECESS (IN ORDER FOR THE COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION TO PREPARE REPORT)
8. REASSEMBLY AND REPORT FROM COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION RE: COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS FOR 2022 & 2023 (JANUARY 10, 2022)
9. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF DECEMBER 6, 2021
10. PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATIVE TO AGENDA ITEMS
11. REPORT FROM DISTRICT CHAIRMAN
12. REPORT FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
13. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNSEL
14. DISTRICT CLERK – SERVICE OF TAX WARRANTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022
15. COMMITTEE ON MDC GOVERNMENT - CONSIDERATION AND POTENTIAL ACTION RE:
 - A. APPOINTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE CONSULTANTS (January 10, 2022)

Motion By:

Second: _____

Unanimous / Majority

- B. REVISION TO BYLAWS § B1j- TELEPHONIC ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS (January 10, 2022)

Motion By:

Second: _____

Unanimous / Majority



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C. REVISION TO BYLAWS CHAPTER 6 – CODE OF ETHICS (December 6, 2021)

Motion By:

Second: _____

Unanimous / Majority

16. REFERRAL WITH DISCUSSION RE:

**A. SOLID WASTE AND HARTFORD SOUTH MEADOWS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
(POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSION TO THE EXTENT THE DISCUSSION INVOLVES
THE POTENTIAL PURCHASE, SALE OR LEASE OF REAL ESTATE)**

Motion for Executive Session:

Second By: _____

Time In Executive Session:

Attendees:

Time Out of Executive Session:

Presentation: Yes / No

Who Spoke: _____

Motion By:

Second: _____

Unanimous / Majority

Abstentions: _____

**B. SLUDGE (POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSION TO THE EXTENT THE DISCUSSION
INVOLVES THE POTENTIAL PURCHASE, SALE OR LEASE OF REAL ESTATE)**

Motion for Executive Session:

Second By: _____

Time In Executive Session:

Attendees:

Time Out of Executive Session:

Presentation: Yes / No

Who Spoke: _____

Motion By:

Second: _____

Unanimous / Majority

Abstentions: _____

C. ELECTRICITY



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PRESENTATION: YES / NO

WHO SPOKE:

D. BIODIESEL

PRESENTATION: YES / NO

WHO SPOKE:

**17. DISCUSSION RE: POTENTIAL SALE OF 705 KEENEY STREET, MANCHESTER
(POSSIBLE EXECUTIVE SESSION)**

Motion for Executive Session:

Second By: _____

Time In Executive Session:

Attendees:

Time Out of Executive Session:

Presentation: Yes / No

Who Spoke: _____

Motion By:

Second: _____

Unanimous / Majority

Abstentions: _____

18. OPPORTUNITY FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

19. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS & QUESTIONS

20. ADJOURNMENT

**APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION
FOR THE YEARS 2022 - 2023**

To: District Board

From: District Chairperson

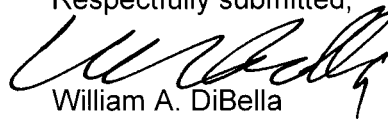
January 10, 2022

The Chairperson hereby appoints the following Commissioners to the Committee on Organization for the years 2022 and 2023:

Clifford Avery Buell
Donald M. Currey
Peter E. Gardow
Allen Hoffman
Shubhada Kambli

Jackie Gorsky Mandyck
Raymond Sweezy
Alvin Taylor
Richard W. Vicino
James Woulfe

Respectfully submitted,



William A. DiBella
District Chairperson

**COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION
APPOINTMENTS FOR THE YEARS 2022-2023**

To: District Board

January 10, 2022

From: Committee on Organization

At a meeting of the Committee on Organization held on January 10, 2022, it was:

Voted: That pursuant to the Charter of the Metropolitan District, the Committee on Organization recommends to the District Board the following to serve as Citizen Members to serve until December 31, 2023;

