

January 07, 2025

Minutes of a meeting of the Secaucus Municipal Utilities Authority held on Tuesday, January 07, 2025 at 6:00 PM in Conference Room, 1100 Koelle Boulevard, Secaucus, New Jersey 07094. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chairman Ray Spellmeyer.

Pledge of Allegiance/Salute to the Flag
The Open Public Meetings Act was read.

Roll Call:	Raymond Spellmeyer	Chairman
	Domenic Manderano	Vice Chairman
	Maurice Andreula	Treasurer
	Brian Beckmeyer	Secretary
	Tim Stamm	Asst. Secretary

Also Present: Brian Bigler, Executive Director; John Napolitano, Counsel; Glenn Beckmeyer, William Katchen, Authority Accountant; Mary Baumann, Court Reporter; Katherine Acevedo, QPA.

A motion was made by B. Beckmeyer; second by M. Andreula, to approve the minutes of the December 3rd meeting of the Authority. Minutes approved as presented. All In Favor 4-0-0.

A motion was made by R. Spellmeyer; second by D. Manderano to open the public hearing for User & connection fees. All In favor 5-0-0

At this time, Authority Counsel called on Authority Accountant William Katchen to present the calculations and for the Connection and User Fees for 2025.

SEE STENOGRAPHER'S MINUTES

A motion was made by M. Andreula; second by B. Beckmeyer to close the public hearing. All In Favor 5-0-0

The Consent Agenda was moved on a motion by R. Spellmeyer, second by B. Beckmeyer and is as follows:

RESOLUTION 2025-01-07-A
SECAUCUS MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
HUDSON COUNTY, N.J.

Resolution Determining Connection Charges

For Connections Made or to be Made in 2025

WHEREAS, the Secaucus Municipal Utilities Authority (the “SMUA”), a public body corporate and politic and a political subdivision of the State of New Jersey existing under and by virtue of the Municipal Utilities Authority’s Law, N.J.S.A.40:14B-1, et seq., is the owner and operator of sewage treatment facilities for the Town of Secaucus (the “Town”); and

WHEREAS, Chapters 118 and 526 of the New Jersey Laws of 1985, amending and supplementing the Municipal Utilities Authorities Law, and in particular N.J.S.A 40:14B-22 and 23 (hereinafter referred to as “Chapters 118 and 526”), sets forth a basis for computation of a charge for connection to a sewage treatment system so that said charges may represent a fair payment towards the cost of said system; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40:14B-22 and 40:14B-23 provide that the imposition of user charges and/or connection charges by an authority shall be the subject of public notice and a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, a proper statutory notice given **on** December 17, 2024 under hand of Brian Bigler, Executive Director of the Secaucus Municipal Utilities Authority, pursuant to which notice the Secaucus Municipal Utilities Authority is holding the instant public hearing to consider relevant testimony to be presented and to be made a part of the record thereof; and

WHEREAS, the Secaucus Municipal Utilities Authority intends to utilize the Connection Fee Formula and the “Gallons per unit” Table used on previous years to determine a Connection Charge based on historical data from 1996 and earlier, said Formula and Table to be as set forth in and attached to this Resolution, in accordance with Chapter 526; and

WHEREAS, the Secaucus Municipal Utilities Authority desires to set the specific connection charge per Equivalent Residential Unit for connection made or to be made in the calendar year 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SECAUCUS MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY, as follows:

1. Subject to Secaucus Municipal Utilities Authority’s response to relevant testimony presented at the instant meeting, the connection charge per Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) for connection to the sewage treatment system of the Secaucus Municipal Utilities Authority made and to be made during the calendar year 2025 is hereby set at \$9,354.00 per ERU.
2. The basis for computation of said charge is set forth on the attached Formula, “Gallons per Unit” table, related Calculation Sheet.
3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

RESOLUTION 2025-01-07- B
SECAUCUS MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

HUDSON COUNTY N.J.

