

APPROVED MINUTES

**SARATOGA COUNTY SEWER COMMISSION No. 1
MINUTES OF MARCH 5, 2015
3:00 PM at the Treatment Plant**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Bold, Cannon, Doyle, Hale, Loewenstein, Marshall Ostapczuk and Rinaldi

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED: Howe

ALSO PRESENT: Chad M. Cooke P.E., Executive Director; Anne Gorman, Confidential Secretary; Sue Duff, Chief Operator; Jim Bolduc, Assistant Chief Operator; Grant Eaton, Maintenance Manager; Ryan Moore, Management Analyst; Robert Wilcox, Assistant County Attorney; William Goslin, Town of Ballston; Drew Hamelink, Town of Ballston Committee; Mary Beth Bianconi, Delaware Engineering; Stephen Williams, *Daily Gazette*.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS: Commissioner Marshall commented that he was filling in for Chairman Howe while he was away at training in Lake Placid. He stated that there were no Chairman’s comments. He suggested and requested that the order of the agenda be changed to allow Commissioner Loewenstein to immediately present the Engineering Committee report on the Ballston Lake Sewer Project scheduled under “Miscellaneous” items to accommodate members of the public in attendance. His request was accepted.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Ballston Lake Sewer Project – Recommendation/Resolution

Commissioner Loewenstein reported that the Engineering Committee held a meeting on February 18, 2015 to discuss the Town of Ballston Sewer Proposal. He stated that the project is a construction of forcemain around Ballston Lake with a connection to the Sewer District’s trunk line in and around Malta. It will serve approximately 600 units to the Town of Ballston and Town of Clifton Park, with potential for additional connections in the future. At last month’s Commission meeting, a representative of the Town of Ballston and Delaware Engineering presented the project to the Sewer Commission. It was discussed that the Town will design, fund and build the infrastructure and the Sewer District will work out an operation and maintenance agreement. Once the debt service is satisfied by the Town, SCSD will then be able to take dedication and ownership of the infrastructure. Commissioner Loewenstein indicated that construction is slated for 2016 and operation is slated for 2017. He also stated that the Sewer Commission had a resolution of support for the project.

Commissioner Doyle moved the following resolution, seconded by Commissioner Hale:

RESOLUTION NO. SD 5-2015

WHEREAS, the Town of Ballston has engaged the services of an engineering firm to prepare conceptual plans for a sanitary sewer system around Ballston Lake and certain adjoining residential communities within the Town of Ballston and Town of Clifton Park, New York; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ballston and its representatives presented the sanitary sewer project to the Saratoga County Sewer District Commission at its meeting on February 5, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ballston and its representatives indicated during the presentation that certain significant environmental issues were the genesis for the Town exploring a sanitary sewer system; and

WHEREAS, Ballston Lake is a significant scenic and recreational asset in Saratoga County, with public access provided by a free public access fishing pier and car-top boat launch site maintained by the NYSDEC at the north end of the lake; and

WHEREAS, for the past 24 years, Ballston Lake has been the subject of study through the NYSDEC sponsored Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP) with eight water quality samples taken annually totaling over 190 individual sampling events to evaluate phosphorus levels in the Lake; and

WHEREAS, laboratory analysis of CSLAP water quality samples has documented a significant increase in phosphorus in Ballston Lake compared with initial values obtained in 1990, the first year of sampling, from just over the threshold for eutrophic conditions of 20 parts per billion (PPB) to current phosphorus levels in the range of 50 PPB; and

WHEREAS, an additional independent study in 2012 collected 226 samples corroborating the CSLAP data; and

WHEREAS, sampling and laboratory analysis of creeks tributary to Ballston Lake in 2013 and 2014 indicated fecal coliform contributions to the lake well over 200 colonies/100 mL, the recommended threshold for contact recreation; and

WHEREAS, Ballston Lake, classified Class A water suitable as a drinking water source, was listed on the New York State Final 2012 Section 303(d) List of Individual Waterbody Segments with Impairment Requiring Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Development as a result of Phosphorus pollutant loading caused by on-site wastewater treatment and stormwater; and

WHEREAS, the area surrounding Ballston Lake is located within the Towns of Clifton Park and Ballston and is within the current boundaries of the Saratoga County Sewer District #1 (SCSD #1); and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ballston has prepared an engineering study to assess the feasibility of a sewer system to collect and convey wastewater from properties on the east and west sides of Ballston Lake as well as the Buell Heights neighborhood in the Ballston Hamlet; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ballston has coordinated with the Town of Clifton Park and has received its support for a sewer collection system to serve properties within the Town; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ballston has conducted significant public outreach from August 2014 to the present including numerous public presentations and door-to-door inquiry regarding public support for a sewer system within both towns, the result of which was nearly 90% in support for a sewer system; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ballston has requested consideration from SCSD #1 in terms of treatment of the wastewater collected in the proposed Ballston Lake sewer system as well as operation and maintenance of the infrastructure of the proposed sewer system which will be constructed and owned by the Town until the debt service for the system is discharged; and

WHEREAS, it is the intention of the Town of Ballston and the Town of Clifton Park, following debt service discharge, to transfer ownership of the installed infrastructure to SCSD#1 for continued treatment and maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the Ballston Lake sewer system as proposed will provide an immediate customer base of approximately 600 sewer connections with the potential for many more in the future; and

WHEREAS, the point of interconnection between the proposed Ballston Lake sewer system and the SCSD #1 system will be the sewer interceptor located in the vicinity of Shenentaha Park;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Sewer Commission hereby conveys its support of the Town of Ballston and Town of Clifton Park sponsored sanitary sewer project to address known environmental concerns with Ballston Lake. In addition, the Sewer District is agreeable to providing daily routine operation and maintenance of the Town owned infrastructure subject to the execution of a maintenance agreement between Saratoga County Sewer District No. 1 and the Towns of Ballston and Clifton Park. Discussion involved support for the project. Commissioner Hale added that what is being proposed is necessary and he whole heartedly supports the project. Further discussion involved the Town's proposed financing and funding for the project. The resolution passed: 8 Ayes, 1 Absent, 0 Nays.

