# 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: November 6, 2014

#### MIDDLESEX WATER COMPANY

(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.)

### 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

oro	rovisions:						
	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 November 6, 2014, Middlesex Water Company (the "Company") announced its financial results for the third quarter ended September 30, 2014. 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

99.1

Number Description of Document

Press Release and income statement issued by Middlesex Water Company, dated November 6, 2014 announcing Third Quarter 2014

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)

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

Dated: November 6, 2014

#### MIDDLESEX WATER COMPANY REPORTS THIRD QUARTER 2014 FINANCIAL RESULTS

November 6, 2014 -- ISELIN, NJ -- Middlesex Water Company (NASDAQ: MSEX) ("Middlesex" or the "Company") today reported third quarter consolidated operating revenues of \$32.7 million as compared to \$31.3 million for the same period in 2013. Net income for the quarter increased to \$6.8 million from \$5.8 million in the same quarter of 2013. Earnings per basic and diluted share for the quarter rose to \$0.42, compared to \$0.36 for the same period in 2013.

#### **Third Quarter Operating Results**

Consolidated operating revenues for the third quarter increased \$1.4 million from the same period in 2013. Revenues in the Company's Middlesex system in New Jersey increased \$0.4 million, primarily due to the rate increase approved by the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("NJBPU") and implemented in July 2014. Revenues in our Delaware system, Tidewater Utilities, Inc., increased \$0.8 million primarily due to higher customer demand, increased customer connection fees, and the rate increase approved by the Delaware Public Service Commission ("DEPSC") in August 2014. Revenues from contract operations increased \$0.2 million, primarily due to higher revenues for additional services provided under our utility operating contract with the Borough of Avalon, New Jersey.

Operation and maintenance expenses for the third quarter decreased \$0.2 million from the same period in 2013. This decrease is attributable to lower employee benefit plan expenses. Improved performance in 2013 of our investment of retirement plan funds and a higher discount rate used for the actuarially determined 2014 expense led to this favorable result. Water production costs decreased due to improved raw water quality in our Middlesex system and also because of lower customer demand offsetting higher labor costs and contract services related costs.

Middlesex Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer Dennis W. Doll said, "We are pleased to report that our third quarter financial results were positively impacted by the favorable outcomes of our New Jersey and Delaware rate cases. Our continued investments in infrastructure upgrades and replacements are helping to ensure reliability of our services that are essential to public health and overall quality of life. Timely recovery of those investments and other costs helps maintain the financial integrity of our operations. Aiding in those overall results, was our continued commitment to controlling operating costs."

#### **Nine Month Operating Results**

For the nine months ended September 30, 2014, revenues increased \$1.6 million from the same period in 2013. Revenues in our Middlesex system decreased \$0.8 million, reduced outdoor water consumption related to weather and reduced contract wholesale water sales. This reduction was partially offset by the NJBPU approved rate increase in July 2014. Revenues in our Tidewater system increased \$1.9 million, primarily due to higher water consumption, increased fees for new customer connections and revenues from the DEPSC approved interim and final base rates increases.

Operation and maintenance expenses decreased \$0.7 million from the same period in 2013, primarily due to decreased employee benefit expenses and decreased water treatment costs related to lower customer demand and improved raw water quality in the Middlesex system. Severe winter weather in early 2014 resulted in higher costs associated with water main breaks of \$0.5 million as well as related increased labor costs of \$0.7 million.

Net income increased \$1.2 million from the same period in 2013. Diluted earnings per share for the nine months ended September 30th were \$0.90 compared to \$0.83 in 2013.

#### **Board Approves Increase in Quarterly Dividend**

As previously reported, the Company's Board of Directors approved an increase in the quarterly cash dividend on common stock to \$0.1925 from \$0.1900. The new dividend rate is payable December 1, 2014 to shareholders of record as of November 14, 2014. This dividend increase raises the annual dividend to \$0.77 from \$0.76 per share of common stock and represents the 42nd consecutive year of annual dividend increases.

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

Middlesex Water Company, organized in 1897, provides regulated and unregulated water and wastewater utility services primarily in New Jersey and Delaware through various subsidiary companies. For additional information regarding Middlesex Water Company including information about the Company's Dividend Reinvestment and Common Stock Purchase Plan, visit the Company's Web site at <a href="https://www.middlesexwater.com">www.middlesexwater.com</a> 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:

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

## MIDDLESEX WATER COMPANY CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME

(Unaudited)
(In thousands except per share amounts)

	Thr	ee Months En 2014	nded	September 30 2013	), Ni	ne Months En 2014	ded	September 30, 2013
Operating Revenues	\$	32,669	\$	31,285	\$	89,032	\$	87,424
Operating Expenses:								
Operations and Maintenance		14,956		15,120		44,957		45,698
Depreciation		2,880		2,772		8,532		8,205
Other Taxes		3,213		3,123		9,210		9,215
Total Operating Expenses		21,049		21,015		62,699		63,118
Operating Income		11,620		10,270		26,333		24,306
Other Income (Expense):								
Allowance for Funds Used During Construction		80		104		213		230
Other Income		49		27		195		124
Other Expense		(44)		(1)		(218)		(21)
Total Other Income, net		85		130		190		333
Interest Charges		1,516		1,541		4,134		4,234
Income before Income Taxes		10,189		8,859		22,389		20,405
Income Taxes		3,431		3,052		7,735		6,940
Net Income		6,758		5,807		14,654		13,465
Preferred Stock Dividend Requirements		36		44		115		147
Earnings Applicable to Common Stock	\$	6,722	\$	5,763	\$	14,539	\$	13,318
Earnings per share of Common Stock:								
Basic	\$	0.42	\$	0.36	\$	0.91	\$	0.84
Diluted	\$	0.42	\$	0.36	\$	0.90	\$	0.83
Average Number of								
Common Shares Outstanding:								
Basic		16,097		15,882		16,030		15,839
Diluted		16,253		16,117		16,211		16,093
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Cash Dividends Paid per Common Share	\$	0.1900	\$	0.1875	\$	0.5700	\$	0.5625