Resolution Determining User Charge Formula
For Properties Exempt from ad valorem Taxes

And User Charge to be in effect for 2025

WHEREAS, the Secaucus Municipal Utilities Authority (the "SMUA"), a public body corporate and politic and a political subdivision of the State of New Jersey existing under and by virtue of the Municipal Utilities authorities Law, N.J.S.A. 40:14B-1, et seq., is the owner and operator of the wastewater treatment facilities for the Town of Secaucus (the "Town"); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Service Contract between the SMUA and the Town, dated as of March 1, 1979, as amended and supplemented (the "Service Contract"), the SMUA may charge and collect Service Charges for the connection to and use of said sewage treatment system, where required or pursuant to law, and the same, to the extent collected, shall be a credit against the Annual Service Charges otherwise payable by the Town to the SMUA under the Service Contract; and

WHEREAS, to pay the Annual service Charges to the SMUA required by the Service Contract, the Town has applied revenues from ad valorem taxes on property in the Town to said purposes; and

WHEREAS, Town officials have requested that the SMUA continue to refrain from assessing direct user charges for the use of its system, except with respect to properties exempt from ad valorem taxes, so that said properties shall bear a fair share of the cost of the use of said system, in accordance with applicable law and regulations; and

WHEREAS, applicable regulations of the United States Environmental Protection Agency require that, where user charges for sewage treatment system built in whole or in part with Federal funds are derived through imposition of ad valorem taxes, provision be made for imposing similarly calculated charges for the use of said system on properties exempt from such taxes; and

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40:14B-22 and 40:14B-23 provide that the imposition of user charges or connection charges by an authority shall be the subject of public notice and a public hearing; and

WHEREAS, the SMUA desires to implement the statutory procedure for imposition of user charges to properties exempt from ad valorem property taxes, both as to implementation of a general formula and specifically for such use during 2025.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE SECAUCUS MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY, as follows:

1. There is hereby imposed a User Charge for the use of the sewage treatment system of the SMUA by any property which is exempt from ad valorem property taxes, in whole or in part, which User Charge shall be computed by drawing from the annual audited financial statements of the SMUA for the preceding year the total amount expended or set aside by the SMUA in said year for the following purposes, being the basis for computation of Annual Service Charges pursuant to the Service Contract:

“(a) operating, maintenance and administrative expenses of the Authority.

(b)Debt service requirements on ...any obligations of the Authority (whether bonds, bond anticipation bonds, or notes)...

(c)Other payments of amounts (including amounts necessary to meet the Authority’s rate covenant contained in Section 6.01 of the Trust Agreement and amounts required to be paid by the Authority to any bond issuer, or issuer of a surety bond to secure a Debt Service Reserve Fund) required by the terms of any bond resolution adopted by the Authority pursuant to resolution adopted by the Authority under which any of the obligations described in part (b)...are issued, provided, however, that no more than 1/5 of the amount due to any reserve fund established under the Trust Reserve Fund and amounts required to be insured, or issuer of a surety bond to secure a Debt Service Reserve Fund, shall be included in the Annual Service Charge in each year.” And by dividing said amount, by the total amount of treated sewage flow to the sewage treatment facility for the preceding year, determined and certified in writing by the Consulting Engineer to the SMUA and expressed in “Billing Units” as hereinafter defined.

2. The resulting charge per Billing Unit shall be multiplied by the total water consumption for each property. Said charges shall be estimated and billed to the property owner by the SMUA annually, and may be adjusted annually at the option of the property owner or of the SMUA, based on relevant and cogent proof of actual water consumption.

3. The SMUA may require relevant and cogent proof of water consumption by submission of water bills, and in the absence of submission of same may charge and collect such charges as it may deem reasonable, based on the flow determined in accordance with Table A (attached), whichever shall produce the greater charge.

4. The user charge for 2025 for properties exempt for ad valorem taxes, or paying reduced amounts of such taxes by reason of the abatement thereof, shall be as follows:

-Operating maintenance and administration

Expense 2023

-Debt Service and payments to the Reserve for

Repair and Replacement Fund for 2023

-Total flow in units of 100 cubic feet

-User charge per 100 cubic feet of water consumption

The user charge shall be revised annually, as soon as may be practicable after the necessary figures are made available by the auditors and engineers to the Authority.

USER FEE CALCULATION

2025

Operating maintenance, administration

And capital additions expenses, 2023 \$4,469,104

Debt Service and payments to Reserve for

Repair and Replacement, 2023 117,199

4,586,303

Total flow in units of 100 Cu. Ft. 1,375,701

User Fee \$ 3.33

RESOLUTION 2025-01-07-C
SECAUCUS MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
Hudson County, New Jersey

Authorizing Hiring of Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator

MOTIONED BY:

SECONDED BY:

WHEREAS, the Secaucus Municipal Utilities Authority (hereinafter “Authority”) is a public body, duly formed under the Municipal and county Utilities Authority Law, constituting Chapter 183 of the Laws of 1957, as amended (Chapter 14B of Title 40 of the New Jersey Statutes Annotated) and possesses the powers set forth therein; and