Joan McCarthy Gentile – Board of Finance
Drew Iacovazzi – Board of Finance
Linda King-Corbin – Board of Finance
Awet Tsegai – Board of Finance

Further

Voted: That the Committee on Organization recommends to the District Board the following Bureau, Committee, and Board appointments for the years 2022 and 2023:

Water Bureau

Andrew Adil	Diane Lewis
Clifford Avery Buell	Jackie Gorsky Mandyck
Peter E. Gardow	Domenic Pane
Georgiana Holloway	Jon Petoskey
David Ionno	Pasquale J. Salemi
Shubhada Kambli	Raymond Sweezy
Gary Lebeau	Alvin Taylor
	Michael Carrier (Special Rep)

Bureau of Public Works

Andrew Adil	Alphonse Marotta
John Avedisian	Dominic Pane
Richard Bush	Bhupen Patel
Donald Currey	Raymond Sweezy
David Drake	Alvin Taylor
James Healey	Calixto Torres
Allen Hoffman	Richard Vicino
Byron Lester	James Woulfe
Maureen Magnan	

Board of Finance

Andrew Adil	Joan McCarthy Gentile
Donald Currey	Drew Iacovazzi
Allen Hoffman	Linda A. King-Corbin
Pasquale Salemi	Awet Tsegai

Personnel, Pension & Insurance Committee

John Avedisian	Alphonse Marotta
Donald M. Currey	Dominic Pane
David Drake	Bhupen Patel
Shubhada Kambli	Pasquale Salemi
Byron Lester	Raymond Sweezy
Maureen Magnan	Alvin Taylor

Committee on MDC Government

John Avedisian	David Ionno
Clifford Avery Buell	Shubhada Kambli
Peter Gardow	Gary LeBeau
James Healy	Maureen Magnan
Allen Hoffman	Alphonse Marotta
Georgiana Holloway	Alvin Taylor

Audit Committee

Donald M. Currey	Dominic Pane
Peter E. Gardow	Raymond Sweezy
Allen Hoffman	Alvin Taylor
Diane Lewis	Richard W. Vicino
Jackie Gorsky Mandyck	

Community Affairs

Clifford Avery Buell	Maureen Magnan
Georgiana Holloway	Jackie Gorsky Mandyck
David Ionno	Raymond Sweezy
Diane Lewis	Alvin Taylor
Shubhada Kambli	Richard W. Vicino

Commission on Regional Planning

Alphonse Marotta	Raymond Sweezy
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Strategic Planning Committee

Andrew Adil	Dominic Pane
John Avedisian	Jon Petoskey
Richard Bush	Raymond Sweezy
James Healy	Alvin Taylor
Allen Hoffman	Calixto Torres
Gary Lebeau	Richard W. Vicino
Jackie Gorsky Mandyck	James Woulfe

General Policy & Planning

Donald M. Currey	Pasquale J. Salemi
Maureen Magnan	Raymond Sweezy
Dominic Pane	Alvin Taylor

**Further
Voted:**

That the Committee on Organization recommends to the District Board no appointments be made to the following inactive special committees and said special committees be hereby disbanded and dissolved:

Committee on Revenues (created 7/1/2019)

DEEP Landfill Subcommittee (created 9/5/2018)

Special Committee on Diversity (created 1/9/2012)

Farmington River Watershed Committee (created 1/7/1985)

Special Committee on Hydroelectric Development (created 2/14/1983)

Energy Committee

CRRA Steering Committee

Respectfully submitted,

John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk

**DISTRICT CLERK
SERVICE OF TAX WARRANTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022**

To: District Board

January 10, 2022

From: District Clerk

Pursuant to the Charter of the District, Section 3-13, the District Clerk reports that Tax Warrants for Fiscal Year 2022, drawn by the Chairman of The Metropolitan District, in favor of the Treasurer have been served on the following:

Town Clerk, Marguerite Phillips, Bloomfield
Town Clerk, Robert J. Pasek, East Hartford
Town and City Clerk Noel McGregor, Hartford
Town Clerk James Krupienski, Newington
Town Clerk Sandra Merrill Wieleba, Rocky Hill
Town Clerk Essie S. Labrot, West Hartford
Town Clerk Sue Schroeder, Wethersfield
Town Clerk Anna Posniak, Windsor

Receipts for these tax warrants have been received and are on file in the Office of the District Clerk.

