

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 26, 2016

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))
-

Item. 8.01. Other Events

On October 26, 2016, the Company issued a press release announcing that its Board of Directors had declared a quarterly cash dividend payable on December 1, 2016 for shareholders of record as of November 10, 2016. The Board also approved a 6.29% increase in the quarterly dividend on the Company's common shares from \$0.19875 to \$0.21125.

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 26, 2016, 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/A. Bruce O'Connor
A. Bruce O'Connor
Vice President, Treasurer and
Chief Financial Officer

Dated: October 26, 2016

Middlesex Water Company Increases Dividend 6.29 Percent

Utility Marks 44th Consecutive Year of Dividend Increases

ISELIN, N.J., Oct. 26, 2016 -- Middlesex Water Company (Nasdaq:MSEX) announced today that its Board of Directors declared a dividend of \$0.21125 per share on its common stock, a 6.29 percent increase from the \$0.19875 per share dividend in the third quarter of 2016. This increase raises the annual dividend to \$0.845 from \$0.795 per share of common stock. The dividend is payable on December 1, 2016 to shareholders of record as of November 10, 2016.

Middlesex Water has paid cash dividends in varying amounts continually since 1912.

“This declaration represents the 44th consecutive year we have raised the dividend,” said Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer Dennis W. Doll. “We’re pleased to share continued success with our shareholders. This action demonstrates our ongoing commitment to deliver improving shareholder value.”

About Middlesex Water Company

Organized in 1897, Middlesex Water provides regulated and unregulated water and wastewater utility services in New Jersey, Delaware and Pennsylvania through various subsidiary companies. To learn more about Middlesex Water, including information about its Direct Share Purchase and Sale and Dividend Reinvestment Plan, visit the Investor Relations section at www.middlesexwater.com or call (732) 638-7549.

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:

Bernadette Sohler, Vice President - Corporate Affairs
Middlesex Water Company
1500 Ronson Road
Iselin, NJ 08830
(732)638-7549
www.middlesexwater.com
