

Philadelphia Water, Sewer and Storm Water Rate Board
October Monthly Meeting Notes
10/14/2020, by Telephone and Zoom (Online) Only

Board Members Present

Irwin “Sonny” Popowsky, Chair
Abby Pozefsky
Tony Ewing, Vice Chair
Rasheia Johnson

Also Present

Daniel W. Cantú-Hertzler
Edward Markus
Robert Ballenger
Scott Schwarz
Ji Jun
Andre Dasent
Steven Liang

Mr. Popowsky called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

1. Ms. Pozefsky moved to approve the minutes from the August 5, 2020 special meeting. Mr. Ewing seconded the motion. The minutes were approved with three ayes from Mr. Popowsky, Ms. Pozefsky, and Mr. Ewing. Ms. Johnson joined the meeting after the vote at 3:06 p.m.

2. Mr. Popowsky asked the Board to vote to authorize Daniel Cantú-Hertzler and himself to renew the contracts that the Board currently has with the Hearing Officer, Marcy Chestnut; Technical Consultant, Amawalk Consulting; and the Public Advocate, Community Legal Services for future Rate Proceedings. The contracts were set to expire December 1, 2020. Renewals would be negotiated primarily by Mr. Cantú-Hertzler and would add money as necessary for additional services required. Mr. Ewing moved to approve the authorization; Ms. Johnson seconded. The ayes were unanimous.

3. Mr. Popowsky tentatively scheduled the Board’s future monthly meetings until the end of the fiscal year. The time for all upcoming meetings would be 3:00 p.m. and the tentative dates for the meetings were as follows: December 9, 2020, January 13, 2021, February 10, 2021, March 10, 2021, April 13, 2021, May 12, 2021 and June 9, 2021. Ms. Pozefsky suggested that the vote to schedule the meetings also include an authorization for Mr. Popowsky to reschedule the meetings as necessary for any unforeseen circumstances. Ms. Pozefsky moved, and Mr. Ewing seconded, the proposed schedule and Mr. Popowsky’s authorization to reschedule. The ayes were again unanimous.

4. Mr. Dasent then gave an update on the Water Department’s upcoming 2021 Rate Proceeding. Mr. Dasent laid out the Department’s planned schedule: the filing of the Advanced Notice is tentatively scheduled for January 11, 2021, followed by the filing of the Formal Notice on February 8, 2021. [Editor’s note: under the Board’s regulations, the Advance Notice must precede the Formal Notice by at least 30 days.] The Hearing Officer would set a prehearing

conference and schedule public hearings based on availability. The final vote by the Rate Board would be scheduled for June 2021.

5. Mr. Markus then gave a presentation of his Simplified Rate Model, designed for the Rate Board and participants to determine the approximate effect of proposed adjustments to the Water Department's revenue requirement calculations. The Presentation can be viewed [here](#). The Board commended Mr. Markus for his work and acknowledged how helpful the model would likely be in future Rate Proceedings. Mr. Ballenger asked whether Capital Spending would be adjustable within the model. Mr. Markus affirmed that it was adjustable within the Cash Flow line item.

6. Mr. Popowsky invited other Board members and attendees to raise other questions or issues. No one having done so, the Board voted to adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.