

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

The regular meeting of the BBMUA was held on January 25, 2012 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.

The meeting was called to order by John Brunini chairman.

Those present were:

J. Brunini	C. Santore
R. Baker	M. Testa, Jr.
H. Bertonazzi	R. Smith
C. Mielke	S. Testa
F. Soto	D. Scott
J. DuBois	D. Steudle

Chairman Brunini received a letter from Mr. & Mrs. Al Mancini of 103 Atlantic Avenue in Minotola voicing their concerns in regard to the sewer rate increase. The chairman asked that a letter be mailed out which will include the detailed explanation of the increase and welcoming Mr. & Mrs. Mancini to address the board with any other concerns after reading the letter.

m/Baker s/Mielke to adopt resolution R-6-2012 authorizing the retention of Auditing Services provided by Romano, Hearing, Testa and Knorr for the year beginning February 1, 2012 and ending January 31, 2013 for the Borough of Buena Municipal Utilities Authority. m/passed

m/Soto s/Baker to adopt resolution R-7-2012 authorizing the retention of Engineering Services provided by Remington, Vernick & Walberg for the year beginning February 1, 2012 and ending January 31, 2013 for the Borough of Buena Municipal Utilities Authority. m/passed

m/Soto s/Bertonazzi to adopt resolution R-8-2012 authorizing the retention of Counsel provided by Testa, Heck, Scrocca and Testa for the year beginning February 1, 2012 and ending January 31, 2013 for the Borough of Buena Municipal Utilities Authority. m/passed

m/Baker s/Bertonazzi to approve payment in the amount of \$1,371.39 and submittal of the NJDEP Treatment Works Approval Application for the Louis Drive Sanitary Sewer Extension. m/passed

Chairman John Brunini was presented with the Notice to Proceed for the BBMUA 2011 Treatment Plant Upgrade project for signature by our Engineer, Robert Smith of Remington, Vernick & Walberg. Mr. Smith also informed us that the contractor will begin moving equipment into place in approximately three weeks.

Dennis Steudle of 106 Park Drive, Minotola, NJ 08360 attended the BBMUA's meeting tonight to inquire about the status of his claim for the damages sustained to his property during Hurricane Irene on August 27, 2011. Mr. Steudle had a question as to the term grade and what determines the grade of a sewer line connecting to a home. The BBMUA's Engineer, Robert Smith of Remington, Vernick & Walberg, stated if the regulations stipulate "fixtures below grade" the grade in this instance would be the ground around the person's home. The BBMUA's Solicitor, Michael Testa, Jr. of Testa, Heck, Scrocca & Testa, stated that anything inside the curb line is the responsibility of the homeowner's plumber to install per the plumbing code. Mr. Testa also stated that per the regulations of the BBMUA the "Authority shall in no way be responsible for maintaining any portion of the service lateral owned by the customer, or for damage done by sewage escaping there from; or for lines or fixtures on the customer's property; and the customer shall at all times comply with the applicable municipal regulations with respect there to, and make changes therein required by reasons of changes of grade, relocation of mains, or otherwise". The solicitor also said on every homeowner's sewer bill it states "The BBMUA is not responsible for damages caused by sewage backup resulting from plumbing fixtures below ground level". His recommendation is that we must stick to our regulations and that we must also abide by the decision of our insurance company Scibal Associates, Inc. Mr. Steudle reiterated that he does not have a problem on a daily basis and that this has happened on three previous occasions during times when there were copious amounts of rain. Mr. Steudle also asked if there is a possibility that there is a hole in the sewer main that is causing excessive amounts of water to enter the system and back up into his home. The board decided that they want to sit down with Alan Zorzi the BBMUA Plant Superintendent, BBMUA Solicitor Michael Testa, Jr. and the BBMUA's Engineer Robert Smith to discuss all of the information pertaining to this situation before any final decision is made.

Steve Testa of Romano, Hearing, Testa & Knorr reported that after the preconstruction meeting pertaining to the 2011 Treatment Plant Upgrade Project he along with Cheryl Santore and Robert Smith met with David Corwin of the USDA to discuss the financial submission approval process and that the USDA Outlay Report was adjusted per the budget outline. The first Outlay Report was submitted to the USDA for approval.

Steve Testa also wanted everyone to be aware that the Resolutions that will be adopted at the next meeting appointing the professionals must include a dollar amount. He also stated that the contracts must have an actual dollar amount for services provided and not just an hourly rate. It was decided that Michael Testa, Jr. will get together with Steve Testa and Robert Smith to make sure that the contracts have everything in them that is required by law so everything is in order for the next meeting.

Alan Zorzi the BBMUA's plant superintendent sent a letter to Dan McGinnis, the Assistant Engineer for the Atlantic County Department of Regional Planning and Development regarding roadway safety concerns with the existing utility manholes on Central Avenue from Rout 40 to Oak Road. In this letter Alan provided Mr. McGinnis with the information for Minotola Estates and Severson Environmental and suggested that the county contact these individuals to schedule a site meeting to review the roadway issues with them directly. The manholes in question do not belong to the BBMUA but belong to Einhorn Construction and Severson Environmental.

On January 18, 2012 Alan Zorzi, the BBMUA's Plant Superintendent, was contacted by Mr. Peter Farrell of Manders Merighi Portadin Farrell Architects, LLC in regard to the Buena Middle School Fire Protection Water Supply requesting the BBMUA's help in solving a supply problem that they are having. Michael Testa, Jr. suggested setting up a meeting with all necessary parties to discuss this issue further.

m/Baker s/Mielke to purchase a new digital copier system from Heritage Business Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$4,121.00 for the office. m/passed

m/Baker s/Bertonazzi accept the minutes of the last regular meeting held on January 11, 2012. m/passed

m/Baker s/Soto accept the amended minutes of the December 14, 2011 minutes previously approved at the January 11, 2012 meeting. m/passed

m/Bertonazzi s/Baker file all correspondence sent out for review without reading number 1 through number 11. m/passed

The next regular meeting will be held on February 8, 2012 at 6 p.m. which is the BBMUA's reorganization meeting.

m/Soto s/Mielke adjourn the meeting 8:38 p.m. m/passed

Submitted by  
Cheryl Santore-BBMUA Secretary