Respectfully submitted,



John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk

**COMMITTEE ON MDC GOVERNMENT
APPOINTMENT OF LEGISLATIVE CONSULTANTS**

To: District Board

January 10, 2022

From: Committee on MDC Government

Over the past year, the firms of Gaffney, Bennett and Associates Inc. (Attorney Brendan Fox), SJB Strategies, LLC (Attorney Steve Bonafonte) and Strategic Outreach Solutions, LLC (Janice Flemming) have provided exemplary service in the area of government relations and advocacy within state government on behalf of the District, and the same holds true for Squire Patton Boggs (William Schuster) and SJB Strategies, LLC on the federal level. Based upon their collective past performance, and to maintain the necessary level of continuity within the District's legislative and administrative lobbying activities, District staff recommends the reappointment of each of these firms for the 2022 state and federal legislative consultants. The term of these appointments would be from January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022, subject to Board approval.

Furthermore, in the event the Committee on MDC Government forwards the appointments to the District Board, District staff recommends the following annual fees for state legislative/administrative consultants: (1) Gaffney, Bennett and Associates, Inc. receive \$60,000.00, (2) SJB Strategies, LLC receive \$20,000.00 and (3) Strategic Outreach Solutions, LLC receive \$60,000.00, for a total of \$140,000.00.

On the Federal level, District staff recommends the reappointment of Squire Patton Boggs and SJB Strategies LLC as federal legislative consultants. In the event the Committee on MDC Government forwards the appointments to the District Board, District staff recommends the following annual fees for federal legislative/administrative consultants: (1) Squire Patton Boggs receive \$150,000.00; and (2) SJB Strategies, LLC receive \$70,000.00.

At a meeting of the Committee on MDC Government held on January 10, 2022, it was:

Voted: That the Committee on MDC Government recommends to the District Board passage of the following resolution:

Resolved: That the firms of Gaffney, Bennett and Associates Inc., SJB Strategies, LLC and Strategic Outreach Solutions, LLC be retained to perform state lobbying services for a period commencing on January 1, 2022 and terminating on December 31, 2022. Gaffney, Bennett and Associates, Inc. fee will receive \$60,000.00, SJB Strategies, LLC will receive \$20,000.00, and Strategic Outreach Solutions, LLC will receive \$60,000.00, subject to the execution of a written agreement prepared and approved by District Counsel as to form and content, reflecting the scope of services, reporting requirements and such other terms and conditions as District Counsel, may specify.

Further

Resolved: That the firms of Squire Patton Boggs and SJB Strategies, LLC be retained to perform federal lobbying services for a period commencing on January 1, 2022 and terminating on December 31, 2022. Squire Patton Boggs will receive at \$150,000.00 and SJB Strategies, LLC will receive \$70,000.00, subject to the execution of a written agreement prepared and approved by District Counsel as to form and content, reflecting the scope of services, reporting requirements and such other terms and conditions as District Counsel may specify.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Mirtle". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk

**COMMITTEE ON MDC GOVERNMENT
REVISION TO DISTRICT BYLAWS
TELEPHONIC ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS**

To: District Board

January 10, 2022

From: Committee on MDC Government for consideration January 10, 2022

District staff, through the Office of District Counsel, submits the following bylaw revision to The Metropolitan District Bylaws for consideration by the Committee on MDC Government.

