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2 BOARD MEETING OF THE WATER AUTHORITY

3 OF GREAT NECK NORTH

4 -----X

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6 50 Watermill Lane
7 Great Neck, New York
8 Held via Zoom
9 November 15, 2021
6:00 P.M.
Via Zoom Meeting

10 **TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS**

11

12 **A P P E A R A N C E S:**

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14 Michael C. Kalnick, Chairperson, Village of Kings Point

15 Carol Frank, Director, Town of North Hempstead

16 Jay Johneas, Director, Village of Great Neck

17 Dan Levy, Director, Village of Saddle Rock

18 Dana Lustbader, MD, Director, Village of Kensington Gerald

19 Schneiderman, Director, Village of Great Neck Plaza

20 Steven Weinberg, Director, Village of Thomaston

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23 The meeting was held pursuant to NY State legislation adopted on September 1, 2021, which,
24 until January 15, 2022, in substance, permits public corporations to hold meetings and take
actions without in-person access to the meeting provided that the public has the ability to view
or listen to such meeting and the meeting is transcribed.

25

1 ALSO PRESENT:

2

3 From the **Water Authority of Great Neck North:**

4 Ralph J. Kreitzman, Vice-Chairperson

5 Robert Graziano, Deputy Chairperson

6

7 Greg Graziano, Superintendent

8 Michael Rispoli, Assistant Superintendent

9 Sue Huang, Civil Engineer

10 Adam Solow, Supervisor of Water Plant Operations

11 Judith Flynn, Treasurer

12 Debra Ray, Secretary

13

14 Stephen, Limmer, Counsel, McLaughlin & Stern, LLP

15 Keith Kelly, Senior Vice President/Partner, CDM Smith,

16 Consulting Engineers

17

18 NOT PRESENT:

19 Michael Smiley, Director, Village of Great Neck Estates

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1 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Approval of the draft
2 minutes of October 18th. [Res. #21-11-01]

3 DIRECTOR LEVY: All 44 pages of it, I so
4 move.

5 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Seconded?

6 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: Second.

7 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: All in a favor?

8 (Whereupon all members responded in the
9 affirmative.)

10 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Any abstentions?

11 (No response.)

12 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Approval of the Abstract
13 of Claims? [Res. #21-11-02]

14 DIRECTOR LEVY: I have a couple of questions,
15 one of them on page three: Lockheed Martin
16 breach of contract, \$10,700.

17 What is that?

18 MR. LIMMER: That's the litigation that Brian
19 explained, I think two meetings back, the
20 discovery. The \$10 million dollar lawsuit.

21 DIRECTOR LEVY: Okay.

22 MS. FLYNN: Brian reviewing the invoices, all
23 the documents.

24 DIRECTOR LEVY: The last thing: On page
25 four, \$124,000, 80% of office, we're paying or

1 we're waiting for the insurance to reimburse us?

2 How is this working?

3 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: Correct.

4 We are covered by insurance as we are not in a
5 FEMA flood zone. So we have submitted to
6 insurance and we have had already our original
7 conversation with FEMA and another call for the
8 29th of this month. So we are hoping for 100%
9 coverage between insurance and FEMA.

10 DIRECTOR LEVY: Okay. So how long you going
11 to be in the hole before you start getting
12 reimbursement from the insurance?

13 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: Not sure. Judy
14 provided them with a spreadsheet about a week to
15 ten days ago. We told them it was a running
16 sheet, we didn't want to provide it to them
17 earlier but they said just give us what you
18 have. Now it's a running sheet.

19 DIRECTOR LEVY: Our fiscal year runs January
20 to December. I just want to make sure that we
21 get the reimbursement so we don't have to
22 move -- make changes from right to left to
23 expend it in one year and then see the
24 reimbursement in '22.

25 MS. FLYNN: I'll make sure I follow-up with

1 the insurance company aggressively.

2 DIRECTOR LEVY: Okay.

3 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: So moved? Approval?

4 DIRECTOR LEVY: I so move.

5 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Seconded?

