

September 10, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Hon. Sherri L. Golden Secretary of the Board South Clinton Avenue, 1st Floor Post Office Box 350 Trenton, NJ 08625-0350

Re: In the Matter of the Petition of New Jersey-American Water Company, Inc. for Approval of a Municipal Consent Granted by the Borough of Farmingdale, Monmouth County BPU Docket No. WE24

Dear Secretary Golden:

Enclosed please find a Petition filed on behalf of New Jersey-American Water Company, Inc. in connection with the above-referenced matter. Kindly file the Petition and advise of the docket number assigned to this case.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions or require additional information.

Very truly yours,

Stephen R. Bishop Vice President and General Counsel

SRB:dlc Enc.

cc: Attached service list (via email, w/enc.)

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I/M/O the Petition of New Jersey American Water Company, Inc. for Approval of a Municipal Consent Granted by the Borough of Farmingdale, County of Monmouth

BPU Docket No. WE24____ Service List

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BEFORE THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

PETITION

IN THE MATTER OF THE PETITION OF NEW JERSEY-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY, INC. FOR APPROVAL OF A MUNICIPAL CONSENT GRANTED BY THE BOROUGH OF FARMINGDALE, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH

BPU DOCKET NO.

TO THE HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS OF THE NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES:

Petitioner, New Jersey-American Water Company, Inc. ("NJAWC", "Company", or "Petitioner"), a duly organized and existing public utility corporation of the State of New Jersey, with its principal office at 1 Water Street, Camden, New Jersey 08102, hereby petitions the Board of Public Utilities ("Board") for approval, pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-14 and <u>N.J.A.C.</u> 14:1-5.5, and such other regulations and statutes as may be deemed applicable and appropriate by the Board, of a municipal consent ordinance (the "Municipal Consent") adopted by the Borough of Farmingdale, County of Monmouth (the "Borough" or "Farmingdale"). In support thereof, Petitioner states as follows:

1. NJAWC is a regulated public utility corporation engaged in the production, treatment and distribution of water and collection and treatment of sewage within its defined service territory within the State of New Jersey. Said service territory includes portions of the following counties: Atlantic, Bergen, Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Essex, Gloucester, Hunterdon, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Morris, Ocean, Passaic, Salem, Somerset, Union and Warren. Within its service territory NJAWC serves approximately 668,000 water and fire service customers and 64,200 wastewater service customers as of December 31, 2023. NJAWC maintains its principal office at 1 Water Street Camden, New Jersey 08102.

2. The Borough encompasses approximately 0.52 square miles and has a population of approximately 1,500 people. It is completely surrounded by Howell Township, which is part of the Company's franchise.

3. In or about June 2023, Farmingdale gave permission to NJAWC to install a transmission main through the Borough to serve Howell Township and requested that NJAWC install public hydrants along the main to service the Borough and its residents.

4. By this Petition, NJAWC is seeking approval of the Municipal Consent – Ordinance No. 2023-07 – adopted by the Borough on October 17, 2023. The Municipal Consent was introduced and adopted pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:3-11 through 48:3-15, <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:19-17 and <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:19-20, and <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:13-11 to permit Petitioner to construct, lay, maintain, and operate the necessary water mains, pipes and appurtenances (collectively, the "Facilities") to furnish public fire service to the Borough. A copy of the Municipal Consent is attached hereto as <u>Exhibit A</u> and incorporated into this Petition by reference.

5. NJAWC will construct the Facilities necessary to provide public fire service to the Borough and will provide the service from its existing franchise area.

6. The extension of NJAWC's franchise territory for the within purpose is necessary and proper for public convenience and properly conserves the public interest by permitting the provision of public fire service to Farmingdale. The Facilities will be operated by a company that is a subsidiary of the largest provider of regulated water and wastewater services in the United States and under the jurisdiction of the Board and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. The Facilities will be subject to reasonable and prudent practices of Petitioner; safe and reliable service, including access to customer service representatives 24/7 in emergency situations; and served by a company with the financial wherewithal to maintain and improve the Facilities.

7. The Borough will pay general metered service tariff rates for public fire services provided by the Company.

8. Approval of the Municipal Consent submitted to the Board with this Petition will serve the public interest by permitting NJAWC to provide public fire service within the Borough, and to leverage its experience, expertise and economies of scale to benefit the customers of the Borough and of NJAWC. NJAWC's significant resources will provide additional public fire system reliability to the Borough.

9. For the reasons stated above, approval of the Municipal Consent will serve the public convenience and properly serve the public interests pursuant to <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:2-14. As a result, the Board should approve the Municipal Consent.

