

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: October 23, 2012

MIDDLESEX WATER COMPANY

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

NEW JERSEY

(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

0-422

(Commission
File Number)

22-1114430

(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

1500 RONSON ROAD, P.O. BOX 1500, ISELIN, NEW JERSEY 08830

(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

(732)-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))
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Item. 8.01. Other Events

On October 23, 2012, the Company issued a press release announcing that its Board of Directors had declared a quarterly cash dividend payable on December 3, 2012 for shareholders of record as of November 15, 2012. The Board also approved an increase in the quarterly dividend on the Company's common shares from \$0.1850 to \$0.1875.

The information contained in the news release is incorporated herein by reference and furnished as Exhibit 99.1.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

The following exhibit is filed herewith:

99.1 On October 23, 2012, a press release was issued announcing the increase and declaration of quarterly cash dividends.

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)

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

Dated: October 23, 2012

**MIDDLESEX WATER COMPANY RAISES DIVIDEND FOR
40TH CONSECUTIVE YEAR**

Annual Rate Goes to \$0.75 Per Share

ISELIN, NJ, October 23, 2012 Middlesex Water Company (NASDAQ:MSEX), a provider of water, wastewater and related utility services primarily in New Jersey and Delaware, today announced that the Company's Board of Directors has declared a quarterly cash dividend payable on December 3, 2012 for shareholders of record as of November 15, 2012. This year marks the company's 100th consecutive year of paying cash dividends. The Board of Directors also approved an increase in the Company's quarterly cash dividend from \$0.1850 to \$0.1875 per share. The new dividend rate represents the 40th consecutive year that Middlesex Water has raised the dividend on its common stock. This increase raises the annual dividend to \$0.75 from \$0.74 per share of common stock.

About Middlesex Water Company

Middlesex Water Company, organized in 1897, provides regulated and unregulated water and wastewater utility services in New Jersey, Delaware and Pennsylvania through various subsidiary companies. For information regarding Middlesex Water Company including information about the Company's Dividend Reinvestment and Common Stock Purchase Plan for new and existing investors, visit the Company's Web site at www.middlesexwater.com 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.

Contact:

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