6 DIRECTOR FRANK: Second.

7 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Thank you, Carol.

8 All in favor?

9 (Whereupon all members responded in the

10 affirmative.)

11 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Any abstentions?

12 (No response.)

13 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Treasurer's Monthly

14 Report.

15 Anything unusual?

16 MS. FLYNN: Nothing unusual to report.

17 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: A motion to accept.

18 [Res. #21-11-03]

19 DIRECTOR LEVY: I so move.

20 DIRECTOR FRANK: Second.

21 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: All in favor?

22 (Whereupon all members responded in the

23 affirmative.)

24 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Any abstentions?

25 (No response.)

1 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: You have 1.4 Approval,
2 everyone has seen it, of the updated budget, a
3 letter from the engineer?

4 MS. FLYNN: Yes. We updated the 2022 budget
5 to include the interest expense that will be
6 incurred in 2022 from the new WIIA loan and we
7 are still well above the requirement of the
8 110%.

9 DIRECTOR LEVY: You're talking about 1.4, the
10 CDM Smith letter?

11 MS. FLYNN: Yes.

12 DIRECTOR FRANK: I have a budget question.
13 I notice that the gas, gasoline and diesel
14 was the same for this year and next year and I'm
15 wondering if these increased gasoline prices are
16 going to factor into that, or at least if it's
17 projected that we are going to be under-spending
18 for that. I think it was \$42,000.

19 DIRECTOR LEVY: Start using bicycles.

20 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: Carol,
21 when we put this budget together it was August
22 and September before the gas prices took off to
23 where they are at. We are late with the
24 budget -- not late, we're getting late with the
25 budget. This WIIA thing was a last second

1 addition we put in.

2 Trying to find that page right now.

3 DIRECTOR FRANK: I forget what page. It's
4 under operating expenses.

5 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: So through
6 July 31st we are at \$22,000, basically over half
7 of the budget through seven months. So we
8 should come in somewhere around the full budget,
9 maybe a little bit less now that the gas
10 prices -- but we'll have to see. Gas prices are
11 sometimes cyclical, they could come back down
12 next spring, summer as well.

13 DIRECTOR LEVY: You're kidding, right?

14 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: Well, we have to be
15 hopeful.

16 DIRECTOR LEVY: Pipeline will be open,
17 refineries will be aligned.

18 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: I think you are
19 hallucinating, Dan.

20 DIRECTOR LEVY: No, I don't see it going
21 down, but Greg does.

22 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: It's not going down. Not
23 the way things are going.

24 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: We can adjust it.

25 DIRECTOR LEVY: Some changes, nothing is

1 going to change.

2 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: We could do a budget
3 transfer if need be.

4 MS. FLYNN: Later in the year.

5 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: Because it changes
6 CDM's letter and so forth which we don't have
7 time for; the budget has to be sent out to the
8 state. But we will monitor it and we'll see what
9 happens.

10 DIRECTOR FRANK: I'm sure you will.

11 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Motion to approve the
12 updated budget with the letter from the
13 engineer. [Res. #21-11-04]

14 DIRECTOR LEVY: I so move.

15 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Seconded?

16 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: Second.

17 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: All in favor?

18 (Whereupon all members responded in the
19 affirmative.)

20 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Any abstentions?

21 (No response.)

22 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Greg, revised certificate.

23 MS. FLYNN: Again, we just updated the
24 certificate to reflect the new calculation.

25 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Correct.

1 MS. FLYNN: So we just need an approval, a
2 resolution so that I can send it to the
3 Trustees.

4 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Motion to approve.
5 [Res. #21-11-05]

6 DIRECTOR LEVY: Sorry, I didn't get it. What
7 are we approving?

8 MR. LIMMER: The certificate based upon the
9 revised budget; the revised certificate that has
10 to go to the trustees pursuant to the bond
11 resolution.

12 DIRECTOR LEVY: Okay. I so move.

13 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Seconded?

14 DIRECTOR LUSTBADER: Second.

15 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: All in favor?

16 (Whereupon all members responded in the
17 affirmative.)

18 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Any abstentions?

