TOWN OF BROOKHAVEN
INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
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GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD VIA ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE
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June 8, 2022
9:21 a.m.

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

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A P P E A R A N C E S:

MEMBERS:
FREDERICK C. BRAUN, III
MARTIN G. CALLAHAN
FELIX J. GRUCCI, JR.
LENORE PAPROCKY
GARY POLLAKUSKY
ANN-MARIE SCHEIDT
FRANK TROTTA

ALSO PRESENT:
LISA M.G. MULLIGAN, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
LORI J. LaPONTE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
JOCELYN LINSE, EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
TERRI ALKON, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
AMY ILLARDO, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
WILLIAM F. WEIR, ESQ., CORPORATION COUNSEL
HOWARD R. GROSS, ESQ.,
   WEINBERG GROSS & PERGAMENT, LLP

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MR. BRAUN: We will now open meeting of the Governance Committee of the Industrial Development Agency. It is Wednesday, June 8th. It is 9:21.

Lisa.

MS. MULLIGAN: Today's meeting has been convened in accordance with Chapter 56 of the laws of 2022 effective April 9, 2022 permitting local governments to hold public meetings by telephone and videoconference.

MR. BRAUN: I should mention for the record the following directors are here: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Grucci, Ms. Paprocky, Mr. Pollakusky, Ms. Scheidt, Mr. Trotta and Mr. Braun. A quorum is present.

MS. MULLIGAN: Okay.

So we have two sets of minutes on the agenda. We have the November 10, 2021 and the December 21, 2021 minutes.

Does anyone have any questions?

(No response.)

MS. SCHEIDT: Move to approve.

MS. MULLIGAN: Maybe we should do them individually.
MS. SCHEIDT: Move to approve the first one.

MS. MULLIGAN: Thank you, Ann-Marie.
Do we have a second?

MR. GRUCCI: Second.

MS. MULLIGAN: Thank you, Felix.

MR. BRAUN: If there are no questions, on the vote, Mr. Callahan?

MR. CALLAHAN: Yes.

MR. BRAUN: Mr. Grucci?

MR. GRUCCI: Yes.

MR. BRAUN: Ms. Paprocky?

MS. PAPROCKY: Yes.

MR. BRAUN: Mr. Pollakusky?

MR. POLLAKUSKY: Yes.

MR. BRAUN: Ms. Scheidt?

MS. SCHEIDT: Yes.

MR. BRAUN: Mr. Trotta?

MR. TROTTA: Yes.

MR. BRAUN: Mr. Braun votes yes.

It's unanimous. The minutes are accepted.

MS. MULLIGAN: Then we have the December 21, 2021 minutes.
Do we have a motion?

MR. CALLAHAN: So moved.

MS. SCHEIDT: So moved.


MS. MULLIGAN: Marty Callahan made the motion, Ann-Marie Scheidt seconded it.

MR. BRAUN: Mr. Trotta?

MR. TROTTA: Yes.

MR. BRAUN: Ms. Scheidt?

MS. SCHEIDT: Yes.

MR. BRAUN: Mr. Pollakusky?

MR. POLLAKUSKY: Yes.

MR. BRAUN: Ms. Paprocky?

MS. PAPROCKY: Yes.

MR. BRAUN: Mr. Grucci?

MR. GRUCCI: Yes.

MR. BRAUN: Mr. Callahan?

MR. CALLAHAN: Yes.

MR. BRAUN: Mr. Braun votes yes.

The minutes are accepted.

MS. MULLIGAN: Okay.

So you know when it rains it pours?

Right after we got the OSC's audit, we got an audit from the ABO.
The nice thing about the ABO audit was that we didn't even know it was ongoing, so we didn't have to have meetings and interactions with them, they just audited us and they've been doing a lot of these. They look at an IDA's website and they come back and they say you're missing this, you did this wrong, we don't like this and we got -- I think there were ten items that they told us to correct. A couple of them we had up or our website, but not in the format that they wanted, so it was a relatively quick fix, we just had to adjust a couple of things.

A couple of the things -- they audited us, which I have a little bit of an issue with, but it is what it is. They audited us between -- I can't think of it -- I have it here, but I don't know what the dates were, but right at the period where we're transitioning from one year to the next, so we had pulled some documents down from the website and replaced them with the new documents, which were due to be up in like four days, we were a couple of days early and
they dinged us, I mean it's not really much of a ding, but they dinged us for not having the old documents up.

I guess next year what we need to do is leave the old documents, put the new documents, wait the four days and then take the new ones down. It seems a little bit cooky, but whatever, it wasn't really a big deal at all.

Honestly to tell you the truth, we went through their I'm going to say ten items, corrected like eight of them right away, went back to them for clarification on a couple of them and wrote back to them.

A few of the things you guys will be adopting in the regular session and I can tell you, they wanted us to have an investment audit. They wanted us to -- I should probably put my glasses on, I can't find them -- they wanted us to have -- they wanted our investment audit in a different format. They wanted us to have a property acquisition policy, which we didn't have, I didn't realize that we were supposed to. They wanted some
updates on our mission statement and measurement report and then a couple of other things that we were able to update very quickly. They didn't like the format, like I said, of a couple of things.

So overall, when we wrote back to them and said these items have to go to our board, these items have been updated right away and we're working on a few other things, their response back to us was, you know, I'm paraphrasing, but good job, you guys covered 90 percent of what we asked for and I'm sure they're going to check back in a little while and just make sure that we covered the last few things that we're cleaning up right now, we'll clean up in the regular session and then we'll post by the end of the week.

So overall, it was I think a fine audit and it was painless for the most part because we didn't even know it was happening, so and that was also included in your packets.

MR. BRAUN: I took particular exception to the investment audit from the standpoint that they audited our financial statements,
which means they had to confirm the amount of money we had in the bank, the fact that we have collateral above the FDIC insurance, so they may not have liked the language for some reason, but the accountants did what they were supposed to do.

One of the other things, too, is I've had conversations with Ryan Silva with regard to trying to reach out to the ABO to get some kind of advisory committee together and I volunteered Lisa and Lori to that committee, which they actually shook their heads to because they're frustrated at how difficult it is to put that form or those inputs into the system. But as Ryan said to me right now, unless she did something last week, it's rudder the ship, the governor has not appointed a new head of the ABO, so until that happens, a lot of this stuff going forward is in flux.

Anybody have any questions for Lisa?

MR. GRUCCI: Yeah.

Would you refresh my memory, ABO stands for what?
MS. MULLIGAN: Authorities Budget Office.

MR. BRAUN: /PARIS.

MR. GRUCCI: Okay.

MS. MULLIGAN: Well, ironically PARIS is an Office of the State Comptroller program, but the ABO is the one who reviews it and provides feedback on it.

MR. WEIR: The purpose of the ABO was created under Governor Pataki after some complaints about selling -- canal corporations selling land with a lot of -- without a lot of oversight; was to have oversight over all state and local public authority, public corporations and so forth.

Now could -- the Office of State Comptroller's power could have been expanded to cover everybody, but the legislature decided to put the ABO under the auspices of the executive branch and the independent Office of State Comptroller, it was a political decision, so there is a tremendous amount of overlap between the OSC and the ABO, inefficient, but this is New York, why do
something that makes sense, so . . . but we're here and the ABO powers seem to grow each year.

That's why it was done. It was actually done in the Pataki administration and it's continued to expand ever since.

MR. BRAUN: I know there was also one piece of legislation that was introduced by Senator Skoufis that had Ryan concerned. I don't know whether that -- it may have passed, but I don't know if the governor signed off on that yet.

MS. MULLIGAN: I think that -- well, I shouldn't say that, I'm not sure.

MR. BRAUN: But you know what. Everybody thinks the ABO relates to just IDA's. I mean New York Thruway Authority's there, I assume the Triboro Bridge and Tunnel Authority is part --

MR. WEIR: Every authority, public development corporation and local development corporation comes under the auspices of the ABO, so they actually had, when they were created, a broader mandate to review entities
than the OSC did, so, for example, originally
the OSC had no ability to audit LDC's because
there had been created under (inaudible), only
the AG's office had that. So I mean, so --
but the ABO has authority to regulate and
audit every public entity in New York State.

MR. BRAUN: Bill, 2008, when was that created?

MR. WEIR: It was I believe 2005 and then it was amended again in 2007.

MR. BRAUN: Okay.

MR. WEIR: So you had the Public Authorities Accountability Act in 2005 and then the Public Authorities Responsibilities Act in 2007, I believe, so it's been around for a long time and it's not going anymore.

MR. BRAUN: No, it's not.

Lisa, do you have anything else?

MS. MULLIGAN: I don't have anything else, unless anybody has questions on the audit.

Actually, I will say you guys, if you haven't, you should look at our website, it is chockful of information. I reference it
regularly when I need information.

Fred asked me a question the other day. The easiest place for me to access the information that he was looking for was on our website. It's really -- I think for most people it's excessive, but for us as a resource, it's . . . I think it's good.

MR. BRAUN: And it is pretty user friendly.

MS. MULLIGAN: Yes.

I've seen those similar audits where they say to IDA's we did find this document, but we had to dig and that's not the way it's supposed to be.

Our information is all pretty clearly laid out and accessible for the public and it's updated almost daily because there's always something else we have to add to it.

MR. BRAUN: If there's nothing further, I will entertain a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Governance Committee of the --

MR. TROTTA: Motion.

MS. SCHEIDT: Second.

MS. MULLIGAN: I'm sorry, that was
Frank Trotta who made the motion and who seconded it?


MS. MULLIGAN: Thank you, Ann-Marie.

MS. SCHEIDT: Always eager to move on.

MR. BRAUN: Mr. Callahan?

(No response.)

MR. BRAUN: Birthday child, you voting?

MS. MULLIGAN: He's on mute.

MR. CALLAHAN: I was on mute, sorry.

Yes, yes, yes.

MR. BRAUN: Mr. Grucci?

MR. GRUCCI: Yes.

MR. BRAUN: Ms. Paprocky?

MS. PAPROCKY: Yes.

MR. BRAUN: Mr. Pollakusky?

MR. POLLAKUSKY: Yes.

MR. BRAUN: Ms. Scheidt?

MS. SCHEIDT: Yes.

MR. BRAUN: Mr. Trotta?

MR. TROTTA: Yes.

MR. BRAUN: Mr. Braun votes yes.

It's unanimous. We are adjourned.
(Time noted: 9:32 a.m.)

I, JOANN O'LOUGHLIN, a Notary Public for and within the State of New York, do hereby certify that the above is a correct transcription of my stenographic notes.

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JOANN O'LOUGHLIN