

**BOROUGH OF BUENA  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
March 13, 2017**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:33 P.M.  
MEETING ADJOURNED: 7:46 P.M.**

The regular meeting of Mayor and Council of the Borough of Buena was held Monday, March 13, 2017 commencing at 6:30 p.m. at the Borough Hall 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 to the Press of Atlantic City, the Daily Journal and the Atlantic County Record as well as having been posted on the bulletin board at Borough Hall.

**PRESENT:** Councilpersons Marolda, Baker, Mancuso, Alvarez and McAvaddy, Richard Tonetta, Solicitor and Dr. Paul Trivellini, Brianna Pace, Deputy Clerk

**ROLL CALL OF ATTENDANCE:**

	AYE:	NAY:	ABSTAIN:	ABSENT:
MAROLDA	X			
WALKER				X
BAKER	X			
MANCUSO	X			
ALVAREZ	X			
MCAVADDY	X			

**PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING:** Brian Fatcher of Kimberly Lane had a few issues with the 15mph signs and the letter that went out the Kimberly Lane residents. He didn't appreciate his name and address being put in the letter since he had no knowledge and didn't give consent. He requested an apology from the person who wrote it. Solicitor Tonetta advised that there was nothing wrong with mentioning Mr. Fatcher's name however, there could be an issue with the address even though both are stated at the public meetings. The Mayor apologized for putting his address in the letter. Mr. Fatcher asked if they put up the 15 mph signs instead of spending money on the humps and striping as well enforcing the speed limit. Engineer, Bob Smith, advised the only way to reduce the speed is to have the engineers conduct a speed study. The mayor asked Mr. Smith to submit a proposal for the study. Mr. Fatcher advised that he has copies of the original DOT paperwork that says the speed limit should be 20mph and he doesn't want to take the legal route.

William Hannah of West Pacific Ave heard bits and pieces of the police force being dismantled and he wanted to know what that entailed. He was concerned with the effect on the town and property taxes. The Mayor advised that he did give information to the City of Vineland to determine the feasibility of providing the service for us. He believes and the board will agree it will cost less and we don't have the necessary funds to keep them safe. They are waiting to hear back from Vineland with their numbers - hopefully they work but they might not. Mr. Hannah asked if the residents would be notified if such change took place. The Mayor advised it would be in the newspaper but the Borough wouldn't advise them.

Joanne Rosemont of East Pacific Ave asked if trash pickup would still be on Tuesday March 14<sup>th</sup> due to the impending storm. Councilman Marolda advised they were notified it was moved to Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> and it was posted on our website and social media.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

**RESOLUTION 40-17      A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BUENA AWARDING A CONTRACT TO REMINGTON, VERNICK AND WALBERG FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR FY2015 MUNICIPAL AID PROJECT-RECONSTRUCTION OF PLYMOUTH ROAD.  
 m/Baker s/Marolda**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Buena was awarded a grant of \$190,000.00 by the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) for Fiscal Year 2015, Reconstruction of Plymouth Road; and

WHEREAS, certain engineering services need be provided for; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Engineer's Remington, Vernick and Walberg have presented a proposal to complete said services in an amount not to exceed \$19,800; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Buena that the engineer is hereby retained for surveying, engineering and permitting for the Fiscal Year 2015, Reconstruction of Plymouth Road in an amount not to exceed \$19,800.00.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the award is contingent upon the receipt of a Certificate of Availability of Funds from the Chief Financial Officer.

	AYE:	NAY:	ABSTAIN:	ABSENT:
MAROLDA	X			
WALKER				X
BAKER	X			
MANCUSO	X			
ALVAREZ	X			
MCAVADDY	X			

**RESOLUTION 41-17      RESOLUTION TO AMEND TRANSFER APPROPRIATION BALANCES  
 TRANSFER RESOLUTION #3  
 m/Baker s/Alvarez**

**Whereas**, N.J.S. 40A:4-58 permitting the transfer to appropriate balances where needed for purposes specified in the budget in an amount in excess of the sum appropriated therefore from an appropriation balance deemed to be in excess of the amount necessary to fulfill the purpose of such appropriation.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the following transfers be made in the Borough of Buena Budget:

**TRANSFER FROM**

Clerk S/W	\$4,700.00
Legal O/E	\$4,700.00
Engineer O/E	\$6,900.00
Land Use S/W	\$ 276.00

**TOTAL TRANSFER** **\$16,576.00**

**TRANSFER TO**

EMS S/W \$16,576.00

**TOTAL TRANSFER** **\$16,576.00**

	AYE:	NAY:	ABSTAIN:	ABSENT:
MAROLDA	X			
WALKER				X
BAKER	X			
MANCUSO	X			
ALVAREZ	X			
MCAVADDY	X			

**ADMINISTRATORS' S REPORT:** Dr. Trivellini advised council to look over the possible proposal for electricity that was provided by the finance office. The MUA already does this and they should consider it for the savings. If so it could be placed on the agenda to vote on next meeting.

**ENGINEER' S REPORT:**

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

We are awaiting approval of the permit for the culvert replacement from the NJDEP. Our office submitted a proposal for public bidding and construction services dated February 28, 2017. We would request that this proposal be approved at the March 13, 2017 Borough Council meeting so that our office can proceed with the project.

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

Our office submitted an engineering services proposal for this project dated August 30, 2016. The Borough has decided to aggregate the funds with FY2017 funds, if approved.

**Melini Park Senior Recreation Facility – CDBG Project**

Our office is working on the plans and specifications.

**FY2017 State Aid Applications - Reconstruction/Resurfacing of Forest Grove Road, Bike Path Improvements at Route 40 and Safe Streets to Transit**

The applications have been submitted.

**RESOLUTION 42-17**      **A RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF BUENA, COUNTY OF ATLANTIC, AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROJECT FUNDING FOR MELINI PARK SENIOR RECREATION FACILITY m/Baker s/Mancuso**

WHEREAS, the Melini Park Senior Recreation Facility (Project) is a

qualified project for Community Development Block Grant funding (CDBG); and

WHEREAS, the Borough council finds it to be in the best interest of the Borough to make application for CDBG funding for the Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Borough of Buena that the Mayor and Borough Clerk are authorized to execute a Community Development Block Grant application for the Melini Park Senior Recreation facility.

	AYE:	NAY:	ABSTAIN:	ABSENT:
MAROLDA	X			
WALKER				X
BAKER	X			
MANCUSO	X			
ALVAREZ	X			
MCAVADDY	X			

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:** No report

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**ROADS/RECYCLING: (COUNCILMAN MAROLDA)** Trash pickup will be held Wednesday, March 15<sup>th</sup> due to the impending storm.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: (COUNCILMAN WALKER)** No report

**RECREATION: (COUNCILWOMAN BAKER)** Councilwoman Baker gave the following updates:

1. Additional signups for baseball and softball were done on Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.
2. Councilwoman Baker was a part of Route 54/40 shuttle phone conference on Tuesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. There were 973 riders during the month of February an average of 49 riders per day.
3. On March 7<sup>th</sup> Councilwoman Baker and Councilman Walker attended the recreation meeting. Upcoming St. Patrick's Day breakfast was discussed.
4. On March 8<sup>th</sup>, BBSA coaches meeting was held and on March 9<sup>th</sup> BBSA Board meeting was held which Councilwoman Baker attended.
5. On March 10<sup>th</sup>, Councilwoman Baker attended the Atlantic County Township Officials meeting.
6. Recreations St. Patrick's Day Breakfast was held Sunday, March 12<sup>th</sup> and it was very successful. Thanks to Chairperson Marina Barsuglia and her commissioners.

**FINANCE: (COUNCILMAN MANCUSO)** Councilman Mancuso advised he is meeting with Cindi LoGuidice, CFO, to go over the budget. There will be a budget meeting in about a week or so and then council will vote on it.

**PUBLIC SAFETY/STREETS LIGHTS: (COUNCILMAN ALVAREZ)** Councilman Alvarez read the following report of police activities in January and February:

**January:**

- \* **Total Calls for Service: 1348**
- \* **Total Car Stops Made by Patrol 197**
- \* **Total Summonses Issued for the Month 104**
- \* **Total Motor Vehicle Crash 7**
- \* **Total DWI Arrests 2**
- \* **Total Arrests for the Month (Warrants, Etc.) 17**

*\* Total Property Checks Made by Patrol for the Month 624*

*\* Total Community Policing CADS Hit by Patrol 88*

**February:**

*\* Total Calls for Service: 686*

*\* Total Car Stops Made by Patrol 122*

*\* Total Summonses Issued for the Month 36*

*\* Total Motor Vehicle Crash 10*

*\* Total DWI Arrests 0*

*\* Total Arrests for the Month (Warrants, Etc.) 5*

*\* Total Property Checks Made by Patrol for the Month 196*

*\* Total Community Policing CADS Hit by Patrol 66*

**BLDGS/GROUNDS/IMPROVEMENTS:** (COUNCILMAN MCAVADDY) Councilman McAvaddy advised we had received a complaint on 404 W. Arbor St. Our official deemed the structure unsafe and they have 30 days to demolish it.

**CLERK'S REPORT:**

Minutes of the meeting of February 27, 2017 were approved m/Baker s/Alvarez

	AYE:	NAY:	ABSTAIN:	ABSENT:
MAROLDA	X			
WALKER				X
BAKER	X			
MANCUSO	X			
ALVAREZ	X			
MCAVADDY	X			

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** The Mayor announced that Ted Peters, Director of Emergency Management, contacted him today to let him know he was in contact with fire and EMS. They are prepared for the potential storm. The Mayor extended his thanks for being proactive and also advised Bill Nimohay and his crew are ready should this storm occur.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Councilman Marolda asked Mr. Tonetta if Rhonda Ciruolo's final draft was done since they voted on and passed her MOA in December. He requested she get a copy by Wednesday. Mr. Tonetta advised he passed it out to council and was waiting to hear back from the Mayor because he had some minor changes. Councilman McAvaddy stated it was already approved and they could make adjustments after if needed. Mr. Tonetta said he will check with the Mayor and get it out.

Councilman Marolda passed out copies to Council of the employees 2017 salaries. He proposed a 1.5% raise saying he believed it was the least they could do. The employees are the backbone and their salaries aren't comparable to surrounding areas. He suggested the 11 full time salaried employees receive the raise which will be about \$7,000. Councilman Mancuso opposed the increase stating it was careless to provide raises before the budget was done. He said they would have to find an area to cut it and should be done after the budget is completed.

**RESOLUTION 43-17      A RESOLUTION FIXING SALARIES FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE  
BOROUGH OF BUENA FOR THE YEAR 2017**

**m/Marolda s/McAvaddy**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Salary Ordinance 635, as amended, money was appropriated for the salaries and wages of municipal employees for the year 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of the Borough of Buena has determined to provide salary increases of 1.5% for full-time non-contract employees and statutory employees of the Borough of Buena;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF BUENA AS FOLLOWS;

That the following Borough employees shall receive the salary hereinafter set forth effective March 13, 2017:

<b>Brianna Pace</b> , Deputy Municipal Clerk	\$27,405.00
<b>Valerie Santagata-Jones</b> , Land Use/Const/Fire	\$34,684.94
<b>Pamela Johnston</b> , Enforcement Officer	\$ 7,461.04
<b>Pamela Johnston</b> , Occupancy Inspector	\$ 3,076.27
<b>Pamela Johnston</b> , Clerk 1	\$14,567.28
<b>Dale Jones</b> , Police Records Clerk	\$33,606.41
<b>Rhonda Ciruolo</b> , EMS Supervisor	\$43,705.04
<b>William Nimohay</b> , Road Supervisor	\$66,743.94
<b>Leonard Coco</b> , Streets & Roads Laborer 1	\$44,694.10
<b>Alfred Grasso</b> , Streets & Roads Laborer 1	\$39,585.00
<b>Jahaziel Tollinchi</b> , Streets & Roads Laborer 1	\$33,779.20

**STATUTORY EMPLOYEES**

<b>Maryann Coraluzzo</b> , Borough Clerk	\$35,435.62
<b>Maryann Coraluzzo</b> , Tax Collector	\$45,727.05
<b>Cynthia LoGuidice</b> , Chief Financial Officer	\$49,237.17

	AYE :	NAY :	ABSTAIN :	ABSENT :
MAROLDA	X			
WALKER				X
BAKER	X			
MANCUSO		X		
ALVAREZ	X			
MCAVADDY	X			

Councilman McAvaddy requested updates on a few different topics:

1. Kennedy Drive. Dr. Trivellini advised he just heard back from Pinelands and we need to provide more answers to them but first we need to make sure we have exactly what they need.
2. Mazzone property on the boulevard. Dr. Trivellini advised the engineers are working on the documentation.
3. 701 Central Ave. Mr. Tonetta said it's in the courts and that the Borough should be receiving ownership. He will check on it and email everyone with an update.
4. Fire inspector - we only have so much time to appoint one. Dr. Trivellini advised he requested a list from civil service and asked the state to allow us to go through the process. Currently we have someone doing it on a per case basis.
5. Salary range ordinance - any discussion? Councilman McAvaddy asked why not to make the top end bigger. Dr. Trivellini said you have more control not doing that. The Mayor suggested not inflating it so much. Mr. Tonetta said some municipalities don't do it so the employees don't anticipate that number but if you do then you don't need as many ordinances and you could just do a resolution if something needs to be adjustments down the line.

Councilman Marolda said they did an MUA study a couple years ago and he would like to move forward with it. He said there would be no job losses and it would be transparent. It would be moving their governing body with ours to combine assets and tools so both could receive the savings. He would like everything to stay the same and keep boundaries.

Jim Baals of Kimberly Lane asked, from a tax payer's perspective, how that is fair for the residents that don't have water and/or sewer. As an MUA employee, they are nervous about their jobs and how council will change the way it is run. Currently, salaries are commensurate with the industry, great care is taken to maintain and update equipment and the Authority has, and continues, to operate in the black.

Dr. Paul Trivellini advised they would have one audit instead of two and they save by combining the board and insurance.

Mr. Tonetta advised all residents pay for projects even if they don't always benefit from it. He will look into the next steps to move forward with merging the MUA.

Mayor Zappariello stated he believed the money from the MUA should be used towards tax relief even though members talk about keeping it separate. It's a conversation to have down the road.

Joanne Rosemont asked if it was possible to meet with the MUA employees to explain what was happening rather than them hear rumors.

**BOROUGH OF BUENA  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
March 13, 2017**

**BILLS PAID AS LISTED:** m/Baker s/Mancuso

	AYE:	NAY:	ABSTAIN:	ABSENT:
MAROLDA	X			
WALKER				X
BAKER	X			
MANCUSO	X			
ALVAREZ	X			
MCAVADDY	X			

**NEXT MEETING:** March 27, 2017

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** m/Baker s/Mancuso

	AYE:	NAY:	ABSTAIN:	ABSENT:
MAROLDA	X			
WALKER				X
BAKER	X			
MANCUSO	X			
ALVAREZ	X			
MCAVADDY	X			

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**BRIANNA PACE  
DEPUTY CLERK**