WHEREFORE, Petitioner respectfully requests that the Board approve Ordinance No. 2023-07 of the Borough of Farmingdale and grant such other and further relief as the Board may deem reasonable and appropriate under the circumstances.

Respectfully submitted,

New Jersey-American Water Company, Inc.

Bv:

Stephen R. Bishop, Esquire General Counsel

Dated: September 10, 2024

Communications addressed to the Petitioner in this case are to be sent to:

Stephen R. Bishop VP and General Counsel New Jersey-American Water Company, Inc. 1 Water Street Camden, NJ 08102 856.955.4877 stephen.bishop@amwater.com

VERIFICATION

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

SS.

COUNTY OF CAMDEN

I, JAMIE HAWN, of full age, being duly sworn according to law, upon my oath depose and say:

- I am the Director of Rates and Regulatory of New Jersey-American Water Company, Inc., the Petitioner herein, and am authorized to make this verification on behalf of said Petitioner.
- 2. I have read the contents of the foregoing Petition as to New Jersey-American Water Company, Inc. and hereby verify that the statements therein contained are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Jamie Hawn

Director Rates & Regulatory

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 10^{th} day of September 2024.

DONNA L. CARNEY NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF NEW JERSEY MY COMMISSION EXPIRES MAY 24, 2028

ORDINANCE 2023 - 07

BOROUGH OF FARMINGDALE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING MUNICIPAL CONSENT TO NEW JERSEY-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY, INC., ("COMPANY") TO PERMIT THE CONSTRUCTION, EXPANSION AND MAINTENANCE OF WATER FACILITIES ON PUBLIC PROPERTY IN THE BOROUGH OF FARMINGDALE ("BOROUGH") IN ORDER TO FURNISH PUBLIC FIRE SERVICE WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE BOROUGH

WHEREAS, the Borough of Farmingdale ("Borough"), Monmouth County, New Jersey is desirous of securing public fire protection services to sites within the Borough not currently within New Jersey American Water's existing franchise; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey-American Water Company, Inc. ("Company") is a regulated public utility corporation of the State of New Jersey presently seeking the municipal consent of the Borough to permit said Company to extend public fire protection service and its facilities in the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Company has requested the consent of the Borough as required by <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:19-17 and 48:19-20, as amended, to lay its pipes beneath and restore such public roads, streets and places as it may deem necessary for its corporate purposes, free from all charges to be made for said privilege (except fees for road opening permits shall be paid), provided that said pipes shall be laid at least three feet (3') below the surface and shall not in any way unnecessarily obstruct or interfere with the public travel or cause or permit other than temporary damage to public or private property; and

WHEREAS, it is deemed to be in the best interest of the citizens of the Borough with regard to the entire municipality to provide this consent.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Farmingdale, County of Monmouth and State of New Jersey as follows:

SECTION I.

The Borough hereby grants to the Company, its successors and assigns, in perpetuity, the municipal consent required under the provisions of <u>N.J.S.A.</u> 48:19-17 and 48:19-20, as amended without charge therefore, (except fees for road opening perm its shall be paid) as the same may be required in order to permit the said Company to add to, extend, operate and maintain said water facilities on the public property described herein in order to provide public fire service. The privilege granted herein shall include the construction, installation and maintenance of hydrants on and along the Borough roads, streets and places at locations as the Borough shall designate. The Borough or its designee will pay to the Company the filed tariff rates for public fire protection service rendered through said hydrants.

SECTION II.

That a certified copy of this Ordinance, upon final passage, shall be sent to the Company, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and the Board of Public Utilities of the State of New Jersey.

SECTION III.

That the consent granted herein shall be subject to the Company complying with all applicable laws of the Borough and/or the State of New Jersey including, but not limited to, any and all statutes and administrative agency rules and/or regulations.

Exhibit A Page 2 of 2

SECTION IV.

The Borough Manager, Mayor and the Clerk of the Borough be authorized to execute the documents and agreements necessary to effectuate the municipal consent and to protect the rights of the public involved.

SECTION V.

Each section, subsection, sentence, clause and phrase of this Ordinance is declared to be an independent section, subsection, sentence, clause and phrase, and the finding or holding of any such portion of this Ordinance to be unconstitutional, void, or ineffective for any cause, or reason, shall not affect any other portion of this Ordinance.

SECTION VI

The consent granted herein extends only to the provision of public fire service within the Borough of Farmingdale. Any extension of the consent granted herein for services or territory other than the area described herein must be approved by the Borough by ordinance.

SECTION VI

All ordinances or parts of ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

DATE INTRODUCED: October 3, 2023 DATE ADOPTED: October 17, 2023

ATTEST

Corinne DiCorcia Williams, RMC Date: 10/17/2023



