



The Metropolitan District
water supply · environmental services · geographic information

**BOARD OF FINANCE
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2024
5:30 PM**

<u>Location</u>	<u>Commissioners</u>	<u>Citizen Members</u>
Board Room District Headquarters 555 Main Street, Hartford	Adil Currey (Ex-Officio) Hoffman (VC) Salemi (C)	Iacovazzi King-Corbin Russo Tsegai
Dial in #: (415)-655-0001 Access Code: 2318 663 0049# Meeting Video Link	Quorum: 5	

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATIVE TO AGENDA ITEMS
3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 18, 2024
4. CONSIDERATION AND POTENTIAL ACTION RE: APPROVAL FOR STATE OF CT FINANCING DWSRF 2023-7118
5. CONSIDERATION AND POTENTIAL ACTION RE: APPROVAL FOR STATE OF CT FINANCING DWSRF 2023-5001
6. CONSIDERATION AND POTENTIAL ACTION RE: APPROVAL FOR STATE OF CT FINANCING DWSRF 2023-7123
7. OPPORTUNITY FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS
8. COMMISSIONER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
9. ADJOURNMENT

APPROVAL FOR STATE OF CONNECTICUT FINANCING DWSRF 2023-7118

To: Board of Finance for consideration on January 24, 2024

Staff seeks approval from your Board to execute and deliver the Interim Funding Obligation and/or Project Loan Obligation to the State of Connecticut for DWSRF 2023-7118 having a principal amount of \$4,783,692.03 and having an interest rate of 2.00%.

The low interest loan and accompanying grant will fund the replacement of water mains and associated appurtenances in the vicinity of Hartford Hospital in Hartford.

The State of Connecticut, through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program, will provide \$6,283,692.03 in state funding with \$1,500,000 in grants and \$4,783,692.03 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, or in his absence, the Vice-Chairman, and the District Treasurer, or in his absence, the Deputy Treasurer, are authorized to execute and deliver the Project Loan and Subsidy Agreement DWSRF 2023-7118 to be entered into with the State of Connecticut (the "Agreement") and any and all Interim Funding Obligations and Project Loan Obligations for DWSRF 2023-7118 in the aggregate amount not to exceed \$4,783,692.03, to fund the replacement of water mains and associated appurtenances in the vicinity of Hartford Hospital in Hartford, Connecticut. All previous actions taken by the District, including the actions of the Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice-Chairman, and the District Treasurer, or in his absence, the Deputy Treasurer, in furtherance of this resolution or otherwise related to the Agreement and any and all related documents, shall hereby be ratified and confirmed in all respects. Such Interim Funding Obligations shall be dated as of their date of issue, shall mature within six months of the Scheduled Completion Date, as defined in the Agreement, shall bear interest at a rate of two percent (2.00%) per annum, shall be payable as to principal and interest as provided in 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 a rate of two percent (2.00%) per annum and shall be payable as to principal and interest as provided in the Agreement.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Jellison', written in a cursive style.

Scott W. Jellison
Chief Executive Officer

APPROVAL FOR STATE OF CONNECTICUT FINANCING DWSRF 2023-5001

To: Board of Finance for consideration on January 24, 2024

Staff seeks approval from your Board to execute and deliver the Interim Funding Obligation and/or Project Loan Obligation to the State of Connecticut for DWSRF 2023-5001 having a principal amount of \$340,133.80 and having an interest rate of 2.00%.

The low interest loan and accompanying grant will fund the inventory and material identification of service lines within the MDC water service area.

