

**SCIO TOWNSHIP
WASHTENAW COUNTY, MICHIGAN
RESOLUTION #2021-38
URGING ANN ARBOR CITY COUNCIL TO IMPROVE
THE CITY WATER TREATMENT PLANT IN LIEU OF PURCHASING WATER
FROM GREAT LAKES WATER AUTHORITY**

September 28, 2021

At a Regular Meeting of the Township Board of Scio Township, Washtenaw County, Michigan, held at Township Hall, 827 N. Zeeb Road, on the 28th day of September 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Hathaway, Palmer, Flintoft, Courteau, Jerome, Knol, Vogel
Members Absent: None.

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Trustee Courteau and supported by Trustee Knol.

WHEREAS, The City of Ann Arbor (“City”) has determined, in a document titled “Presentation and Discussion of the City’s Water Treatment Plant Alternatives: Evaluation and Recommendations” and dated September 13, 2021 (the “2021 City WTP Report”), that in order to “ensure reliable, high-quality water into the future... City must invest in significant infrastructure improvements in its water treatment facilities” or purchase water from a regional water authority; and

WHEREAS, in 2015 the City commissioned from Black & Veatch an evaluation of alternatives (the “Alternative Evaluation Report”) to improving the Ann Arbor Water Treatment Plant (“City WTP”), which recommended that the City rehabilitate portions of the City WTP in lieu of purchasing water wholesale from a water authority after considering the impact on rates, water, quality, environmental stewardship, operational impact, reliability of water supply over the long-term and consistency with the City’s strategic priorities among other factors; and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2016, after evaluating the Alternative Evaluation Report, which found that rehabilitation of the City WTP would be the most cost-effective option with the lowest impact on rates over the long-term, City Council approved moving ahead with improvement to the treatment plant; and

WHEREAS, the City Council met in Working Session on September 13, 2021, to revisit the recommendations in the Alternative Evaluation Report and seek feedback from the current City Council on the alternatives of continuing to improve the City WTP or purchase water from the Great Lakes Water Authority (“GLWA”) and install the infrastructure necessary to deliver that water to its customers; and

WHEREAS, Scio Township (“Township”) contracts with the City for the purchase of water to distribute to a portion of its residents and to the businesses along the Jackson Road corridor; and

WHEREAS, City staff recommends continuing to improve the City WTP in lieu of purchasing water from GLWA; and

WHEREAS, Global Environmental Alliance, LLC prepared a Review of the City of Ann Arbor and Great Lakes Water Authority Water Quality & Great Lakes Water Authority Alternative to City Council of Ann Arbor Drinking Water (the “Global Environmental Alliance Report”), which reports that:

- Overall, the City WTP provides better drinking water quality with significantly less cancer-causing chemicals and lead than GLWA;
- The City WTP includes an activated carbon system to remove PFAS and many other organic chemicals, while GLWA does not;
- The City WTP is one of the most advanced drinking water treatment plants in Michigan; and
- The Alternative Evaluation Report estimated that the capital cost to improve and maintain the existing City WTP was \$80M to 90M, while the capital costs to purchased water from GLWA was \$250M to \$300M.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that based upon the 2021 City WTP Report, Alternative Evaluation Report, the Global Environment Alliance Report, and the recommendation of City staff, the Scio Township Board of Trustees urges Ann Arbor City Council to continue to improve the City WTP instead of purchasing lower quality water from GLWA and incurring the significant additional cost of infrastructure necessary to deliver the water to its customers.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

AYES: Hathaway, Palmer, Courteau, Jerome, Knol, Vogel

NAYS: Flintoft

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.



Jessica Flintoft, Clerk
Scio Township

DATED: September 28, 2021

CERTIFICATE

I, Jessica M. Flintoft, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by the Township Board of Scio Township, County of Washtenaw, State of Michigan, at a Regular Meeting held on September 28, 2021, and that said meeting was conducted and public notice of said meeting was given pursuant to and in full compliance with the Open Meetings Act, being Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, and that the minutes of said meeting were kept and will be or have been made available as required by said Act.



Jessica M. Flintoft, Clerk
Scio Township

DATED: *October 5, 2021*