

**MINUTES
HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP
MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
July 7, 2025**

The meeting of the Hardyston Township Municipal Utilities Authority was held on Monday, July 7, 2025 at 7:00 p.m., at the Municipal Building located at 149 Wheatsworth Road.

Members Present: Mr. Kaminski, Mr. Codner, Mrs. Carey, and Mr. Marotta

Members Absent: Mr. Caiazzo and Mr. O'Grady.

Also present: Mrs. Carrine Piccolo-Kaufer, Mr. Mike Vreeland, Mr. Michael DiFazio, and Mr. Paul Cuva.

After the salute to the flag, Mr. Codner stated compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

MINUTES: A MOTION was made by Kaminski seconded by Cicerale to approve the minutes of the May 5, 2025 meeting. In favor Cicerale, Kaminski, Codner, Carey and Marotta.

OLD BUSINESS:

Indian Fields:

1. **Phase II As-Built Plans-** Mr. Vreeland stated that field visits will be required to complete the as-builts and will hope to schedule the final work by the end of August.

Crystal Springs:

1. **Sewer Capacity and Pump Station Construction** - Mr. Vreeland stated there is nothing new to report.

Operational Considerations / Metering / Strategic Planning:

1. Conversion to a Meter Based Billing System – Mrs. Kaufer stated we have a collected multiple quarters of data for residential usage and several months of hotel readings and will work Mr. Cuva on rate development.
2. Fixed Assets/Developer Conveyance – Mr. Vreeland stated he was recently in discussion with Ms. Pierson from Crystal Springs regarding conveyance of the Tarn section of Crystal Springs and will schedule the reinspection after the completion of the repairs. Once completed the legal documents can be drafted to complete conveyance. He also added that he is working with Mr. Lam regarding conveyance of the newer sections.

New Business

- a. **2025-2026 Annual Budget.** Mr. Cuva presented the annual budget which includes no proposed rate increase. Mr. Kaminski discussed implementing small annual increases to avoid larger increases and rebuild the renewal and replacement fund. Mr. Cuva recommended adoption of the budget to ensure a timely budget for the new fiscal year and that a rate hearing could be considered later.

A MOTION to approve the Resolution of the HTMUA Approving the Annual Budget and Capital Budget for the Fiscal Year Beginning September 1, 2025 and Ending August 31, 2026 was made Mr. Kaminski. Second by Mr. Cicerale. In favor Cicerale, Kaminski, Codner, Carey and Marotta.

2026 AUTHORITY BUDGET RESOLUTION
Hardyston Municipal Utilities Authority
FISCAL YEAR: July 01, 2025 to June 30, 2026

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget for Hardyston Municipal Utilities Authority for the fiscal year beginning July 01, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, has been presented before the governing body of the Hardyston Municipal Utilities Authority at its open public meeting of July 7, 2025; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Budget as introduced reflects Total Revenues of \$1,894,783.00, Total Appropriations including any Accumulated Deficit, if any, of \$1,894,783.00, and Total Unrestricted Net Position planned to be utilized as funding thereof, of \$0.00; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Budget as introduced reflects Total Capital Appropriations of \$250,000.00 and Total Unrestricted Net Position planned to be utilized as funding thereof, of \$0.00; and

WHEREAS, the schedule of rents, fees and other charges in effect will produce sufficient revenues, together with all other anticipated revenues to satisfy all obligations to the holders of bonds of the Authority, to meet operating expenses, capital outlays, debt service requirements, and to provide for such reserves, all as may be required by law, regulation or terms of contracts and agreements; and

WHEREAS, the Capital Budget/Program, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:31-2, does not confer any authorization to raise or expend funds; rather it is a document to be used as part of the said Authority's planning and management objectives. Specific authorization to expend funds for the purposes described in this section of the budget must be granted elsewhere; by bond resolution, by a project financing agreement, by resolution appropriating funds from the Renewal and Replacement Reserve or other means provided by law.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the governing body of the Hardyston Municipal Utilities Authority, at an open public meeting held on July 7, 2025, that the Annual Budget, including all related schedules, and the Capital Budget/Program of the) Hardyston Municipal

Utilities Authority for the fiscal year beginning July 01, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026, is hereby approved; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the anticipated revenues as reflected in the Annual Budget are of sufficient amount to meet all proposed expenditures/expenses and all covenants, terms and provisions as stipulated in the said Authority's outstanding debt obligations, capital lease arrangements, service contracts, and other pledged agreements; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Hardyston Municipal Utilities Authority will consider the Annual Budget and Capital Budget/Program for Adoption on July 7, 2025.