19 (No response.)

20 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Budget Transfer Request.

21 Greg, do you want to explain the situation
22 with the compressor that we have?

23 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: Yes. We
24 have one main utility truck which is out for
25 repair right now. We have a backup utility

1 truck that's going to be 20 years old next year.
 2 Mike ordered a replacement truck for this year
 3 but he has still not been given a delivery date.
 4 They're talking about a 2023 model due to the
 5 chip shortage. That backup utility truck also pulls
 6 an 18 to 19 year old compressor so we want to
 7 purchase a new towable compressor. Mike is
 8 renting one tomorrow as we are running into the
 9 main break season, we do not want to have one
 10 piece of equipment to try to handle main breaks
 11 and have a failure.

12 There was, I guess, about a one-week to
 13 ten-day lead time just to rent a compressor.
 14 This type of equipment is becoming harder and
 15 harder to find and the new compressor that we
 16 are asking the budget transfer to purchase has
 17 about a seven-month lead time to get a new
 18 compressor.

19 DIRECTOR LEVY: How much is a new compressor?

20 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: I am asking for a
 21 \$55,000 budget transfer from the Middle Neck
 22 Road Water Main Project.

23 We are getting estimates as we speak now,
 24 but \$55,000 will be able to handle, more than handle,
 25 what we need.

1 DIRECTOR LEVY: Are you talking about
2 the towable one?

3 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: Yes, the towable
4 one. They didn't have them back when we had
5 the compressor we have now, but what Mike is
6 getting is one that will have an on-board
7 generator as well which will be able to run our
8 lights at night and so forth and other equipment.

9 Obviously if we have a main break at night,
10 which seems to happen usually at that time, we
11 can set up plenty of lighting and so forth so that's
12 going to add to the price. It's not going to be just
13 a compressor but a compressor/generator that
14 will be able to be towed behind any one of our
15 vehicles, pickup trucks, utility trucks,
16 et cetera.

17

18 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: Great idea.

19 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Motion to approve.

20 [Res. 21-11-06]

21 DIRECTOR LEVY: I so move.

22 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Seconded?

23 DIRECTOR FRANK: Second.

24 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: All in favor?

25 (Whereupon all members responded in the

1 affirmative.)

2 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Any abstentions?

3 (No response.)

4 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Judy, do you want to talk
5 about the new credit card vendors?

6 MS. FLYNN: Sure. So we have quite a few
7 people that are paying by credit card or by
8 check. This year we noticed there was an
9 18% increase in this type of payment so we
10 decided to take a look to see if we can find a
11 cheaper option for our customers.

12 Currently the customers are paying through
13 Paymentus, \$5.95 for every \$750 increment. So
14 with the new company that we found, it's called
15 Smart Energy Water, they are willing to do
16 a couple of different things: The
17 first would be if the bill is \$200 or under
18 there will only be a \$2.50 charge to pay your bill
19 with the credit card; or if the bill is
20 over \$200, then it's a \$4.95 transaction fee for
21 every \$1,000, so it's a bit cheaper. And then
22 if they pay by check it would only be 95 cents cost
23 to pay the entire bill up to \$25,000
24 by check online.

25 DIRECTOR LEVY: Judy, why does pay by

1 check cost money? Pay by check, shouldn't
2 be free?

3 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: There is always a
4 convenience fee.

5 Sorry Judy.

6 DIRECTOR LEVY: I am not sending you a paper
7 check.

8 MR. LIMMER: It's an e-check as opposed to a
9 regular check.

10 DIRECTOR FRANK: It's not a regular check.

11 MS. FLYNN: You just put your routing number
12 and account number online.

13 You don't need a special check. It's just
14 putting your check information on their online
15 system.

16 DIRECTOR LUSTBADER: That's how taxes are
17 paid in Nassau County. If you pay by e-check for
18 your Nassau County property tax, it's \$2.

19 MS. FLYNN: \$1.95. I looked at another
20 vendor and they are charging 3% of the entire bill if
21 you pay by credit card
22 or a \$1.95 for the e-check.