The District Board first approved the addition of Bylaw § B1j in October 2014 to allow members to participate at meetings and be counted toward a quorum for the meeting. The original § B1j included a requirement that at least a majority of the required quorum be physically present.

In March 2020, Governor Lamont issued executive orders that suspended public meeting requirements under the Freedom of Information Act in order to allow remote participation for public agency members and the general public. In July 2021, the General Assembly passed Public Act 21-2 that codified into law the ability for public agencies to hold fully remote meetings so long as certain conditions are met. Both the executive orders and Public Act 21-2 allow remote attendees to count towards a quorum.

In July 2021 the Committee on MDC Government recommended to the District Board revision to Bylaw § B1j to give the District the same ability to hold remote meetings as other public agencies. In October 2021, the District Board considered the revision and amended the recommended bylaw to add a sunset provision that will remove the District's ability to count remote attendees towards a quorum and hold remote meetings as of March 1, 2022. It is the recommendation of the District Clerk and Office of District Counsel to remove the sunset provision in order to allow the District Board and committees to function the same as all other public agencies in accordance with the State of Connecticut Freedom of Information Act.

At a meeting of the Committee on MDC Government held on January 10, 2022, it was:

VOTED: That the Committee on MDC Government recommends to the District Board passage of the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That the revision to The Metropolitan District's Bylaws be adopted as follows:

B1J TELEPHONIC ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS

Commissioners may participate in and act at any meeting of the Board or any Committee through the use of a conference telephone or by means of other electronic equipment so long as all persons participating in the meeting can communicate with each other concurrently. Telephonic or electronic participation in a meeting shall constitute attendance and presence at the meeting ~~provided that as of March 1, 2022 and absent action by the District Board to the contrary, Commissioners physically present at any meeting must constitute a majority of the required quorum.~~

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Mirtle". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "M".

John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk

**COMMITTEE ON MDC GOVERNMENT
REVISION TO DISTRICT BYLAWS
CHAPTER 6 - CODE OF ETHICS**

To: District Board

January 10, 2022

From: Committee on MDC Government

District staff, through the Office of District Counsel, submits the following bylaw revision to The Metropolitan District Bylaws for consideration by the Committee on MDC Government.

At a meeting of the Committee on MDC Government held on December 6, 2021, it was:

VOTED: That the Committee on MDC Government recommends to the District Board passage of the following resolution:

RESOLVED: That Chapter 6 of the Bylaws of the District Board of The Metropolitan District, Code of Ethics, be repealed in full and replaced by the following:

CHAPTER 6

CODE OF ETHICS

<u>Section</u>	<u>Title</u>
	<u>Preamble</u>
<u>B6a</u>	Fair and Equal Treatment
<u>B6b</u>	Disclosure of Confidential Information
<u>B6c</u>	Representing Private or Public Interest in District Matters
<u>B6d</u>	Disclosure of Interest
<u>B6e</u>	Gifts and Favors
<u>B6f</u>	Employment by District
<u>B6g</u>	Personnel Matters
<u>B6h</u>	Ethics Advisory Board

PREAMBLE

Public office is a public trust. The proper operation of government requires that public officers and employees be independent, impartial and responsible to the citizens whom they represent and serve. The work of government, including but not limited to the procurement of goods and services, must be performed honestly, free from threats, favoritism, undue influence and all forms of impropriety. Public office and public employment should not be pursued or used for the purpose of personal gain, and public officials and employees should have clear guidelines for ethical standards of conduct in order to act with integrity, fairness and in the best interests of the District. This Code of Ethics is provided to give these guidelines and to help ensure these standards are achieved.

The provisions of this Chapter shall apply to all Commissioners, Citizen Members, officers and employees of The Metropolitan District, paid or unpaid.

B6a USE OF DISTRICT PROPERTY

No officer, Commissioner, Citizen Member, officer or employee shall use, permit the use of or direct others to use District funds, services, property, equipment or materials, except as provided by law, or in accordance with administrative direction.