- b. A Motion to adopt the Resolution Ratifying the Payment Neal Systems Incorporated for the Emergency Repair of the Control Panel for the Crystal Springs Water Tower was made by Mr. Cicerale. Second by Mr. Kaminski. In favor Cicerale, Kaminski, Codner, Carey and Marotta.

HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

A RESOLUTION OF THE HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY RATIFYING THE PAYMENT TO NEAL SYSTEMS INCORPORATED FOR THE EMERGENCY REPAIR OF THE CONTROL PANEL AT THE CRYSTAL SPRINGS WATER TOWER

WHEREAS, the Hardyston Township Municipal Utilities Authority (the "Authority") owns and operates a wastewater conveyance system servicing the residents of Hardyston Township (the "System"); and

WHEREAS, the System includes Water Tower located at Crystal Springs Road, Hardyston Township; and

WHEREAS, on or about May 13th, the Authority's Operator was informed following several alarm notifications and a thorough inspection that the control panel for the Water Tower located at Crystal Springs was inoperable as a result of a power shortage caused by a substation explosion at the Vernon electrical substation and required immediate replacement (referred to as the "Work"); and

WHEREAS, the Authority obtained a quote for the materials and services necessary to perform the Work; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3, the amount of the quote obtained by the Authority to undertake the Work did not necessitate a formal public bidding process; and

WHEREAS, in order to ensure that the facility could operate properly the Authority requested that Neal Systems Incorporated, undertake the Work; and

WHEREAS, the Work was completed on or before May 16, 2025 and accepted by the Authority's Operator; and

WHEREAS, the Board is desirous of ratifying a contract Neal System Incorporated, for the Work and the payment for said services in the amounts set forth in the invoices attached hereto and made a part hereof as **Exhibit A**.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of the Hardyston Township Municipal Utilities Authority as follows:

1. That the Authority's award of a contract to Neal Systems Incorporated, and the Authority's Billing Specialist's payment to Neal Systems Incorporated in connection with the Work in the amounts set forth in the invoices attached hereto and made a part hereof as **Exhibit A** is hereby ratified.

c. A MOTION to adopt the Resolution Authorizing the Late Filing of the 2025-2026 Budget was made by Mr. Cicerale. Second by Mr. Marotta. In favor Cicerale, Kaminski, Codner, Carey and Marotta.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

A MOTION was made by Mr. Kaminski and seconded by Mrs. Carey to pay the bills, as per the bill list for June 2, 2025 and July 7, 2025. In favor Cicerale, Kaminski, Codner, Carey and Marotta.

CORRESPONDENCE:

A MOTION was made by Cicerale and seconded by Kaminski to accept the correspondence as presented. In favor: Cicerale, Kaminski, Codner, Carey and Marotta.

OFFICER'S REPORTS:

Nothing new to report

PROFESSIONAL'S REPORTS:

Administrator – Mrs. Kaufer provided an update on the PFAS/PFOS class action suit and the first settlement from 3M. She stated that the HTMUA should be receiving a settlement of approximately \$18,000 and should be issued in the next few weeks.

Operator – Not Present

Billing Clerk – Nothing further to report.

CFO – Not Present.

Accountant – Mr. Cuva inquired whether the fixed assets to be conveyed as part of the Tarn Conveyance would be included in the fixed asset inventory.

Attorney – Mr. DiFazio stated that Verizon completed their due diligence is ready to proceed with execution of the new lease agreement.

Engineer – Mr. Vreeland stated the consumer confidence reports for both systems were completed and notices were sent out with the June billing.

OPEN PUBLIC PORTION:

The meeting was opened to the public.

Mr. Frank Rimler, a representative of the Inverness, brought forth questions to the Board concerning the responsibility of the sewer and water infrastructure since it has not been conveyed to the Authority. Of particular concern are the service laterals from the distribution system connecting the residents. Mrs. Kaufer and Mr. DiFazio provided some information concerning the existing performance guarantees.

There being no further business, A MOTION was made by Cicerale to adjourn seconded by Kaminski meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Niebuhr

Board Secretary