



ORANGE WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

*A public, non-profit agency providing water, sewer and reclaimed water services
to the Carrboro-Chapel Hill community.*

February 28, 2017

The Honorable Mark Dorosin, Chair
Orange County Board of Commissioners
PO Box 8181
Hillsborough, NC 27278

The Honorable Carol Folt, Chancellor
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
103 South Building
Campus Box 9100
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-9100

The Honorable Pam Hemminger, Mayor
Town of Chapel Hill
405 Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

The Honorable Lydia Lavelle, Mayor
Town of Carrboro
301 West Main Street
Carrboro, NC 27510

Dear Chair Dorosin, Chancellor Folt, Mayor Hemminger and Mayor Lavelle:

The Board of Directors recently adopted the enclosed Resolution, in part celebrating OWASA's 40th anniversary in service to the Chapel Hill, Carrboro and UNC communities, and directed that it be communicated to you. It is also appropriate on this occasion to express appreciation for the support and cooperation OWASA has received over the years from its founding communities and institutions.

OWASA first began operation on February 16, 1977, of the combined water and sewer systems previously owned in separate interests by The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the Towns of Chapel Hill and Carrboro. As a newly formed, quasi-governmental, corporate but community-owned Water and Sewer Authority, it became the first such limited purpose unit of local government to combine separate, already existing water and sewer systems into a unitary system separate from, but appointed by the affected areas' elected leaders.

Based upon the idea that separate communities and institutions are joined together by their common need for sufficient water, and for efficient wastewater treatment services, OWASA's founders and its initial leaders foresaw that a community-directed enterprise would require management by local citizens working together. And, they foresaw that while the leaders of this new enterprise should be appointed by local elected leaders, their fiduciary duties should be put in service to the combined customer community, guided by an open, transparent governance.

In light of our recent experiences, survived in large part by so many community partners working together, it is appropriate that we should again thank each of you for your understanding and assistance, working alongside OWASA, in service to our communities and their vital institutions.

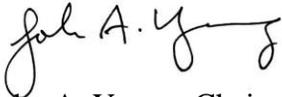
OWASA's 40th Anniversary

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We look forward to many more years, working together with others also interested in providing sufficient quantities of clean water to their communities, and our common duty to collect and treat the water we have used before returning it to our streams and rivers. As we do so, we value and are thankful for the foresight and really hard work of those who have come before us in this endeavor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John A. Young". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

John A. Young, Chair
OWASA Board of Directors

c: Matthew Fajack, Vice Chancellor for Finance & Administration
Brad Ives, Associate Vice Chancellor for Campus Enterprises
Bonnie Hammersley, Orange County Manager
Roger L. Stancil, Chapel Hill Town Manager
David Andrews, Carrboro Town Manager
OWASA Board of Directors
Ed Kerwin, OWASA Executive Director

Attachment: Resolution adopted by the OWASA Board of Directors on February 23, 2017

**Resolution by the Board of Directors of the Orange Water and Sewer Authority
to the Chapel Hill, Carrboro, University of North Carolina Service Community
on the 40th Anniversary of OWASA's Beginning Operation**

Whereas, on June 6, 1975, the Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA) was incorporated by agreements among the University of North Carolina and the Towns of Chapel Hill and Carrboro to consolidate, acquire and operate the water and sewer systems serving their communities; and

Whereas, on August 2, 1976, OWASA, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the Towns of Carrboro and Chapel Hill entered into Agreements of Purchase and Sale in order to accomplish the consolidation, sale and transfer of those separate utilities to OWASA; and

Whereas, on February 16, 1977, the University and Towns sold and transferred their utilities to OWASA, and OWASA began to manage and operate these facilities and systems to serve the community; and

Whereas, OWASA has worked continuously for 40 years as a community owned and managed utility, governed according to the sale and purchase agreements, and pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 162A of the North Carolina General Statutes, all the while providing the highest quality public water distribution and wastewater collection and treatment services, and, since 2009, reclaimed water service; and

Whereas, citizens and residents of these communities, as well as the University of North Carolina, UNC Health Care and other entities, have been the beneficiaries, as well as essential community partners in this community owned, non-profit corporate enterprise, and the Board of Directors wishes to acknowledge their invaluable cooperation and assistance in accomplishing this public purpose, and in particular, their understanding the importance of conservation and stewardship of water as vital to the life of this community.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Orange Water and Sewer Authority:

1. That the Board of Directors hereby formally expresses to every person and organization in the Carrboro-Chapel Hill community the Orange Water and Sewer Authority's deepest appreciation and gratitude for the community's support over the last 40 years.

2. That the Board of Directors hereby expresses its profound appreciation to all OWASA employees, present and past, who have served the community with exceptional skill, uncommon dedication, and with their full energies and talents, twenty-four hours a day, every day of the year; working together, they have been and will continue to be OWASA's most vital resources in service to this community.

Resolution by the Board of Directors of OWASA to the Chapel Hill, Carrboro, University of
North Carolina Service Community on the 40th Anniversary of OWASA's Beginning
Operation

February 23, 2017

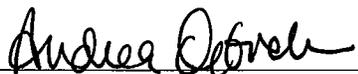
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3. That this resolution shall be sent to the Carrboro Board of Aldermen, the Chapel Hill Town Council, the Orange County Board of Commissioners, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and published to the entire community by means deemed fitting to that end.

Adopted this 23rd day of February 2017.


John A. Young, Chair

ATTEST:


Andrea Orbich, Assistant-Secretary