TOMS RIVER MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY
Meeting Number Twelve Hundred Ninety Three

The regular meeting of the Toms River Municipal Utilities Authority was held on Tuesday, August 26, 2025 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 — Brian Waldron/HFA

Tariq M. Siddiqui, Vice-Chairman

Philip I. Brilliant, Commissioner

James Braaten, Commissioner

Katarina Sevastakis, Alt. Commissioner

Sam Ellenbogen, Alt. Commissioner

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

Joseph D. Coronato, General Counsel

Mike Lee, Chief Financial Officer

Greg Myhre, Safety & Compliance Officer

Cindy Toye, Human Resources Manager

Christina Diamante, Executive Assistant/Assistant Sec'y

Meeting #1293 was called to order at 4:30 p.m., August 26, 2025 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 in the Asbury Park Press, The Star Ledger, The Press of Atlantic City, filed with the township Clerk's Office, posted on the Township bulletin board and the Authority bulletin board.

Ms. Diamante then called the roll. Mr. Ellenbogen, Ms. Sevastakis, Mr. Braaten, Mr. Brilliant, Mr. Siddiqui and Mr. Valvano all were present. Mr. Pascarella was absent.

2024 Draft Audit Review

Brian Waldron from Holman Frenia Allison presented the 2024 draft audit. Mr. Waldron reminded that the firm always has to wait for the numbers from pensions to be released to go final with all these numbers. He went over the Auditor's report and unmodified opinion on internal control and compliance. He also reviewed the Authority's working capital and assets, which are very strong and healthy as well as our total net, which helps us to budget in the future. Overall, he reported it was a very clean audit, Brian thanked our CFO and Executive Director for all their help.

A motion was then made by Mr. Valvano and seconded by Mr. Braaten to accept the 2024 audit. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Valvano, Mr. Braaten, Ms. Sevastakis, Mr. Brilliant and Mr. Siddiqui all casting affirmative votes.

Minutes of Meetings for Approval

A. Meeting #1292 - July 22, 2025 - New Submission

A motion was made by Mr. Brilliant and seconded by Ms. Sevastakis to approve the minutes of Meeting #1292 July 22, 2025 as written. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Brilliant, Ms. Sevastakis, Mr. Braaten and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes. Mr. Siddiqui abstained as he was absent from the July meeting.

Disbursements

A motion was made by Mr. Brilliant and seconded by Mr. Braaten to approve payment of the Operating Expenses as listed in the amount of $4,215,875.02. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Brilliant, Mr. Braaten, Ms. Sevastakis and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes. Mr. Siddiqui voted yes with the exception to check #014432.

Trust Fund for Contracts

A motion was made by Ms. Sevastakis and seconded by Mr. Brilliant to approve the release from the Trust Fund for Contracts as listed in the amount of $19,354.37. A roll call vote was taken with Ms. Sevastakis, Mr. Brilliant, Mr. Braaten, Mr. Siddiqui and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes

Ratification of Monthly Transfer & Investment Resolutions

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

Financial Reports

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

Finance & Investments: 6G

A motion was made by Mr. Valvano and seconded by Ms. Sevastakis to reinvest the available funds of $3,649.14 into the Ocean First Trust Custodial Account. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Valvano, Ms. Sevastakis, Mr. Braaten, Mr. Brilliant and Mr. Siddiqui 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. Braaten, Mr. Brilliant 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, September 23, 2025, at 4:30 p.m.

Adoption of Resolutions

9A-2 – A motion was made by Mr. Brilliant and seconded by Mr. Braaten to authorize the Executive Director to enter into an access agreement with New Jersey Natural Gas pending the TRMUA attorney's approval. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Brilliant, Mr. Braaten, Ms. Sevastakis, Mr. Siddiqui and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes.

9A-3 – A motion was made by Mr. Siddiqui and seconded by Mr. Brilliant to approve the addendum to a Shared Services agreement with The Brick Township Municipal Utilities Authority for 2025. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Siddiqui, Mr. Brilliant, Mr. Braaten, Ms. Sevastakis and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes.

9A-4 – A motion was made by Mr. Valvano and seconded by Mr. Siddiqui to approve the updated TRMUA Policies & Procedures manual. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Valvano, Mr. Siddiqui, Mr. Braaten, Ms. Sevastakis

and Mr. Brilliant all casting affirmative votes.

9B - Unfinished Business

There will be a new item during Personnel Committee. A meeting occurred between the MUA the Toms River School Board to discuss fuel key fobs including how the schools will pay the MUA via an escrow account for fuel used. Legal Counsel from both entities will need to review terms further.

Committee Reports

Legal

General Counsel shared that come March, there will be a new regulation regarding the Open Public Meetings Act on posting public meetings electronically versus in the newspaper.

Engineering/Technology/Regionalization

The Engineering Chair reported the lining contract SR-01-24 was advertised and the bid opened earlier today. Four bids came in, the bids will be reviewed and a recommendation will be made at next month's meeting. The Executive Director added that since it's an I-bank project, prior to the Boards approval we'll need the I-bank's approval first. Lastly, the shared service agreement was approved for The Brick Township MUA.

Personnel

A new Line Maintenance Operator, Tyler Aber, was hired and will be starting on August 27th. The Executive Director brought it to the Boards attention there was a written request submitted for an additional 12 weeks unpaid time off by an employee who is out currently on FMLA. A motion was made by Mr. Valvano and seconded by Mr. Brilliant to grant the employee, who is currently out on FMLA, an extra 12 weeks non paid time off along with a signed document that states the individual will keep up with their health insurance premium payments. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Valvano, Mr. Brilliant, Mr. Braaten, Ms. Sevastakis and Mr. Siddiqui all casting affirmative votes.

Land

None.

User Charge

Nothing at the moment, the committee Chair will not be at the next meeting.

Finance/Chairman

Chairman Valvano informed he will need an Executive Session to discuss Union contract negotiations. He also reiterated that fueling was addressed by General Council.

Public Comments

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

Correspondence

The Executive Director announced the New Jersey League of Municipalities is coming up in November, if any Board members are interested in attending please reach out to the Executive Assistant to register you.

Resolution to Enter Executive Session

A motion was made by Mr. Valvano and seconded by Ms. Sevastakis to adopt the resolution to enter Executive Session at 5:10 p.m. to discuss personnel matters, litigation/potential litigation and contractual matters. A roll call vote was taken with Mr. Valvano, Ms. Sevastakis, Mr. Braaten, Mr. Brilliant, Mr. Siddiqui all casting affirmative votes.

Public Session Reconvened at 5:47 p.m.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Ms. Sevastakis and seconded by Mr. Brilliant to adjourn the meeting at 5:48 p.m. A roll call vote was taken with Ms. Sevastakis, Mr. Brilliant, Mr. Braaten, Mr. Siddiqui and Mr. Valvano all casting affirmative votes.