23 The other thing that this company will do is
24 the website. Customers will be able to print their
25 bill online and

1 they can also sign up for the electronic billing
2 and that's all included with the charges that
3 the customers are paying for their
4 transactions.

5 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: I would really
6 like to commend Judy. She worked very hard on
7 this and negotiated back and forth and she
8 actually pitted one company against the other
9 and tried to get that fee reduced as far as possible,
10 especially since ours is an aging, somewhat aging
11 community and the minimum bill is \$75. For the
12 people who have those smaller bills, she worked
13 very hard to get that charge reduced down as far
14 as possible.

15 So I would like to commend Judy for that
16 work. Thank you, Judy.

17 DIRECTOR FRANK: I think that's very good. I
18 remember years ago when there was an increase, a
19 lot of the people who were at that lowest rung
20 of usage were the ones who complained the most
21 at that time.

22 MS. FLYNN: Right. That's why we wanted to
23 try to get them an option that if they didn't
24 have the liquid money, to pay by check at
25 least it would only cost \$2.50 to pay by credit

1 card.

2 We also have a few customers that have to
3 wait for their Social Security check and it
4 isn't always timed correctly for them.

5 DIRECTOR LUSTBADER: Judy, would this be an
6 app or you go right to a website to pay?

7 MS. FLYNN: It could be both. You could pay
8 by website or you can actually get an app on your
9 phone and you can pay by text.

10 Once you sign up for the website, you can
11 also put in for the website to remind you to pay
12 your bill. If you want to pay it closer to the due
13 date, so they will either
14 call you or you can either get an automated call
15 two or three days before the bill is due or on
16 the day the bill is due or you can get a text.

17 And they can also pay, believe it or not, at
18 CVS, 7-Eleven or Family Dollar store somehow,
19 and you can use Apple Pay, G Pay, PayPal or
20 Venmo.

21 DIRECTOR LUSTBADER: And if you use Venmo,
22 there is still the processing fee even if you
23 use your own Venmo account?

24 MS. FLYNN: Yes. I guess that's the way
25 they are making money, because we are not paying

1 them any fees to host the site.

2 DIRECTOR LEVY: How about Zelle if you bank
3 out of Chase, can you pay them by Zelle?

4 MS. FLYNN: They didn't mention Zelle. I
5 will follow-up and let you know.

6 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Motion to approve the
7 proposal? [Res. #21-11-07]

8 DIRECTOR LUSTBADER: Move to approve.

9 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Seconded?

10 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: Second.

11 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: All in favor?

12 (Whereupon all members responded in the
13 affirmative.)

14 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Any abstentions?

15 (No response.)

16 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Keith.

17 MR. KELLY: Good afternoon or good evening.

18 Everyone has the Engineer's Report. Do

19 you have any questions, do you want me to go

20 through anything specific?

21 (No response.)

22 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: No questions? Okay.

23 Greg?

24 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: I just want to provide an update

25 on the treatment project at Watermill Lane. Temporary

1 electric for the construction equipment has been
2 set up. Vibration monitoring has been set up.

3 On our existing structure at 2-A, 11-A, booster
4 station, ground storage tank and existing generator,
5 all the sheeting has been completed around the new
6 building location. The
7 contractor submitted pile calculations. They
8 requested a different type of pile be driven.
9 We are waiting for that to still be worked out
10 and how much credit to the Authority will be
11 given.

12 The existing PSEG pole has been rerouted with
13 new primary cables. The electrical duct bank
14 and generator foundation and rebar, et cetera
15 has all been formed and poured.

16 Today they were doing additional excavation
17 two feet further down and they are investigating
18 dewatering. The DEC is talking about if they
19 exceed a certain amount of dewatering for the
20 site. A permit was filed with the DEC but the
21 DEC is looking at the watering pumps anywhere
22 from eight to nine months out.

23 So this process with the piles and we are
24 talking looking at raising the building up
25 potentially to get further out of the

1 groundwater depending on what cost factors are
2 involved with that. We may not even need the
3 DEC dewatering permit. This is a very, very wet
4 site on the opposite side where the main office
5 is.

