

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

The regular meeting of the BBMUA was held on September 27, 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	A. Zorzi
J. Johnston	R. Smith
J. Santagata	R. Casella
D. Romeo	S. Testa
C. Santore	

A letter was received from North Star Design LLC on behalf of AutoZone Parts, Inc. submitting a formal water and sanitary sewer application for a proposed project to be located at 119 Wheat Road, Block 5501 Lot 1 requesting approval to connect into the BBMUA water and sanitary sewer system. This property is not located on the sewer service area map. Plant Superintendent Alan Zorzi and BBMUA Engineer Robert Smith of Remington & Vernick informed North Star Design that this property is not located on the sewer service area map and told them they would have to contact Buena Vista Township and Atlantic County and the NJDEP to make application to be added to the sewer service area map and receive the approval from Buena Vista Township to utilize part of their allocation before we can give approval to connect into our system. Our approval would be contingent upon any and all approvals needed. Plant Superintendent Alan Zorzi and/or the Engineer will contact those involved and let them know what they need to do and this will be put on hold until we hear back.

Robert Smith of Remington & Vernick Engineers provided a letter from Edward Dennis of Remington & Vernick providing an engineering services proposal for a standby emergency generator at Well #3 in the amount of \$54,000.00. The BBMUA Engineer Robert Smith did some investigating and it is possible that we may be eligible to obtain a FEMA Grant for the installation of the generator. They reached out to FEMA and they said if it is in the hazard mitigation plan that it would probably be eligible for funding. Mr. Smith pulled out the hazard mitigation plan that the County put together. The

wording is a little bit vague but it says “the addition and installation of two 20 kW generators at pumping stations located within the Borough to prevent interruption of the sanitation system and water supply to residents and businesses in the Borough.” They are going to reach out to FEMA to see if the well is eligible and if they feel it would qualify Remington & Vernick will find out what the requirements are for the grant and will present a proposal to the board to submit a grant application for the generator. Mr. Smith said they still have to do the engineering associated with the generator to get it ready for public bid so they can do that as a parallel track in researching the grant opportunities. Plant Superintendent asked if we have to go out for a bond for the water tank inspection and possible rehabilitation would it be beneficial to look for grants that would lump those projects together. Mr. Smith said that would have to be two separate grants. Mr. Smith said that the FEMA grant would not cover rehabilitation of the tank. Mr. Smith is not sure there is grant funding available to rehab the tank. Chairman Santagata said to look for the Covid relief funds that may cover some of these costs. BBMUA Auditor stated the BBMUA cannot apply for COVID funds directly, it would have to go through the Borough. Councilman Santagata asked how much a generator would cost. Mr. Smith said that the generator would cost around \$350,000.00. Mr. Delano asked if we should wait until we see about the FEMA grant. Mr. Smith stated that this has been included in the Water Accountability Act/Asset Management Plan so we have to do this. We are already a year or two behind. Alternate David Romeo asked if we could put the cost of the generator in next year’s budget for 2024. The BBMUA’s Auditor Steve Testa said yes, that is something that could be put in the water capital budget for next year. Mr. Testa feels it would be beneficial to authorize the engineering costs now because we do have that in the budget now. Mr. Testa also said that the Engineer could look into NJ I-Bank funds along with the FEMA funding for the cost of the generator. Mr. Romeo said that the lead time on generators is 1 year out. They have 2 generators on order and they have a lead time of 1 year.

m/Delano s/Romeo to approve the proposal for a Standby Emergency Generator at Well #3 in the amount of \$54,000.00. m/passed

m/Romeo s/Delano to approve the treasurer’s report as read. m/passed

Secretary Treasurer Cheryl Santore provided a notice of the annual free flu vaccine clinics from the Atlantic County Division of Public Health. The clinic at the Buena Community Senior Center will be held on Friday, October 20, 2023 from 9:30 am to 11 am.

An email was received from Sandra Cantwell of Perma Inc. providing a memo from the New Jersey Municipal Environmental Risk Management Fund (EJIF) which specifically pertains to EJIF members that provide their own municipal water system services to residents of their municipality and/or other communities. This memo is in regard to

PFAS Litigation with 3M & DuPont. While we do not have any PFAS present I wanted to provide this to our board.

Secretary Cheryl Santore presented the results of the proposal received through a fair and open process for risk management services for a three-year term beginning 01/01/2024 for the boards review and award. Only one proposal was received from BCA Insurance Group, 100 B Centre Blvd., Marlton, NJ 08053 at a rate of 6% of the annual NJUAJIF/MEL assessment per year. BCA has been the BBMUA's Consultant since 1997. A copy of the risk management consultant agreement was provided to the Chairman for signature upon adoption of the resolution of award.

m/Romeo s/Delano to adopt resolution R-27-2023 awarding the contract for Professional Services pursuant to the fair and open process to BCA Insurance Group for Risk Management Services. m/passed

m/Delano s/Johnston to accept the minutes of the last regular meeting held on August 23, 2023. m/passed

m/Romeo s/Delano to file all correspondence sent out for review without reading number 1 through number 7. m/passed

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

The next regular meeting will be held on October 11, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

m/Romeo s/Johnston to adjourn the meeting 7:33 p.m. m/passed

Submitted by
Cheryl Santore-BBMUA Secretary