The State of Connecticut, through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program, will provide \$1,360,535.22 in state funding with \$1,020,401.42 in grants and \$340,133.80 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, or in his absence, the Vice-Chairman, and the District Treasurer, or in his absence, the Deputy Treasurer, are authorized to execute and deliver the Project Loan and Subsidy Agreement DWSRF 2023-5001 to be entered into with the State of Connecticut (the "Agreement") and any and all Interim Funding Obligations and Project Loan Obligations for DWSRF 2023-5001 in the aggregate amount not to exceed \$340,133.80, to fund the Water Service Line Inventory, which shall consist of the inventory and material identification of service lines within The Metropolitan District water service area. All previous actions taken by the District, including the actions of the Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice-Chairman, and the District Treasurer, or in his absence, the Deputy Treasurer, in furtherance of this resolution or otherwise related to the Agreement and any and all related documents, shall hereby be ratified and confirmed in all respects. Such Interim Funding Obligations shall be dated as of their date of issue, shall mature within six months of the Scheduled Completion Date, as defined in the Agreement, shall bear interest at a rate of two percent (2.00%) per annum, shall be payable as to principal and interest as provided in 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 a rate of two percent (2.00%) per annum and shall be payable as to principal and interest as provided in the Agreement.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Jellison', written in a cursive style.

Scott W. Jellison
Chief Executive Officer

APPROVAL FOR STATE OF CONNECTICUT FINANCING DWSRF 2023-7123

To: Board of Finance for consideration on January 24, 2024

Staff seeks approval from your Board to execute and deliver the Interim Funding Obligation and/or Project Loan Obligation to the State of Connecticut for DWSRF 2023-7123 having a principal amount of \$3,160,371.65 and having an interest rate of 2.00%.

The low interest loan and accompanying grant will fund improvements to the Orchard St. Pump Station in Glastonbury, CT.

The State of Connecticut, through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program, will provide \$3,493,042.35 in state funding with \$332,670.70 in grants and \$3,160,371.65 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, or in his absence, the Vice-Chairman, and the District Treasurer, or in his absence, the Deputy Treasurer, are authorized to execute and deliver the Project Loan and Subsidy Agreement DWSRF 2023-7123 to be entered into with the State of Connecticut (the "Agreement") and any and all Interim Funding Obligations and Project Loan Obligations for DWSRF 2023-7123 in the aggregate amount not to exceed \$3,160,371.65, to fund improvements to the Orchard Street Pump Station in Glastonbury, Connecticut. All previous actions taken by the District, including the actions of the Chairman, or in his absence, the Vice-Chairman, and the District Treasurer, or in his absence, the Deputy Treasurer, in furtherance of this resolution or otherwise related to the Agreement and any and all related documents, shall hereby be ratified and confirmed in all respects. Such Interim Funding Obligations shall be dated as of their date of issue, shall mature within six months of the Scheduled Completion Date, as defined in the Agreement, shall bear interest at a rate of two percent (2.00%) per annum, shall be payable as to principal and interest as provided in 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 a rate of two percent (2.00%) per annum and shall be payable as to principal and interest as provided in the Agreement.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Jellison', written in a cursive style.

Scott W. Jellison
Chief Executive Officer

**BOARD OF FINANCE
SPECIAL MEETING
The Metropolitan District
555 Main Street, Hartford
Thursday, January 18, 2024**

PRESENT: Commissioners Andrew Adil, Allen Hoffman, Pasquale J. Salemi and District Chairman Donald Currey; Citizen Members Drew Iacovazzi, Linda Russo and Awet Tsegai (7)

**REMOTE
ATTENDANCE:** Citizen Member Linda King-Corbin (1)

ABSENT: (0)

**ALSO
PRESENT:** Commissioner John Avedisian
Commissioner William DiBella
Commissioner Alvin Taylor
Commissioner John Gale
Commissioner Joan Gentile (Remote Attendance)
Commissioner Byron Lester (Remote Attendance)
Commissioner Jacqueline Mandyck (Remote Attendance)
Scott W. Jellison, Chief Executive Officer
Christopher Stone, District Counsel
John S. Mirtle, District Clerk
Steve Bonafonte, Assistant District Counsel
Kelly Shane, Chief Administrative Officer
Chris Levesque, Chief Operating Officer (Remote Attendance)
Robert Barron, Chief Financial Officer
Robert Schwarm, Director of Information Services (Remote Attendance)
Thomas Tyler, Director of Facilities (Remote Attendance)
Dylan Pecego, IT Consultant (Remote Attendance)
Victoria Escoriza, Executive Assistant
Julie Price, Executive Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

District Chairman Donald Currey called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM

ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON

District Chairman Currey called for the election of the Chairperson. Commissioner Andrew Adil placed Commissioner Pasquale Salemi's name in nomination, the nomination was duly seconded.