6 The carbon vessels are still on track to be
7 delivered after January 1, 2022 and the Trojan
8 system for the UV is estimated at January 28th
9 for delivery.

10 So the project is moving along on schedule at
11 this time and all is well with this contractor.

12 Any questions on treatment?

13 (No response.)

14 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: Next item:

15 I have been talking to the attorney for Verizon
16 Wireless about the corral that I've mentioned to
17 the Board at previous board meetings, for the
18 antennas on the elevated tank at Weybridge Road.

19 This guy is very, very good. He helps bring
20 all the cell carriers, contact all the cell
21 carriers for me, get them on board hopefully.

22 So they are interested in a conceptual sketch
23 and as you see in your board packet from H2M,
24 \$6,800 not to exceed for H2M to develop a
25 conceptual sketch of what each cell carrier

1 would look like on the corral. And what's very,
2 very important to the cell carriers is their
3 azimuth. Right now they have their antennas on
4 the tank. Azimuth is the degree in which an
5 angle, which their antennas are actually
6 projecting out their signal. So they want to
7 make sure their as azimuths do not change going
8 up on a corral. Which does not appear will be
9 the case but until this conceptual sketch is
10 done, that can't be 100% given.

11 So I recommend to the Board to approve this
12 proposal from H2M not to exceed \$6,800 on the
13 condition that the cell carriers put up the money to
14 pay for it prior to moving forward each time. [Res.
15 #21-11-08]

16 Any questions?

17 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Steve, we don't need a
18 resolution on this, correct?

19 MR. LIMMER: Yes, you do. You do because
20 it's approving it subject to the carriers
21 agreeing to pay the money but it's still
22 something you are paying even though you're
23 being reimbursed for it.

24 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Got it. Motion to
25 approve?

1 DIRECTOR LEVY: So moved.

2 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Seconded?

3 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: Second.

4 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: All in favor?

5 (Whereupon all members responded in the
6 affirmative.)

7 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Any abstentions?

8 (No response.)

9 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: 2.2(c) is a
10 negative declaration for the WIIA Grant for
11 Storm Mitigation AOP project at Watermill Lane. We
12 have done all of the SEQRA, lead agency, et cetera,
13 and this
14 is the last piece that's needed. Sue sent off
15 the application last week and they have accepted the
16 application. We are thinking around January we will
17 hear on that potential grant money.
18 This is the last piece: providing a negative
19 declaration.

20 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Motion to approve?

21 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: Motion. [Res. #21-11-09]

22 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Thank you, Jay.

23 Seconded?

24 DIRECTOR LUSTBADER: Second.

25 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Thank you, Dana.

1 All in favor?
2 (Whereupon all members responded in the
3 affirmative.)
4 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Any abstentions?
5 (No response.)
6 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Item d has been tabled.
7 I don't know if you want to discuss it or just
8 table it?
9 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: Just table it,
10 please.
11 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Steve, 70 Beach Road.
12 Should we go into Executive Session for
13 advice of counsel?
14 MR. LIMMER: It might involve litigation
15 since it's a claim so we should go into
16 Executive Session.
17 CHAIRMAN Motion to go into
18 KALNICK: executive session? Res. #21-11-10
19 DIRECTOR LEVY: So moved.
20 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Second?
21 DIRECTOR LUSTBADER: Second.
22 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: All in favor?
23 (Whereupon all members responded in the
24 affirmative.)
25 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Any abstentions?

1 (No response.)
 2 (Whereupon the board went into Executive
 3 Session at 6:24 P.M.)
 4 (At 7:02 P.M. the Board returned from Executive Session.)
 5 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: Motion to adjourn? [Res. #21-11-10]
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 7 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: So moved.
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 9 DIRECTOR LUSTBADER: Second.
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 11 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: All in favor?
 12 (Whereupon all members responded in the
 13 affirmative.
 14 CHAIRMAN KALNICK: The meeting is adjourned.
 15 (Time noted: 7:03 P.M.)
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