## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

## FORM 8-K

# **CURRENT REPORT**

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15 (d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report: August 4, 2011

<u>MIDDLESEX WATER COMPANY</u> (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

<u>NEW JERSEY</u> (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) <u>0-422</u> (Commission File Number) 22-1114430 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

<u>1500 RONSON ROAD, P.O. BOX 1500, ISELIN, NEW JERSEY 08830</u> (Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

> (<u>732</u>)-634-1500 (Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions:

[] Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

[] Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

[] Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

[] Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

### Item 2.02 Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

On August 4, 2011, Middlesex Water Company (the "Company") announced its financial results for the second quarter ended June 30, 2011. A copy of the press release announcing these financial results is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated into this Form 8-K by reference.

#### Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits

Exhibit Number Description of Document

99.1 Press Release and income statement issued by Middlesex Water Company, dated August 4, 2011 announcing Second Quarter 2011 Financial Results.

### SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf of the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

# MIDDLESEX WATER COMPANY (Registrant)

<u>s/Kenneth J. Quinn</u> Kenneth J. Quinn Vice President, General Counsel, Secretary and Treasurer

Dated: August 4, 2011

## MIDDLESEX WATER COMPANY REPORTS FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR SECOND QUARTER

ISELIN, NJ, (August 4, 2011) Middlesex Water Company (NASDAQ:MSEX) ("Middlesex" or the "Company") today reported second quarter operating revenues of \$26.1 million compared to \$26.5 million for the same period in 2010. Net income for the quarter decreased to \$3.6 million from \$4.4 million in the same quarter of 2010. Earnings per basic and diluted share for the quarter were \$0.23, compared with \$0.31 per basic and diluted share, for the same period in 2010. For the six months ended June 30, 2011, revenues were \$50.1 million, as compared to \$48.2 for the same period in 2010, and net income increased \$0.3 million to \$6.3 million for the same period in 2010.

#### Second Quarter Operating Results

Consolidated operating revenues for the three months ended June 30, 2011 decreased \$0.4 million or 1.6%, from the same period in 2010. Sales from temporary contracts with governmental entities in New Jersey and Delaware decreased \$0.3 million, with the expiration of those temporary contracts. Demand for water from commercial and industrial customers in our Middlesex system increased in an apparent return to more normal usage patterns. This was offset by a decrease in demand for water from our residential customers due to cooler, wetter weather in the second quarter of 2011.

Middlesex Water Company Chairman, President and CEO Dennis W. Doll said, "The increased consumption by our commercial and industrial customers is a welcome sign, perhaps signaling continued favorable local economic conditions for this class of customers. The warm and dry weather conditions that we experienced in parts of July, which began in the latter part of the second quarter, are expected to have a favorable impact on operating revenues in the third quarter." Mr. Doll further noted, "In addition to the effect on earnings per share of the decrease in net income, earnings per share also decreased from a higher average number of shares outstanding in 2011, due to the Company's public offering of 1.9 million shares of common stock in June 2010."

Operation and maintenance expenses for the three months ended June 30, 2011 increased \$0.5 million from the same period in 2010. This was attributable to increased labor costs and employee healthcare and post retirement benefits plan expenses.

#### Six Month Operating Results

Consolidated operating revenues for the six months ended June 30, 2011 increased \$1.9 million from the same period in 2010. Most of this increase was due to higher revenues in our Middlesex system, which increased \$1.7 million, primarily due to an increase in base rates of 13.5% that went into effect in March 2010. Operation and maintenance expenses increased \$0.9 million from the same period in 2010. This was attributable to increased labor costs and increased employee health care costs and postretirement benefit plan expenses.

For the six months ended June 30, 2011, basic and diluted earnings per share decreased to \$0.40, as compared to \$0.43 and \$0.42, respectively, for the same period in 2010. Even though net income increased in 2011 compared to 2010, earnings per share decreased from a higher average number of shares outstanding in 2011 due to the Company's public offering of 1.9 million shares of common stock in June 2010.

### **Company Quarterly Dividend**

The Company's Board of Directors declared a quarterly cash dividend of \$0.1825 per share, payable September 1, 2011 to common shareholders as of August 15, 2011. The Company has paid cash dividends in varying amounts continually since 1912. Middlesex Water has a Dividend Reinvestment Plan under which dividends and optional cash payments can be used to purchase additional shares of Common stock.

#### **About Middlesex Water Company**

Middlesex Water Company is a provider of water, wastewater and related services, primarily in New Jersey and Delaware. Organized in 1897, the Company provides regulated and unregulated water and wastewater utility services through various subsidiary companies. For additional information regarding Middlesex Water Company, visit the Company's Web site at <u>www.middlesexwater.com</u> or call (732) 634-1500.

This release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, including, among others, our long-term strategy and expectations, the status of our acquisition program, the impact of our acquisitions, the impact of current and projected rate requests and the impact of our capital program on our environmental compliance. There are important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements including: general economic business conditions, unfavorable weather conditions, the success of certain cost containment initiatives, changes in regulations or regulatory treatment, availability and the cost of capital, the success of growth initiatives and other factors discussed in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

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# MIDDLESEX WATER COMPANY CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (Unaudited)

# (In thousands except per share amounts)

	Three Months Ended June 30,20112010				Six Months Ended June 30, 2011 2010			
Operating Revenues	\$	26,102	\$	26,538	\$	50,098	\$	48,184
Operating Expenses:								
Operations and Maintenance		14,062		13,576		28,093		27,170
Depreciation		2,417		2,236		4,829		4,439
Other Taxes		2,885		2,832		5,670		5,391
Total Operating Expenses		19,364		18,644		38,592		37,000
Operating Income		6,738		7,894		11,506		11,184
Other Income (Expense):								
Allowance for Funds Used During Construction		197		348		391		642
Other Income		202		189		359		360
Other Expense		(111)		(33)		(160)		(53)
Total Other Income, net		288		504		590		949
Interest Charges		1,714		1,882		2,928		3,306
Income before Income Taxes		5,312		6,516		9,168		8,827
Income Taxes		1,687		2,092		2,913		2,843
Net Income		3,625		4,424		6,255		5,984
Preferred Stock Dividend Requirements		51		52		103		104
Earnings Applicable to Common Stock	\$	3,574	\$	4,372	\$	6,152	\$	5,880
Earnings per share of Common Stock:								
Basic	\$	0.23	\$	0.31	\$	0.40	\$	0.43
Diluted	\$	0.23	\$	0.31	\$	0.40	\$	0.42
Average Number of								
Common Shares Outstanding :								
Basic		15,598		13,972		15,587		13,756
Diluted		15,861		14,235		15,850		14,019
Cash Dividends Paid per Common Share	\$	0.1825	\$	0.1800	\$	0.3650	\$	0.3600