WHEREAS, due to the shortage of manpower, the Authority has a need to hire new employees for the position of Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to its Agreement with Local 11 of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, said position was duly posted; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Matthew T. Dragone has met the minimum requirements for the position and is hereby offered the position of Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator, commencing probationary status on 12/02/2024 (as per CBA) \$ 39,392.82 per year (2024 guide) with the following provisions:

1. The employee shall become members of Teamsters Local 11.

RESOLUTION 2025-01-07-D

AUTHORIZING AN ENERGY AGENT CONTRACT WITH GABEL ASSOCIATES, INC., AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR IN HIS ABSENCE THE AUTHORITY ATTORNEY TO AWARD A CONTRACT AND/OR REJECT BIDS IN RESPONSE TO THE REQUEST FOR BIDS FOR ELECTRIC GENERATION SERVICE ISSUED ON BEHALF OF THE NEW JERSEY SEWERAGE AND MUNICIPAL UTILITY AUTHORITY ELECTRICAL SUPPLY AGGREGATION

WHEREAS, the Secaucus Municipal Utilities Authority (“Authority”) has participated in the formation and implementation of the New Jersey Sewerage and Municipal Utility Authority Electrical Supply Aggregation (“NJSMUAESA”), which is a consortium of New Jersey Sewerage and Municipal Utility Authorities formed for the purpose of soliciting and securing bids on an aggregated basis for electric generation service from licensed electric power suppliers pursuant to the provisions of the “Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act” (P.L. 1999, c.23, N.J.S.A. 48:3-49 *et. seq.*, “the Act”), and thereby and thereby enjoying the benefits of joint purchasing and bulk power purchasing discounts; and

WHEREAS, the existing electric power supply contract(s) for the Authority’s electric accounts, awarded and entered as a result of a bid conducted by the NJSMUAESA in March 2023 will expire upon the meter read dates in November 2024 and May 2025 for each Authority electric account; and

WHEREAS, the Authority desires to continue its purchase of electric generation service for its electric accounts as a participant in the NJSMUAESA to derive the benefits of bulk purchasing discounts; and

WHEREAS, the NJSMUAESA intends to issue a Request for Bids (“RFB”) on or about January 22, 2025 for the purpose of seeking bids for electric generation service from licensed electric power suppliers to replace the current supply contract(s) scheduled to expire in November 2024 and May 2025; and

WHEREAS, as a participant in the NJSMUAESA the Authority requires the services of an “Energy Agent,” as defined in the “Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act,” to administer the bid process and arrange for the sale of retail electric generation service by a licensed retail electric power supplier to the Authority; and

WHEREAS the Authority previously approved the retention of Gabel Associates, Inc. as the Authority’s Energy Agent in connection with the procurement of electricity supply for the Authority’s electric accounts; and.

WHEREAS, the Energy Agent shall provide the Authority with services, including but not limited to, analyzing the Authority’s energy needs, quantifying the Authority’s load profile, developing an energy plan for the Authority, preparing bid specifications and, upon approval of the bid specifications, bidding a contract for the supply of electric generation service to the Authority; and

WHEREAS, the Energy Agent shall not receive and monetary compensation directly from the Authority for the services to be provided; and

WHEREAS, the Authority and the Energy Agent agree that the electricity supply contract(s) (“ESC”) between the Authority and the awarded supplier(s) shall provide that the awarded supplier pay the Energy Agent a monthly administrative fee for each account served at a rate of \$.0005 per kilowatt-hour for all months of the ESC; and

WHEREAS, it is the NJSMUAESA’s intent to receive bid price submittals on or about February 25, 2025 in response to the RFB to be issued on or about January 22, 2025; and

