

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

The regular meeting of the BBMUA was held on February 22, 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:

J. Formisano	C. Santore
J. Santagata	A. Zorzi
F. DeStefano	Carolyn Zumpino of Triad Associates

Chairman Santagata opened the meeting with the public portion and informed the board that the Borough of Buena has hired a company named Triad Associates to seek out grants. The Borough would like to partner with the BBMUA through an interlocal agreement to look into grants to replace sewer lines and replace a few roads in the Borough of Buena. The Borough would be the lead entity and submit grant applications using their professionals. The cost would be detailed in the interlocal service agreement. Carolyn Zumpino of Triad Associates spoke on behalf of the Borough. Ms. Zumpino stated that during their initial discussions to see what the priority projects are and what needs they have, one of the issues that came up were the street improvements. Ms. Zumpino said they have done some research to see what could be a possible fit. Ms. Zumpino said the most advantageous program is the USDA water and wastewater program. There are two projects they are recommending they consider. USDA has a predevelopment planning grant where you can apply for up to \$30,000.00 in grant funding to pay for the upfront engineering work and some of the feasibility studies the engineer would have to do. Pursuant to that presuming the study indicates it is feasible and it is necessary enough to require we could move into the second application for the USDA water and waste program which is where they provide funding to do the infrastructure work and the road improvements afterward. The USDA does not have any 100% grant programs. Triad would have to do some preliminary underwriting review with the USDA to see what percent the Borough would be eligible for for grant versus loan. In order to obtain any grant funds, you would have to take their loan. Often, they have more favorable loan terms with longer terms of up to 40 years with lower interest rates than standard financing the municipality would be able to get. That is not always the case. The first step would be doing the PPG and get the funding for that. Then have the Engineer do the preliminary study and come up with a report to see if it is feasible

and makes sense to proceed or not. Also, at that time we would get feedback from the USDA that says if you come in to obtain the funding for the full project to do that actual construction these would be the terms. This would be the percent and dollar amount of grant you would get and this is the amount that would be a loan. Mr. DeStefano asked if there were any reasons that we wouldn't qualify. Ms. Zumpino said with the preliminary work that has already been done they have determined that we are eligible. Mr. DeStefano said there were a few things that she said that would make him think we may not be eligible. Ms. Zumpino stated if during the PPG the Engineer does a study and put a camera in the sewer lines and it shows the lines are perfect the Engineer may say it isn't feasible. Plant Superintendent asked who identified the areas that you stated were eligible. Did they look at our I&I studies from the past because we have areas in the past that have been done. Ms. Zumpino said she is not sure if the Borough Engineer spoke with the MUA's Engineer. She said she doesn't believe it has been finalized she thinks that they just made a recommendation. Ms. Zumpino said that finding money to do roads is slim to none. There is some DOT money but not to the magnitude of the USDA. The USDA does not provide money to do roads but if there is infrastructure work to be done they will pay to replace the roads when the infrastructure is replaced. Chairman Santagata asked if there are any grants out there to rehabilitate the water tower. Ms. Zumpino said the USDA would be her first suggestion. He said there is supposed to be a lot of money out there from the Federal Government because of COVID funds. Ms. Zumpino said they are keeping an eye on that. She said a lot of the money is being filtered into the DOT for large road and bridge projects and stormwater funds and there will be money flowing through the NJ I-Bank. They aren't necessarily grants.

Robert Smith of Remington & Vernick provided a copy of the cover letter transmitting the contracts for the furnishing of mechanical and plumbing repair and maintenance to Mr. Daniel Falasca of Falasca Mechanical, Inc. for execution and return.

Robert Smith of Remington & Vernick provided a copy of the cover letter transmitting the contracts for the furnishing of electrical repair and maintenance to Mr. Wayne Owsley of Lee-Way Electrical LLC for execution and return.

m/Delano s/Formisano to adopt Resolution R-16-2023 adjusting the salary of Mary Fenselau to accommodate the State of New Jersey minimum wage requirement effective January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. m/passed

m/Delano s/Formisano to accept the minutes of the last regular meeting held on February 8, 2023. m/passed

Plant Superintendent Alan Zorzi received a quote from Complete Control Services, Inc. for replacing the telephone and SCADA system upgrades at well #1, 2 3 and the elevated tank site. This project will need to be bid as the quote came in at a cost not to exceed \$75,000.00. This project is included in the 2023 Capital Budget and the funds are available to move forward with bidding the project.

m/Santagata s/Delano to allow Mr. Zorzi to contact Robert Smith of Remington and Vernick and have them prepare a proposal for the bidding of this project.

m/passed

At a previous meeting held on December 28, 2022 a discussion was had regarding the need for a contract for an emergency vac truck. It was decided that quotes would be solicited for the vac truck services with a contingency for needing a vac truck in emergency situations and then a contract could be entered into rather than bidding for vac truck services. Alan Zorzi worked with the BBMUA Engineer, Robert Smith, to establish a contract and quotes were solicited. GE Mechanical was the only company to furnish a quote which is being presented to the board tonight for their consideration. The prices range from \$375.00 per hour Monday through Friday during normal business hours to \$570.00 per hour for weekends and holidays after normal business hours.

m/Delano s/Formisano to adopt Resolution R-17-2023 awarding a contract for the furnishing of vac truck services to G.E. Mechanical, Inc. for a period of one year.

m/passed

Plant Superintendent Alan Zorzi solicited quotations to repair or replace the stuffing box and well #1. Three quotes were requested and two companies responded. The lowest quote was submitted from AC Schultes in the amount of \$4,540.00.

m/Formisano s/Delano to approve the repair or replacement of the stuffing box at well #1 by AC Schultes in the amount of \$4,540.00.

m/passed

Mr. Zorzi informed the board that one of the employees at the plant has started their family leave beginning on February 21, 2023 for a period of two weeks and is scheduled to return on March 7, 2023.

m/Formisano s/Delano to file all correspondence sent out for review without reading number 1 through number 8.

m/passed

The next regular meeting will be held on March 8, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

m/Delano s/Formisano to adjourn the meeting 7:31 p.m.

m/passed

Submitted by
Cheryl Santore-BBMUA Secretary