

Newark Water & Sewer Advisory Board
Minutes for 3:00 pm Wednesday, August 5, 2026
Public Works Administration Building Conference Room
6113 Timmons Road, Snow Hill, MD

Present

Water and Wastewater Advisory Board

Susan Age, Jennifer Ketner

Worcester County Public Works

Dallas Baker Jr., Jana Potvin, Charde' Tunnell

Worcester County Public Works – Water and Wastewater Division

Lee Beauchamp, Shane Odegaard

Worcester County Treasurer's Office

Quinn Dittrich (Remote), Ondrea Starzhevskiy

1. Review end of FY 26 budget.
2. Review FY 27 budget, year to date
 - a. Rate of 5% increase.
 - b. Separate fund of how our county for the debt service charge that is showing up on bills. We are making sure we account for that as part of our budget process with the commissioners. The amount is going to change across all our service areas for this FY, we just want all the different advisory boards to be aware of and look at that when we walk through the financial reports going forward.
3. Review status of current project list:
 - a. Household sediment filter status: 45 responses, 33 signed MOUs, 31 installed.
 - b. Water Treatment Plant Upgrades:
 - i. USDA grant application status: Submitted PER to USDA for review on 6.13.26. Anticipate submitting grant application by October 1, 2026. – No response yet.
 - ii. Congressional Directed Spending (Sen. Andy Harris): Jan 2026 announced \$2.55M award to Newark for WTP. Awaiting authorization from EPA. – Funds will go towards WTP & new well be located by the water tower. Total needed for full project is \$5.5M, exploring other funding options for remainder amount needed. Anticipating hearing back by our next meeting.
 - iii. MDE Funding: List for funding is out for public comment. Loan of \$2,921,840 identified for Newark WTP and Well.
 - c. Transite Water Main Replacement: No change in status.
 - d. Lead Water Service Line Replacement: MDE issued supplemental awards for lead service line replacements, including Newark in the amount of \$613,380 for principal forgiveness (aka grant); award timing based on EPA approval. No change
4. System Maintenance 4.30.26-7.31.26
 - a. Hydrant flushing: Completed in April
 - b. Water Main Leaks: None- Next scheduled flushing is October -2026
 - c. Sewer Main Leaks: None
 - d. Water Treatment Plant Repairs: Contact Tank painted in May

- e. Wastewater Treatment Plant: PO issued to Frank Lynch for surveying (Pond Sounding) – Determine how much sludge or material is settled at the bottom of lagoon so we know how much volume we lost and determine whether it's cost effective to try and pull or what the next step will be.
 - f. Spray Field: Gravel Road Improvements
 - g. New Service: None
5. Questions from the Board?

Hydrant flushes still being performed 2x weekly - Yes

Next meeting is November 4, 2026 @3pm