There being no further nominations, the nominations were closed. Commissioner Salemi was elected Chairperson of the Board of Finance for 2024 and 2025. Chairperson Salemi assumed the Chair and thanked the Board of Finance.

ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON

Chairman Salemi called for the election of the Vice Chairperson. Commissioner Salemi placed Commissioner Allen Hoffman's name in nomination and the nomination was duly seconded.

There being no further nominations, the nominations were closed. Commissioner Hoffman was elected Vice Chairperson of the Board of Finance for 2024 and 2025.

PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATIVE TO AGENDA ITEMS

No one from the public appeared to be heard.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion made by Commissioner Adil and duly seconded, the meeting minutes of the Board of Finance meeting of December 4, 2023 were approved.

Preceding agenda item #6, "Request From Commissioner Salemi For Indemnification and Reimbursement of Private Attorney Fees," Commissioner Salemi made a statement and asked that the Board of Finance consider that his request in agenda item #6 was made of the District Board in November 2023. He also intends for Vice-Chairman Hoffman to chair the Board of Finance until item #6 is acted upon by the Board of Finance.

Commissioner Salemi asked District Clerk John Mirtle about a possible executive session on the basis of attorney-client privilege. District Clerk Mirtle stated that attorney-client privilege between Commissioner Salemi and his attorney James Sullivan is not a proper basis for executive session under CT FOIA.

Chairman Salemi relinquished the chair and Vice Chairman Hoffman assumed the Chair.

REFERRAL FROM DISTRICT BOARD RE: REQUEST FROM COMMISSIONER SALEMI FOR INDEMNIFICATION AND REIMBURSEMENT OF PRIVATE ATTORNEY FEES

Commissioner Adil made a motion to move the referral from District Board Re: Request From Commissioner Salemi For Indemnification and Reimbursement of Private Attorney Fees forward. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously and the agenda item was taken up by the Board of Finance.

Commissioner Salemi discussed his request for indemnification and reimbursement and introduced his attorney James Sullivan of Logan, Vance, Sullivan, Kores, who was available to answer any questions. Attorney Sullivan stated that he was retained by Commissioner Salemi because the report by the Independent Counsel made legal conclusions and that Commissioner Salemi came upon a logjam of getting information and needed legal assistance to file FOIA requests.

Citizen Member Iacovazzi asked whether Commissioner Salemi is recusing himself from the vote on this matter. District Counsel Stone explained recusal and District Clerk Mirtle read MDC Bylaw § B6d "Disclosure of Interest." Commissioner Salemi stated he believes there is no financial benefit to himself and therefore he can vote and does not need to recuse himself.

Commissioner Salemi and Attorney Sullivan stated that he is not asking for indemnification. He is asking for the Board of Finance and District Board to reimburse Commissioner Salemi for fees that have been incurred. Attorney Sullivan stated the request is not based on statutory indemnification but the request is based on what the Board can do to reimburse one of its Commissioners for needing an attorney to face a charge leveled against a Commissioner.

Citizen Member Russo made the following motion:

That the request for reimbursement for legal fees submitted by Commissioner Salemi be referred to the District Board for review and approval.

The motion was duly seconded and the agenda item was referred to District Board by unanimous vote of those present.

OPPORTUNITY FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS

No one from the public appeared to be heard.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:27 PM

ATTEST:

John S. Mirtle, Esq.
District Clerk

Date of Approval