B6b DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

No officer, Commissioner, Citizen Member or employee shall disclose Confidential Information or use any such Confidential Information, nor direct any other person to disclose or use any such Confidential Information, for the purpose of advancing the financial or personal interest of him/herself or others, .

“Confidential Information” means information, whether transmitted orally or in writing, which is obtained by reason of the public position or office held and is of such nature that it is not, at the time of transmission, a matter of public record or public knowledge.

B6c REPRESENTING PRIVATE OR PUBLIC INTEREST IN DISTRICT MATTERS

No officer, Commissioner, Citizen Member or employee shall appear for, or represent, any personal interest, or any public interest except that of The Metropolitan District, in any matter pending before or procurement being considered by the District staff, District Board, or any of its Bureaus, Commissioners, or Committees. No former officer, Commissioner, Citizen Member or employee shall represent anyone other than the District concerning any particular matter in which he/she participated personally and substantially while in District service. Nothing in this section shall prohibit or restrict an officer, Commissioner, Citizen Member or employee from appearing before the District Board or any of its Bureaus or Committees, on his/her own behalf, or from being a party in any action, proceeding or litigation brought by or against the officer, Commissioner, Citizen Member or employee to which the District is a party.

B6d DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

(a) No officer, Commissioner, Citizen Member or employee engage in or participate in any business or transaction, including outside employment with a private business, or pursue an interest, directly or indirectly, which is incompatible with the proper discharge of his or her official responsibilities in the public interest or which would tend to impair his or her independent judgment or action in the performance of official responsibilities.

(b) If any officer, Commissioner, Citizen Member or employee has a personal interest, or a member of his/her immediate family has a financial or personal interest, in any matter coming before, or which has been before, the District Board, or any of its Bureaus, Commissions or Committees, or if there is any matter, the consummation of which is incompatible with the proper discharge of official duties, such officer, Commissioner, Citizen Member or employee shall so advise such body. If such officer, Commissioner, Citizen Member or employee is a member of such body, he or she shall refrain from voting upon or otherwise participating in the consideration of such matter or any determination in connection therewith by such body, and shall not be present at any executive session of such body at which such matter is considered. Notwithstanding the prohibition in subsection, such officer, Commissioner, Citizen Member or employee a public employee or public official may vote or otherwise participate in a matter if it involves a determination of general policy and the interest is shared with a substantial segment of the population of the municipality; provided, in the case of a Commissioner, said Commissioner shall not preside over any meeting or hearing involving such matter.

B6e GIFTS AND FAVORS

No officer, Commissioner, Citizen Member or employee shall solicit or accept any gift from: 1) any person, firm or corporation which to his or her knowledge is interested in any pending matter within such individual's official responsibility or is pending or to be presented, or has been presented, before the District Board or any of its Bureaus, Commissions, or Committees; and 2) any consultant or third-party contractor providing goods or services to the District.

If a prohibited gift is offered, the recipient must refuse it, and if delivered, the intended recipient must return it.

For purposes of this section, the term "gift" means anything of value, including entertainment, food, beverage, travel, and lodging given or paid to an officer, Commissioner, Citizen Member or employee to the extent that consideration of equal or greater value is not received. A gift does not include:

1) a political contribution otherwise reported as required by law or a donation or payment as described in subdivision (9) or (10) of subsection (b) of section 9-601a;

(2) services provided by persons volunteering their time, if provided to aid or promote the success or defeat of any political party, any candidate or candidates for public office or the position of convention delegate or town committee member or any referendum question;

(3) a commercially reasonable loan made on terms not more favorable than loans made in the ordinary course of business;

(4) a gift received from (A) an individual's spouse, fiance or fiancée, (b) the parent, brother or sister of such spouse or such individual, or (C) the child of such individual or the spouse of such child;