WHEREAS, due to the fact that the electricity market is highly volatile and bid prices will not be guaranteed past 3:00 p.m. on the day that bids are accepted, the award or rejection of bid(s) must be made on the Authority’s behalf by its designated representative by no later than 3:00 p.m. on bid day;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Secaucus Municipal Utilities Authority (“Authority”) is hereby authorized to participate with the NJSMUAESA for the purpose of securing bids for electric generation service from licensed electric power suppliers for a contract to replace the existing electricity supply contract(s) expiring in November 2024 and May 2025, pursuant to the “Electric Discount and Energy Competition Act” (P.L. 1999, c.23, N.J.S.A. 48:3-49 *et. seq.*, “the Act”), Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 *et. seq.*, and applicable regulations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Authority’s Executive Director, or in his absence the Authority Attorney, is hereby authorized to act in his/her sole discretion as the Authority’s designated representative to award a contract for the applicable Bid Group(s) to the low, qualified bidder for the contract term and pricing product deemed most beneficial to the Authority, by executing an Award Letter on the day of bid receipt and subsequently executing the Model Supply Contract, or reject an electricity bid, in conjunction with the NJSMUAESA Request for Bids to be issued on or about January 22, 2025. Such authorization to award a contract to the low bidder as the Authority’s designated representative is subject to the low bid being equal to or less than the Trigger Price(s) to be established for the applicable Bid Group(s) containing the Authority’s accounts prior to the date of receipt of bids by the NJSMUAESA, under the advisement of the Energy Agent.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, notwithstanding the foregoing, the Authority’s Executive Director or in his absence the Authority Attorney, may reject any bid, including, if necessary, all bids (and not award a contract), and if desirable, to authorize the NJSMUAESA to rebid the contract, provided that such rejection is in accordance with the provisions of the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 *et. seq.*

The resolutions were approved as presented by roll call vote. M. Andreula: Aye; B. Beckmeyer: Aye; D. Manderano: Aye; T. Stamm: Aye; R. Spellmeyer; Aye. Motion carries 5-0-0

The Voucher List was moved on a motion by T. Stamm, seconded by R. Spellmeyer The total amount of this voucher list is \$282,901.61. Voucher List was approved by roll call vote: M. Andreula: Aye; B. Beckmeyer: Abstained on line 5 Aye; D. Manderano: Aye; T. Stamm: Aye; R. Spellmeyer: Aye. Voucher List approved 5-0-0.

The following reports were accepted as presented:

**Report of the Executive Director
December 2024 {submitted January 2, 2024}**

- We continue to monitor the sewers in low lying areas for cleaning & inspection.
- Continued meeting with Authority Regulatory Engineers to address permit issues that may be imposed in the permit renewal.

- At the direction of the Regulatory Environmental Engineers, a headworks analysis will be performed to determine the viability of SMUA determination of limits. This will also assist in the copper limit from DEP (of which there is still a Stay).
- No further action with the Town regarding HMI collection system.
- After numerous calls from the resident to Town Hall/DPW, indicating that the lateral was damaged during installation of storm sewers in the area. At the request of DPW and Town, we televised this lateral on Franklin. It is a ductile iron pipe that transform to a pvc prior to connection to the main. Staff presented the video to DPW/Town with the information that this lateral was approximately 11' under the roadway. Currently, SMUA is not involved any further.

CONNECTIONS:

ALL ITEMS REMAIN OPEN.

- 845 First Street. ½ of connection received (and was returned for insufficient funds). A second check (Cashiers) was received and cleared. Awaiting the second half payment.
- Dallas BBQ, 475 Harmon Meadow. Received the ½ half payment \$40,408.20. This is due to a proposed increase in seating.
- 1110-1114 Farm Road. Construction of new town homes. ½ payment received in the amount of \$17,606.00.
- Garden State Adult Day Care Center paid ½ of the connection fee. Located at 20 Meadowland Parkway.

OPERATIONS REPORT –December 2024

Submitted January 2, 2025

KOELLE BOULEVARD FACILITY

- 1) The estimated average daily flow for the month was 2.5362 MGD
- 2) The estimated total flow for the month was 78.2107 MG.
- 3) Routine maintenance and ground keeping were performed.
- 4) Maintenance performed on pumps in PS#1.

PUMP STATION # 1 Village Place

- 1) The estimated average daily flow was 0.9969 MGD.
- 2) All pumps cleaned and maintained on a regular basis.
- 3) Routine maintenance and ground keeping were performed.
- 4) The station checked daily.

PUMP STATION # 2 Paterson Plank Road and Turnpike Exit

- 1) The estimated average daily flow was 84781 gallons per day.
- 2) Routine maintenance and ground keeping were performed.
- 3) The station checked daily.

PUMP STATION # 3 Henry Street

- 1) The estimated average daily flow was 81460.gallons per day.
- 2) Routine maintenance and ground keeping were performed.
- 3) The station checked daily.

PUMP STATION # 4 New County Road and Seaview Drive

- 1) Routine maintenance was performed.
- 2) The station checked daily.

PUMP STATION: Wilroy – Secaucus Road

- 1) This station is not in service.

PUMP STATION # 5 Castle Road

- 1) Routine Maintenance and grounds keeping were performed.
- 2) The station checked daily.

