

**TOMS RIVER MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY**  
**Meeting Number Twelve Hundred Seventy Seven**

The regular meeting of the Toms River Municipal Utilities Authority was held on Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 4:30 P.M. at the office of the Authority, 340 West Water Street, Toms River, New Jersey 08753.

**The following were present:**

Charles S. Valvano, Chairman

Tariq M. Siddiqui, Vice-Chairman

Dr. Alfonso J. Manforti, Commissioner

Joseph G. Bilotta, Commissioner

Katarina Sevastakis, Alt. Commissioner

Bernard Rutkowski, Executive Director/Sec'y.-Treas.

Joseph D. Coronato, General Counsel

Mike Lee, Chief Financial Officer

Nicholas Otten, Authority Engineer

Scott Tirella, Safety & Compliance Officer

Cindy Toye, Human Resources Manager

Christina Diamante, Executive Assistant/Assistant Sec'y

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Meeting #1277 was called to order at 4:30 p.m., April 23, 2024 by Chairman Valvano.

Ms. Diamante, Assistant Secretary, reported that in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Law, P. L. 1975, c. 231, notice of this meeting was posted on the Township Bulletin Board, the Authority Bulletin Board, filed with the Clerk's Office and published in the Asbury Park Press.

Ms. Diamante called the roll. Ms. Sevastakis, Mr. Bilotta, Dr. Manforti, Mr. Siddiqui and Mr. Valvano were present. Mr. Brilliant and Mr. Ellenbogen were absent.

**Minutes of Meetings for Approval**

*A. Meeting #1276 - March 26, 2024 - New Submission*

A motion was made by Dr. Manforti and seconded by Mr. Siddiqui to approve the minutes of Meeting #1276 March 26, 2024 as written. A roll call vote was taken with Dr. Manforti, Mr. Siddiqui, Mr. Bilotta, Ms. Sevastakis and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes.

**Disbursements**

A motion was made by Mr. Siddiqui and seconded by Ms. Sevastakis to approve payment of the Operating Expenses as listed in the amount of \$1,223,983.32. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Siddiqui, Ms. Sevastakis, Mr. Bilotta and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes. Dr. Manforti voted yes with exception to all RX reimbursements.

**Trust Fund for Contracts**

None at this time.

## **Ratification of Monthly Transfer & Investment Resolutions**

A motion was made by Mr. Bilotta and seconded by Dr. Manforti to ratify the monthly transfer and investment resolutions. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Bilotta, Dr. Manforti, Ms. Sevastakis, Mr. Siddiqui and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes.

## **Financial Reports**

A motion was made by Mr. Bilotta and seconded by Ms. Sevastakis to enter the financial reports 6A-6F into the record. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Bilotta, Ms. Sevastakis, Dr. Manforti, Mr. Siddiqui and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes.

## **Finance & Investments: 6G**

A motion was made by Mr. Bilotta and seconded by Mr. Siddiqui to reinvest the available funds of \$4,954.71 into the Ocean First Trust Custodial Account. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Bilotta, Mr. Siddiqui, Ms. Sevastakis, Dr. Manforti and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes.

## **Operating Reports**

A motion was made by Mr. Siddiqui and seconded by Ms. Sevastakis that the operating reports 7A-7G were accepted as presented. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Siddiqui, Ms. Sevastakis, Mr. Bilotta, Dr. Manforti, and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes.

## **Development Applications-Major Sub Divisions**

A motion was made by Dr. Manforti and seconded by Ms. Sevastakis to approve the final application for Sub Division #D-1066 (Meridia Toms River 40 Urban Renewal, LLC). A roll call vote was taken with Dr. Manforti, Ms. Sevastakis, Mr. Siddiqui and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes. Mr. Bilotta abstained.

## **Authority Meeting**

The next Authority meeting was confirmed for Tuesday, May 28, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. in the TRMUA conference room.

## **Adoption of Resolutions**

9A-2 – A motion was made by Mr. Siddiqui and seconded by Dr. Manforti to approve the Change-Order of the HVAC regulators. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Siddiqui, Dr. Manforti, Mr. Bilotta, Ms. Sevastakis and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes.

## **9B - Unfinished Business**

None.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Legal**

None.

### **Personnel**

The Personnel Committee reported the MUA has hired two new LMW's that will start on May 1<sup>st</sup>, pending they pass their physicals. The Personnel Committee is also looking for permission to fill an additional Line Maintenance Worker position due to an employee's retirement. A motion was made by Mr. Bilotta and seconded by Dr. Manforti to post, interview and hire one Line Maintenance Worker. A roll call vote was taken

with Mr. Bilotta, Dr. Manforti, Ms. Sevastakis, Mr. Siddiqui and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes.

The Personnel Committee also informed they met with the Executive Director to discuss the upcoming retirement of the TRMUA's Chief Engineer and the retirement of one of the inspectors.

Engineering/Regionalization/Technology

None.

Liaison to Township

Everything was passed with the NJIB loan and the Township approved it as well.

Land

The Executive Director reported the gas remediation project happening by the back of the MUA has started, he met with two of the surveyors today. There was talk of them building another accessway to our property to which Mr. Rutkowski let them know that would require them to put up another gate and fence.

Finance/Chairman

Chairman Valvano reminded the Board members again that the MEL training needs to be completed by the end of May if they haven't done so already, the Authority receives a \$250 insurance credit for each commissioner who completes it. Mr. Valvano thanked Commissioner Bilotta for his help with Lakeland Bank and rolling over the \$750,000 deposit into the CD account. He also reiterated the mandatory Financial Disclosures from the State are due by April 30<sup>th</sup> or else you are fined. Lastly, Mr. Valvano reported he was interviewed by the Auditor and asked questions to which he gave good reviews of the Authority's employees and finances.

**Public Comments**

Seeing no public comments, Chairman Valvano closed the public portion of the meeting.

**Correspondence**

None.

**Resolution to Enter Executive Session**

No Executive Session was held.

**Adjournment**

With no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Mr. Bilotta and seconded by Dr. Manforti to adjourn the meeting at 4:48 p.m. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Bilotta, Dr. Manforti, Ms. Sevastakis, Mr. Siddiqui and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes.