

TOMS RIVER MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
Meeting Number Twelve Hundred Seventy Eight

The regular meeting of the Toms River Municipal Utilities Authority was held on Tuesday, May 28, 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

Philip I. Brilliant, Commissioner

Joseph G. Bilotta, Commissioner

Sam Ellenbogen, Alt. Commissioner

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

Joseph D. Coronato, General Counsel

Mike Lee, Chief Financial Officer

Nicholas Otten, Authority Engineer

Cindy Toye, Human Resources Manager

Christina Diamante, Executive Assistant/Assistant Sec'y

Meeting #1278 was called to order at 4:30 p.m., May 28, 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. Mr. Ellenbogen, Mr. Bilotta, Mr. Brilliant, Dr. Manforti, Mr. Siddiqui and Mr. Valvano were present. Ms. Sevastakis was absent.

Minutes of Meetings for Approval

A. Meeting #1277 - April 23, 2024 - New Submission

A motion was made by Mr. Siddiqui and seconded by Dr. Manforti to approve the minutes of Meeting #1277 April 23, 2024 as written. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Siddiqui, Dr. Manforti, Mr. Bilotta and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes. Mr. Brilliant abstained.

Disbursements

A motion was made by Mr. Bilotta and seconded by Mr. Brilliant to approve payment of the Operating Expenses as listed in the amount of \$4,742,840.81. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Bilotta, Mr. Brilliant, Mr. Siddiqui 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 Dr. Manforti and seconded by Mr. Brilliant to ratify the monthly transfer and investment resolutions. A roll call vote was taken with Dr. Manforti, Mr. Brilliant, Mr. Bilotta, Mr. Siddiqui and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes.

Financial Reports

A motion was made by Dr. Manforti and seconded by Mr. Brilliant to enter the financial reports 6A-6F into the record. A roll call vote was taken with Dr. Manforti, Mr. Brilliant, Mr. Bilotta, 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 \$5,339.15 into the Ocean First Trust Custodial Account. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Bilotta, Mr. Siddiqui, Mr. Brilliant, Dr. Manforti and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes.

Operating Reports

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

Development Applications-Major Sub Divisions

There were no applications submitted for approval.

Authority Meeting

The next Authority meeting was confirmed for Tuesday, June 25, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. in the TRMUA conference room.

Adoption of Resolutions

9A-2 – A motion was made by Dr. Manforti and seconded by Mr. Bilotta to amend our purchasing internal controls to match the State regulations. A roll call vote was taken with Dr. Manforti, Mr. Bilotta, Mr. Brilliant, Mr. Siddiqui and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes.

9B - Unfinished Business

None.

Committee Reports

Legal

General Council mentioned an OPRA request received by the MUA, he shared information that the State legislature has amended the OPRA regulations on what the public can request, just waiting to see if the governor will sign off on it. Chairman Valvano requested an Executive Session to discuss further.

Personnel

The Personnel Committee met to discuss the Engineer position and are requesting from the Board to start the process of advertising and hiring a replacement for when the current Engineer retires. A motion was made by Mr. Siddiqui and seconded by Mr. Bilotta to post and interview for an Authority Engineer. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Siddiqui, Mr. Bilotta, Mr. Brilliant, Dr. Manforti and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes.

Engineering/Regionalization/Technology

The Engineering Committee met and discussed that the 1st quarter flows received from the OCUA are higher than usual. Weather plays a big part and it could be due to rain water or sump pumps, the staff is going to monitor the culprit and hopefully in the next 2 quarters it will even itself out.

Land

None.

User Charge

Will be reviewed at the end of the year.

Ad Hoc/Union

No contracts this year.

Finance/Chairman

Chairman Valvano reported the Finance Committee had a very quick meeting today to discuss a date to set up the annual meeting with the Auditor to go over revenue and expense needs of the Authority. He also informed the Board that the MUA received a \$20,449.39 grant from the EJIF because we have waste oil contamination. Lastly, Mr. Valvano congratulated our IT Manager who got a \$1,200 scholarship to attend the GMIS Conference in Alabama where she will be recognized for her work.

A motion was then made by Dr. Manforti and seconded by Mr. Bilotta to approve travel expenses for the IT Managers overnight trip to Alabama. A roll call vote was taken with Dr. Manforti, Mr. Bilotta, Mr. Brilliant, Mr. Siddiqui and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes.

Public Comments

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

Correspondence

None.

Resolution to Enter Executive Session

A motion was made by Mr. Brilliant and seconded by Mr. Bilotta to adopt the resolution to enter Executive Session at 5:03 p.m. to discuss personnel matters, litigation/potential litigation and contractual matters. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Brilliant, Mr. Bilotta, Dr. Manforti, Mr. Siddiqui and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes.

Public Session Reconvened at 5:30 p.m.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Mr. Bilotta and seconded by Mr. Brilliant to adjourn the meeting at 5:31 p.m. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Bilotta, Mr. Brilliant, Dr. Manforti, Mr. Siddiqui and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes.