

BOROUGH OF BUENA
MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
P. O. BOX 696
MINOTOLA, NEW JERSEY 08341

The regular meeting of the BBMUA was held on May 24, 2023 at 7 p.m. This meeting notice was provided to The Daily Journal and the Atlantic County Record which are the BBMUA's official newspapers. Notices are also posted on the bulletin boards within the Municipal Building as well as the Borough of Buena and BBMUA's websites. The meeting took place in the large meeting room located in the Municipal Building, Minotola while practicing social distancing.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Joseph Santagata.

Those present were:

R. Delano	C. Santore
J. Johnston	A. Zorzi
J. Santagata	R. Smith
D. Romeo	R. Casella
F. DeStefano	S. Testa

Chairman Santagata informed the board that the interlocal agreement with the Board of Education of the Buena Regional School District was received for the renewal of services to be performed by Alan Zorzi. The agreement was to be executed and sent back to the school district.

m/Johnston s/Delano to adopt resolution R-19-2023 authorizing an interlocal agreement with the Buena Regional School District for services to be provided by the BBMUA's employee Alan Zorzi. m/passed

Steve Testa of Romano, Hearing, Testa & Knorr stated that his office is diligently working on the 2021 Audit.

m/Johnston s/Delano to approve the treasurer's report as read. m/passed

Secretary Cheryl Santore informed the board she received an email from Karen Burris of the Association of Environmental Authorities explaining why we need the Water Systems PFAS Liability Protection Act. A bill was introduced in the US Senate that would exempt wastewater treatment plants and landfills from liability for PFAS chemical

cleanup under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act also known as the Superfund Act. The email suggests all utilities reach out to their Senators and ask them to co-sponsor the Water Systems PFAS Liability Protection Act. Ms. Santore said she will draft something and bring it before the board for their approval to send.

Ms. Santore received an email from Betty Williams of the NJ Board of Public Utilities providing an order adopting the standardized template for P.L. 2022, c.107 which instructs the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (BPU) to collect data from utilities and issue certain reports regarding the effect of COVID-19 in local utility and public utility service to commercial and residential customers in New Jersey. Ms. Santore said this is a lot of information to gather and report and she will do the best she can to comply with the order.

Secretary Cheryl Santore gave the board an update on the Interlocal Agreement with the Borough of Buena on the PPG Grant for Summer Road. The Borough rescinded the previously adopted resolution to enter into the interlocal agreement for the Summer Road project. The reason behind this decision was the funds that were required to be certified are not available at this time by the Borough of Buena because they are still in a temporary budget. Mr. Zorzi prior to them rescinding this resolution met with Councilman Joe Fabrizio, Borough Engineer Matt DeBlasio, and Assistant Superintendent Jonathan Erber to discuss the areas of concern in the Borough. Mr. Zorzi requested a list from the Road Department Supervisor to include roads with areas of concern so at the very least we could televise the lines. Since Mr. Zorzi knows they are looking to do Summer Road and West Avenue he would like the BBMUA Board's approval to televise these lines so we have that information regarding those two lines for the project next year. The Borough decided to proceed with applying for NJDOT funds for Summer Road for 2024 but they have no idea if it will be approved.

m/Johnston s/Romeo to accept the minutes of the last regular meeting held on April 26, 2023. m/passed

Plant Superintendent Alan Zorzi provided updated quotes for the SCADA system upgrades at wells 1, 2, 3 and the elevated tank. The previous quote provided to the board was in the amount of \$75,000.00. This updated quote provides two options. Once the board decides on which option to go with a resolution can be drawn up and be presented for adoption under the Local Public Contracts Law exception 40A:11-5gg. The Chairman asked if we have money in the budget to cover this. The BBMUA Auditor stated that while he does not have detailed budget figures, he does see that we have money in the water Capital Budget that will cover this upgrade. Chairman Santagata asked what this system actually does. Mr. Zorzi stated that this transmits levels to the wells and tells them when they need to turn on to keep the water pressure in the town at

the required level. This new system would be cellular compared to the hard copper wires that we have now. Unfortunately, Verizon is saying the copper wires are obsolete and they don't really maintain those lines anymore. The Board feels that it would be best to upgrade to the better of the two options presented. Ms. Santore will prepare the resolution with the Borough Solicitor for adoption at the next meeting at which time it can be adopted and the project can move forward.

m/Delano s/Romeo adopt Resolution R-20-2023 authorizing the meeting of the Borough of Buena Municipal Utilities Authority closed to the public to discuss matters that include matters of personnel pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12(b)(8). m/passed

m/Delano s/Romeo to open the executive closed session meeting at 7:30 pm. m/passed

m/Romeo s/Delano to close the executive closed session meeting and return to regular session at 7:37 pm. m/passed

After discussing hiring someone to fill the vacant position created by the retirement of Robert DeLiberis at the plant a motion was made for the following:

m/Delano s/DeStefano to hire Anthony Ingraldi to fill the vacant position available at the plant at 60% of the current plant operator rate which equates to \$21.44 per hour. m/passed

m/Romeo s/Delano to file all correspondence sent out for review without reading number 1 through number 5. m/passed

m/Delano s/Johnston to pay all bills presented for the month of May 2023. m/passed

The next regular meeting will be held on June 14, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

m/Romeo s/Johnston to adjourn the meeting 7:40 p.m. m/passed

Submitted by
Cheryl Santore-BBMUA Secretary