- (5) goods or services which are provided to the District and facilitate governmental action or functions;
- (6) a certificate, plaque or other ceremonial award costing less than one hundred dollars;
- (7) a rebate, discount or promotional item available to the general public;
- (8) printed or recorded informational material germane to governmental actions or functions;
- (9) an honorary degree bestowed upon an officer, Commissioner, Citizen Member or employee by a public or private university or college;
- (10) a meal provided at an event and/or the registration or entrance fee to attend such an event, in which an officer, Commissioner, Citizen Member or employee participates in his official capacity;
- (11) a meal provided in the home by an individual;
- (12) a gift, including but not limited to, food or beverage or both, provided by an individual for the celebration of a major life event such as the birth or adoption of a child, a wedding, a confirmation or bar/bat mitzvah, and a funeral, provided any such gift provided by an individual who is not a member of the family of the recipient shall not exceed two hundred fifty dollars. Major life event shall not include any event which occurs on an annual basis such as an anniversary; except that personal gifts of up to twenty-five dollars per occasion, aggregating no more than fifty dollars per recipient in a calendar year, shall be permitted to a minor incident to a birthday or other traditional gift-giving occasion, e.g., Christmas or Chanukah.
- (13) anything of value provided by an employer of (A) a public official, (B) a public employee, or (C) a spouse of a public official or public employee, to such official, employee or spouse, provided such benefits are customarily and ordinarily provided to others in similar circumstances;
- (14) anything having a value of not more than ten dollars, provided the aggregate value of all things provided by a donor to a recipient under this subdivision in any calendar year shall not exceed fifty dollars; or
- (15) training that is provided by a vendor for a product purchased by a municipality which is offered to all customers of such vendor.

B6f EMPLOYMENT BY DISTRICT

(a) No Commissioner or Citizen Member shall, on behalf of any existing employee or candidate for employment, solicit any officer or employee for promotion, reassignment or employment of any person, nor shall any Commissioner or Citizen Member hold any staff office of employment or other relationship of remuneration with the District while serving as Commissioner or Citizen Member, or for a period of one year after termination of service as a Commissioner or Citizen Member. The restriction during the year after service as a Commissioner or Citizen Member shall

not apply to any contract awarded as a result of a bid on a competitive basis after sealed bids and public notice.

(b) No Commissioner or Citizen Member may represent any business or person, other than himself or herself, before the commission for a period of one year following the end of such member's service on the commission.

B6g PERSONNEL MATTERS

No Commissioner or Citizen Member shall represent the personal interest of any District employee in regard to personnel matters, including but not limited to, the operation of personnel administration processes and procedures as it may affect such employee, disciplinary actions, whistleblower complaints, and grievances, provided nothing herein shall serve to interfere with any right to initiate policy, to oversee the implementation of policy, to initiate investigations, or to select District officers.

B6h ETHICS ADVISORY BOARD

There shall be a standing Ethics Advisory Board of the District Board, consisting of three Commissioners together with two Commissioner alternates appointed by the Chairman, which shall render advisory opinions whenever there exists any doubts as to the applicability of the provisions and restrictions of this code. The finding or recommendation of the Ethics Advisory Board shall be reported to the District Board for final action. In the event a matter referred to the Ethics Advisory Board in any way relates to or concerns a member of the Ethics Advisory Board, or if a member is unable to serve for any other reason, such member shall be replaced by an alternate member, on a rotating basis, for purposes of the board's consideration of such matter.

B6i INVESTIGATION OF COMPLAINTS

The Office of District Counsel, with oversight and direction from the Ethics Advisory Board of the District Board established under B6h, shall be responsible for the investigation of any formal complaints which may be received regarding the compliance with the Code of Ethics. District Counsel, upon the advice and consent of the Ethics Advisory Board, is authorized to retain and oversee such additional resources as may be necessary, including retaining independent counsel, in the course of conducting said investigation(s). The finding of any investigation shall be reported to the District Board for final action, as appropriate.

Respectfully Submitted,



John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk