

BOROUGH OF BUENA
 REGULAR MEETING
 MINUTES
 APRIL 13, 2020
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MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 7:00 P.M.
MEETING ADJOURNED: 7:39 P.M.

THE REGULAR MEETING OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BUENA WAS HELD MONDAY, APRIL 13, 2020 COMMENCING AT 7:00 P.M., VIA TELECONFERENCING, WITH MAYOR ZAPPARIELLO PRESIDING. MAYOR ZAPPARIELLO LED THE FLAG SALUTE AND ANNOUNCED THAT THIS MEETING WAS BEING HELD IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT AND NOTICES OF THIS MEETING HAVE BEEN PROVIDED, VIA EMAIL, TO THE PRESS OF ATLANTIC CITY, THE DAILY JOURNAL AND THE ATLANTIC COUNTY RECORD ON NOVEMBER 13, 2019, AS WELL AS HAVING BEEN POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD AT BOROUGH HALL.

ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE:

	AYE:	NAY:	ABSTAIN:	ABSENT:	RECUSE
WALKER	X				
D'ALESSANDRO	X				
BAKER	X				
MANCUSO	X				
ALVAREZ				X	
MCAVADDY				X	

PUBLIC PORTION OF THE MEETING:

Ernie Merighi of Flower Street alerted Council that a fence located on a residential property is obstructing views. Mayor Zappariello will follow up on the matter.

Brian Fatcher of Kimberly Lane requested an update on the flooding issue. Mayor Zappariello and Engineer Smith responded that the Department of Transportation employees are working remotely and COVID-19 has brought many projects to a standstill.

COVID-19 UPDATE: JOSEPH D'ALESSANDRO, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR'S REPORT:

1. As of: 03/23/2020 04/13/2020
 - a. Borough of Buena: 0 11
 - b. Atlantic County: 6 276
 - c. New Jersey Cases: 2,844 64,584
 - d. New Jersey Deaths: 2,443
 - e. United States: 43,214 568,176
 - f. Globally: 375,458 1,897,373
2. Protocol Notification of Positive COVID-19 case
 - a. Hospital to State DOH

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- b. State DOH to County Public Health Officer
 - c. Public Health Officer to Police Chief (Lead Law Enforcement Officer)
 - d. Police Chief to Dispatch Center
 - e. Dispatch Center will Flag address in CAD system
 - f. First Responders are notified via CAD system if dispatched to the address
 - g. Due to HIPAA concerns notification will NOT go to municipality
3. Communication with Buena Gardens
 - a. Buena EMS was able to supply Buena Gardens with patient masks for the residents that did not have proper masks
 - b. All residents are currently asymptomatic
4. Recommend all Borough bodies continue conduct meetings via conference call until further notice
5. PPE Supplies are currently stable
 - a. Chief Ciruolo has been working diligently to find vendors and secure donations of PPE for the Squad.
 - b. Squad has reduced the burn rate for N95 PPE by utilizing half-face respirators that are reusable and P100 HEPA
 - c. All staff have been fit-tested and are using universal precautions on all EMS calls for service
 - d. Guidance changes rapidly and EMS Command Staff have been modifying their COVID-19 protocols regularly as the guidance from Cooper Medical Command and the State DOH changes
6. Landisville and Minotola have been exercising their COVID-19 procedures for responses to non-fire calls to minimize potential exposure
7. Buena OEM continues to review Emergency Operations Plan to confirm compliance
8. Buena OEM has been maintaining consistent communications with Atlantic County OEM, Landisville Fire, Minotola Fire, Franklin Twp Police and Franklin Twp OEM to coordinate mitigation and response planning.
9. Buena OEM has opened and staffed our Emergency Operations Center in Borough Hall
10. Buena OEM has been updating Borough residents through the use of social media outlets on an almost daily basis
11. March 26, 2020 President Trump declared a Major Disaster Declaration for the State of New Jersey.
 - a. Buena OEM began to capture expenses related to COVID-19 for the following departments:
 - i. 11-0 Office of Emergency Management
 - ii. 11-1 Landisville Vol Fire Co
 - iii. 11-2 Minotola Vol Fire Co
 - iv. 11-9 Buena EMS
 - v. Administration (Borough Hall)
 - vi. Road Department
 - b. Departments are running Sun-Sat operational periods and reports are due MEMC by 10am on every Monday
 - c. Began working on FEMA Public Assistance Grant
 - d. Signed new MOU with State of New Jersey
 - e. Gathered Private Non-Profit info and distributed to local known PNPs
12. Continue to work with BRSD Superintendent David Cappuccio on School Closing Plan and Districts Food Distribution Plan
13. Built COVID-19 webpage for Borough's website

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- 14. Maintain up-to-date inventory of PPE
- 15. Daily contact with Franklin Twp MEMC, weekly with Vineland OEM
- 16. Participate on 4 weekly conference calls with Atlantic Co EMS, Cumberland Co OEM, Gloucester EMS and Atlantic Co OEM
- 17. Daily Calls with Chief Ciraolo to stay updated on EMS call volume, PPE levels, readiness and personnel
- 18. MEMC was quarantined from March 28-April 1 because of possible exposure to COVID-19

PUBLIC HEARING OPENED :

**RESOLUTION 50-20 2020 MUNICIPAL BUDGET
 M/BAKER S/MANCUSO**

	AYE:	NAY:	ABSTAIN:	ABSENT:	RECUSE
WALKER	X				
D'ALESSANDRO	X				
BAKER	X				
MANCUSO	X				
ALVAREZ				X	
MCAVADDY				X	

DISCUSSION :

Auditor Garcia provided those participating in the meeting with an overview of the 2020 municipal budget. For the fourth consecutive year, the budget is adopted with no increase in the local purpose tax. Surplus remains strong at \$211,000.00. Slower than normal tax collections are anticipated, however, there are tools to address the issue should this become problematic.

Mayor Zappariello and Council President Baker thanked Finance Chairman Alvarez, Auditor Garcia, and CFO LoGuidice for their efforts.

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**PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED:
 M/BAKER S/MANCUSO**

	AYE:	NAY:	ABSTAIN:	ABSENT:	RECUSE
WALKER	X				
D'ALESSANDRO	X				
BAKER	X				
MANCUSO	X				
ALVAREZ				X	
MCAVADDY				X	

**RESOLUTION 50-20 A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT 2020 MUNICIPAL BUDGET
 M/BAKER S/WALKER**

	AYE:	NAY:	ABSTAIN:	ABSENT:	RECUSE
WALKER	X				
D'ALESSANDRO	X				
BAKER	X				
MANCUSO	X				
ALVAREZ				X	
MCAVADDY				X	

**RESOLUTION 51-20 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF
 BRIANNA PACE NITSCHKE FROM THE RECREATION
 COMMISSION, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY.
 M/BAKER S/WALKER**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Buena that the resignation of Brianna Pace Nitschke from the Recreation Commission is accepted, with regrets.

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	AYE:	NAY:	ABSTAIN:	ABSENT:	RECUSE
WALKER	X				
D'ALESSANDRO	X				
BAKER	X				
MANCUSO	X				
ALVAREZ				X	
MCAVADDY				X	

**RESOLUTION 52-20 A RESOLUTION CONSENTING TO THE PROPOSED
 ATLANTIC COUNTY
 WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT (WQM) PLAN AMENDMENT
 M/BAKER S/MANCUSO**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Buena desires to provide for the orderly development of wastewater facilities within the Borough of Buena; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) requires that proposed wastewater treatment and conveyance facilities and wastewater treatment service areas, as well as related subjects, conform with an approved WQM plan; and

WHEREAS, the NJDEP has established the WQM plan amendment procedure through the WQMP rules at N.J.A.C. 7:15-3.5 as the method of incorporating unplanned facilities into a WQM plan; and

WHEREAS, a proposed WQM plan amendment noticed in the New Jersey Register on 12/16/2019 for the Atlantic County Water Quality Management Plan has been prepared by the Buena Borough Municipal Utility Authority;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 13th day of April, 2020, by the governing body of the Borough of Buena that:

1. The Borough of Buena hereby consents to the Atlantic County Water Quality Management Plan amendment and publicly noticed on December 16, 2019, prepared by the Buena Borough Municipal Utility Authority, for the purpose of its incorporation into the applicable WQM plan(s).
2. This consent shall be submitted to the NJDEP in accordance with N.J.A.C. 7:15-3.5(g)6.

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	AYE:	NAY:	ABSTAIN:	ABSENT:	RECUSE
WALKER	X				
D'ALESSANDRO	X				
BAKER	X				
MANCUSO	X				
ALVAREZ				X	
MCAVADDY				X	

**RESOLUTION 53-20 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MUNICIPAL TAX COLLECTOR TO PREPARE AND MAIL ESTIMATED PROPERTY TAX BILLS.
 M/BAKER S/MANCUSO**

WHEREAS, due to the Covid-19 health crisis facing the State of New Jersey, Governor Murphy issued a State of Emergency in Executive Order 103. As a result, the State's fiscal year will be extended to September 30, 2020; and

WHEREAS, due to the State of Emergency, the Atlantic County Board of Taxation will be unable to certify the tax rate and therefore, the Municipal Tax Collector will also be unable to mail tax bills on a timely basis; and

WHEREAS, the Municipal Tax Collector in consultation with the Municipal Chief Financial Officer has computed an estimated tax levy in accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.3, and they have signed a certification showing the tax levies for the previous year, the tax rates and the range of permitted tax levies.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Buena as follows:

1. The Municipal Tax Collector is hereby authorized and directed to prepare and issue estimated tax bills for the municipality for the third installment of 2020 taxes. The Tax collector shall proceed and take such actions as permitted by N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.2 and 54:4-66.3.
2. The estimated tax levy for 2020 is hereby set at \$9,465,000.00.
3. The Municipal Tax Collector must mail the estimated tax bills to property owners no later than June 30, 2020.
4. In accordance with N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.3, the third installment of 2020 taxes shall not be subject to interest until the later of; the grace period or the 25th, (twenty fifth) calendar day after the estimated tax bills are mailed. The estimated tax bills shall contain a notice specifying the date which interest may begin to accrue.

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	AYE:	NAY:	ABSTAIN:	ABSENT:	RECUSE
WALKER	X				
D'ALESSANDRO	X				
BAKER	X				
MANCUSO	X				
ALVAREZ				X	
MCAVADDY				X	

**RESOLUTION 54-20 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXTENSION TO
 OBTAIN LICENSING FOR DOGS AND SUSPENSION OF
 LATE FEES FOR SIXTY DAYS
 M/BAKER S/WALKER**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Buena collects yearly licensing fees for dogs owned, kept or harbored within the Borough from January 1 through March 31 of each year pursuant to Ordinance found in Part II General Legislation /Dogs and Other Animals, Article II Licensing and Registration of Dogs; Fees; Permits; Sections 99-3 to 99-7; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Buena also collects late fees beginning on April 1 of each year for non- compliance with this ordinance; and

WHEREAS, because of the current Covid-19 health crisis facing the residents of the State of New Jersey and the current declaration of the state of emergency, closure of all non- essential businesses and shelter at home orders issued by Governor Murphy; and

WHEREAS, as a result, the residents of the Borough of Buena cannot secure the requisite rabies vaccinations as required by local ordinance due to the closure of veterinarian businesses and clinics throughout the state.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Buena, that licensing deadlines shall be extended by 60 (sixty) days until May 31, 2020 and that any penalties shall not begin to accrue until June 1, 2020.

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	AYE:	NAY:	ABSTAIN:	ABSENT:	RECUSE
WALKER	X				
D'ALESSANDRO	X				
BAKER	X				
MANCUSO	X				
ALVAREZ				X	
MCAVADDY				X	

ENGINEER' S REPORT :

- **Replacement of the Plymouth Street Culverts**

The County authorized our firm to prepare the as-builts. The field survey work is being scheduled.

- **FY2015 NJDOT Municipal Aid Project - Resurfacing of Plymouth Street**

The final reimbursement package has been submitted to the NJDOT.

- **FY2016 NJDOT Municipal Aid Project - Resurfacing of Forest Grove Road**

The contractor is finalizing the punchlist items.

- **FY2018 NJDOT Municipal Aid Project – Reconstruction of Forest Grove Road**

The contractor is working on addressing grading issues.

- **FY2019 NJDOT Municipal Aid Project – Reconstruction of South Boulevard**

A pre-construction meeting took place on March 24, 2020. Construction is scheduled to begin the third week of April.

- **FY2020 NJDOT Municipal Aid Project – Reconstruction of South Boulevard**

The field survey work is complete. The base plans were sent to the utility companies on 4/1/20 for location of their facilities.

- **Buena Borough Landfill**

The Pinelands Commission has provided their review memorandum which was forwarded to Mayor and Council on 4/5/20. Our office is preparing a proposal for the work requested by The Pinelands Commission.

- **Liberty Village**

No update.

- **Expansion of the Commerce Center Redevelopment Area**

The public hearing has been postponed. The new hearing date has not been scheduled.

- **Madison Estates Major Subdivision – Lauren Court**

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The bonding company's Engineer is currently reviewing the bids that were received.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT: No report.

CLERK'S REPORT:

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 23, 2020 WERE APPROVED.
 M/BAKER S/MANCUSO

	AYE:	NAY:	ABSTAIN:	ABSENT:	RECUSE
WALKER	X				
D'ALESSANDRO	X				
BAKER	X				
MANCUSO	X				
ALVAREZ				X	
MCAVADDY				X	

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

BILLS PAID AS LISTED: M/BAKER S/WALKER

	AYE:	NAY:	ABSTAIN:	ABSENT:	RECUSE
WALKER	X				
D'ALESSANDRO	X				
BAKER	X				
MANCUSO	X				
ALVAREZ				X	
MCAVADDY				X	

NEXT MEETING: APRIL 27, 2020

MEETING ADJOURNED: M/BAKER S/WALKER RCVU

MARYANN CORALUZZO, BOROUGH CLERK