

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

The regular meeting of the BBMUA was held on October 9, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. This meeting notice was provided to The Daily Journal and the Atlantic City Press 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 and complying with guidelines.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Delano.

Those present were:

R. Delano	M. Berthonazzi
J. Johnston	C. Santore
D. Romeo	A. Zorzi
J. Santagata	D. Horst
A. Sasdelli	John Kulin – High Grass Farms

Chairman Delano spoke to the Board regarding the copy of the Borough of Buena's Ordinance No. 760 authorizing the execution of a shared service agreement with the Borough of Buena Municipal Utilities Authority and authorizing DeBlasio & Associates to file a preliminary grant/loan application for the replacement of various sanitary sewers which was introduced and passed at first reading at a meeting held by Borough Council of the Borough of Buena held on September 16, 2024 and considered for final passage and adoption on September 30, 2024. While DeBlasio & Associates will still submit the application to the USDA talks were had with the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank regarding money they have available for water and wastewater projects. The BBMUA, Borough of Buena and DeBlasio & Associates had a meeting with the NJ I-Bank and David Horst of DeBlasio & Associates will elaborate on that this evening in his report.

Chairman Delano received an email from BBMUA's Solicitor, Robert Casella, of Testa, Heck, Testa & White providing the draft Interim Agreement to the BBMUA Board as well as John Kulin of High Grass Farms for review. The draft contains the additions requested at the meeting held on September 25, 2024 which were agreed to by the BBMUA Board. Mr. Kulin approved of the agreement as written and has dropped off two copies of the agreement for execution by the Chairman along with a check for \$1.00 as stated in the agreement. Chairman Delano stated that if the board was in agreement he would like to entertain a motion to accept the interim agreement as written and authorization to execute the temporary interim agreement tonight.

m/Johnston s/Santagata to accept and authorize the execution of the temporary interim agreement for industrial wastewater with High Grass Farms m/passed

Mr. David Horst, of DeBlasio & Associates sent an email requesting additional developer's escrow fees from High Grass Farms in the amount of \$5,500.00 which will cover the project for the current work to this point as well as the work anticipated for the next phase review. Mr. Kulin said that he would drop off a check to Cheryl Santore to be deposited into his company's escrow account.

Mr. David Horst of DeBlasio & Associates informed the BMMUA Board that on September 23, 2024 DeBlasio & Associates was in contact with John Notte of the NJ I-Bank via email and John indicated the BMMUA would qualify for AC1 Affordability Criteria Principal Forgiveness for any clean water applications they would submit. Representatives of the BMMUA, Buena Borough and DeBlasio & Associates held a virtual meeting at 9:00 am on October 8, 2024 to discuss NJ I-Bank opportunities. As a result of the meeting, DeBlasio & Associates recommends the Authority investigate and consider applying for available I-Bank FY2025 Clean Water Capital Improvement Principal Forgiveness Funding for the replacement of various sanitary sewer projects as well as available I-Bank FY2025 Drinking Water Capital Improvement Principal Forgiveness Funding for the Authority's proposed water system projects. Mr. Horst said it is DeBlasio & Associates' understanding the I-Bank will have \$3,000,000.00 of Clean Water Capital Improvement Principal Forgiveness Funds and \$2,000,000.00 of Drinking Water Capital Improvement Principal Forgiveness Funds available for FY2025 for the Buena application. Mr. Horst and DeBlasio & Associates recommend that representatives from Buena MUA, Buena Borough and DeBlasio & Associates meet with an I-Bank representative in the near future to discuss the opportunities. Chairman Delano asked if another meeting date has been set. Mr. Horst stated that 6 periods of availability were provided and he is in the process of ironing out a date for a meeting that will accommodate everyone. He stated he will have more to present at the next meeting.

Secretary Treasurer, Cheryl Santore, informed the board that the current bids for the furnishing and delivery of liquid aluminum sulfate, micro c 2000, wood chips, and the furnishing of electrical repair and maintenance services and the furnishing of mechanical and plumbing repair and maintenance services are coming to an end. Ms. Santore stated that DeBlasio & Associates will need to submit a proposal to the BMMUA Board for approval to put these items out for bid and receive bids on these items. David Horst asked if the bid specifications can be supplied so DeBlasio & Associates can submit a proposal for the Board's approval. Plant Superintendent Alan Zorzi stated he can provide Mr. Horst with that information.

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

m/Johnston s/Santagata to accept the minutes of the last regular meeting held on September 25, 2024.

Johnston – yes; Romeo – abstain; Santagata – yes; Sasdelli – yes; Delano – yes
m/passed

m/Johnston s/Santagata to accept the minutes of the last closed executive session meeting held on September 25, 2024.

Johnston – yes; Romeo – abstain; Santagata – yes; Sasdelli – yes; Delano – yes
m/passed

Plant Superintendent Alan Zorzi informed the board one of the aerators for the MBR system was making a noise. Testing was performed on the Aerator and it was found that the motor was beginning to fail. This is a critical piece of equipment for our operation so price quotes were obtained. The first company contacted for a quote was our Electrical contractor Lee-Way Electric. Their quote came back in the amount of \$27,089.30. D Electric Motors came back with a quote of \$13,629.98, JWF Industries came back with a quote of \$13,253.19 and Bayview Bearing & Supply came in with the lowest quote in the amount of \$11,815.00. Therefore, Mr. Zorzi asked the board to approve the purchase of the motor for the Aerator from Bayview Bearing & Supply in the amount of \$11,815.00. Lead time for delivery on the motor is 8 to 10 weeks. Alternate Member Matthew Bertonazzi asked if we have a spare motor on the shelf. Mr. Zorzi stated we do not. Mr. Bertonazzi asked if we could have the motor repaired to keep on the shelf since this is such a critical piece of equipment. Mr. Zorzi said we could ask for a quote to repair the motor and see what Bayview comes back with.

m/Romeo s/Johnston to purchase a Baldo 50HP Vertical Motor from Bayview Bearing & Supply, LLC in the amount of \$11,815.00. m/passed

m/Romeo s/Johnston to file all correspondence sent out for review without reading numbered 1 through 4. m/passed

m/Romeo s/Johnston to pay all bills presented. m/passed

The next regular meeting will be held on October 23, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

m/Romeo s/Johnston to adjourn the meeting 6:57 p.m. m/passed

Submitted by
Cheryl Santore-BBMUA Secretary