PUMP STATION #7 - Exchange Junction

- 1) Routine Maintenance and grounds keeping were performed.
- 2) The station checked daily.

Respectfully submitted.

Joe Marchese, Plant Manager

COLLECTION SYSTEM:

1) Feet jetted: 0 feet jetted.

CCTV:

Camera feet 39 feet

Respectfully Submitted,

Anthony Smentkowski, Maintenance Foreman, CCTV Operator.

SECAUCUS MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY ENGINEERS REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER 2024

The following is a list of the main activities as provided by this office to the Authority for the above-mentioned month:

- Received and started a review on a pump station flow meter report for the Exchange Place Pump Station (abridged). This report is supposed to analyze the existing flows of the pump station and the amount of unused capacity with regards to the remaining build out of the project. Analyzing data. Submitted new pump data and force main drawings to engineer to re-analyze flow and pump data. We calculated flows for all additional housing units compared to the amount of flow as reported on the NJDEP TWA. (Abridged). Contact Engineer concerning new flow and impeller sizing. Requesting additional information from pump supplier on existing pumps and possible replacement pumps. Sent requested information to developer's engineer. Will request information again.

- Castle Road Pump Station: Additional water consumption information from facilities on Castle Road is being sought. Visit to two addresses to check sewer discharge. Planning to bypass pump station with gas sewage pump to drain down system and video line. Attempted bypass by pumping drain down with facility equipment, but did not achieve desired goal. Will reformulate with facility personal. Cleaned and inspected wo of the

three air release valves on the force main. Checking on a Veolia issue in the parking lot of the old “Harmony” location.

- Toscana-Continued dialogue with the engineer from the Illinois Company, which has purchased Toscana, to correct their pH and Flow issues. Analyzing projected Flows to the Turnpike Pump Station to calculate a flow from Toscana that is acceptable to the SMUA. Additional violations were sent to Toscana. Flow and pH monitoring still being observed. In contact with the engineer from Toscana and continuing discussions on option for discharge. Received information on Sanitary Flows. Discussions with the new owner on the vastly increased Sanitary Flow Volume occurring since early 2023. Received updated plans for pre-treatment unit. However, projected sanitary flows appear to exceed the Turnpike Pump Station’s total capacity. Continuing dialogue with Toscana’s design team.
- Reviewed proposal for new spiral staircase in the Grit Chamber. The existing staircase has experienced rusting and member failure. This has become a safety issue with the staircase not being useable. Toral Welding was awarded the contract. Reviewed shop drawings of staircase. Our office has approved drawings submitted by Toral. Awaiting schedule and delivery information. Stirs were sent to be galvanized. Waiting on delivery schedule and installation.
- Checking with PSE&G as to why 1100 Koelle Blvd. is experiencing power spikes. (Power Surges). Reviewing the type of transformer present and type of volt protector within the pump panels present.

Zoning Certificate Notices for required SMUA Sewer Connection Application:

Address	Zoning Certificate	Request Dates		SMUA App.	SMUA Fee	Engineers Report
		1 st	2 nd			
20 Meadowlands Parkway	File # 23-490	N/A	N/A	Yes	No	7/15/24-8/20/24
11 Harmon Cove Towers	File # 24-148	N/A	N/A	Yes	No	7/19/24
211 County Avenue	File # 24-038	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	10/25/24
300-400 Park Plaza Drive	File #22-462	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	8/20/24
700 Plaza Drive, Suite 105	File # 24-188	N/A	N/A	No	Yes	8/20/24

Harmon Cove Towers, Unit 97	File # 22-248	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	8/20/24
1 Mikasa Drive	File # 22-290	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	10/3/24
901 Penhorn Avenue	File # 24-294	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	9/19/24
1 County Road	File # 24-303	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	10/3/24
200 Mill Creek Drive	File # 24-272	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	10/25/24
80 Seaview Drive	File # 24-378	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	11/18/24
210 Meadowlands Parkway	File # 24-341	N/A	N/A	No	N/A	12/2/24
1125 Castle Road	File # 24-395	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	12/12/24

**** Applications older than six (6) months will be removed.**

Beckmeyer Engineering, P.C.

Glenn M. Beckmeyer, P.E., P.P., CME, CFM, CPWM

Authority Engineer December 16, 2024

Legal: No Report

Public Comments: No Comments

A motion was made at 6:13 pm by R. Spellmeyer, second by D. Manderano to adjourn the meeting. All in Favor 5-0-0.