Commissioner Doyle thanked the Engineering Committee and all the Commissioners for their time, efforts and environmental concern with regard to the Ballston Lake Sewer Project and said that the Town of Ballston and Clifton Park thanks them as well.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of January 8, 2015. *Commissioner Loewenstein made the motion to approve the minutes of January 8, 2015. Commissioner Bold seconded the motion. No discussion. The minutes of January 8, 2015 were approved. 5 Ayes, 3 Abstain, 1 Absent, 0 Nays.*

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of February 5, 2015. *Commissioner Cannon made the motion to approve the minutes of February 5, 2015. Commissioner Hale seconded the motion. No discussion. The minutes of February 5, 2015 were approved. 6 Ayes, 2 Abstain, 1 Absent, 0 Nays.*

2014 CAPITAL PROJECTS:

Main Sewage Pumps – A preconstruction meeting was held with the contractor, Trinity Construction on March 3, 2015. Representatives from Flygt were also present. Executive Director Cooke reported that the updated pump delivery schedule was pushed back to June 10, 2015. O'Brien and Gere is working with Flygt to get that date moved up. Project completion is anticipated for late August. Executive Director Cooke stated that he would report back to the Commissioners with updates.

Incinerator Alternative Study – A meeting was held on February 26, 2015 with the consultant, GHD. Executive Director Cooke stated that this was the first meeting held since data was gathered. All incineration alternatives were discussed and additional parameters were given for consideration of the alternatives. Executive Director Cooke stated that GHD is scheduled to submit a draft report to him in mid March and he will share it with the Commissioners once it is received. Based on the preliminary information that was reviewed, the most economical long term solution for SCSD is sludge drying.

Executive Director Cooke reported that the incinerator repairs discussed during the last couple of Commission meetings have been completed with regard to the scrubber and the refractory. When an attempt was made to start up the blower to the incinerator, staff realized that there was a computer malfunction that was preventing the start up. SCSD staff is working to resolve the computer related issues and hoping to begin preheating by the end of the week. If start up is successful, that would put us in a position to begin incineration next week.

Milton Pump Station Upgrade – Executive Director Cooke reported that the project is on schedule. The contractor, J Squared Construction, began bypass pumping a couple of weeks ago and has made progress removing the existing pump piping from the building and preparing for new pipe installation. Substantial completion is anticipated for the end of May.

Executive Director Cooke stated that one (1) item came up with regard to the septage equipment that is being installed. The installation of the septage equipment within the building has resulted in a National Fire Protection Association rating classification of Class 1, Division 1. This rating classification was not anticipated when the project was designed. As a result, there will be some work associated with addressing the issue to make sure the room is explosion proof. This will require additional modifications and it is anticipated that the extra work will require a change order that will fall within 10% of the contract total. Executive Director Cooke anticipates having this information available at the next Commission meeting.

Interceptor Relining Phase V– The contractor, Insituform Technologies Inc., has begun fusing bypass pumping along the Zim Smith Trail. A preconstruction meeting is scheduled for next week and the bulk of the contractor's work will begin at the end of this month. Project completion is slated for the end of April.

ATTORNEY REPORT:

Attorney Wilcox reported that his office is seeking professional help with respect to the aeration tank and sewer pump matters and hopes to receive that sometime in the not too distant future. He also stated that there were two (2) dedications ready to go and all documentation was in order.

DEDICATIONS:

Stonebridge Subdivision Phase III – Town of Ballston – Traditional Builders, LTD requested dedication of the sanitary sewer infrastructure servicing Stonebridge Subdivision Phase III in the Town of Ballston.

A motion to accept dedication of Stonebridge Subdivision Phase III in the Town of Ballston was made by Commissioner Doyle and seconded by Commissioner Cannon. No Discussion. Resolution 6-2015 accepting dedication of Stonebridge Subdivision Phase III in the Town of Ballston consisting of 11 manholes and approximately 1,578 ft of 8 inch PVC gravity sewer main passed: 8 Ayes, 1 Absent, 0 Nays.

Pine Brook Landing – Town of Wilton – Pine Brook Landing, LLC requested dedication of the sanitary sewer infrastructure servicing the Pine Brook Landing Subdivision in the Town of Wilton. *A motion to accept dedication of Pine Brook Landing Subdivision in the Town of Wilton was made by Commissioner Ostapczuk and seconded by Commissioner Hale. No Discussion. Resolution 7-2015 accepting dedication of Pine Brook Landing Subdivision in the Town of Wilton consisting of 5 manholes and approximately 2,200 ft of 2 inch DR 11 low pressure forcemain passed: 8 Ayes, 1 Absent, 0 Nays.*

COMMITEES:

Engineering Committee – Commissioner Loewenstein mentioned that he would be contacting the Committee members to schedule a meeting to go over the proposals for the Bar Screen Replacement Project. He said all Committee members should have copies of the proposals for review to make a recommendation for award at the next Commission meeting.

Bylaws Committee – Commissioner Ostapczuk stated that he will be able to free up some time in April. He will reach out to Attorney Wilcox and the Committee members to schedule some meetings next month in an effort to move something to the rest of the Commissioners in May.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

On a motion by Commissioner Loewenstein and seconded by Commissioner Bold, the Commission moved to go into Executive Session at 3:52 p.m. in accordance with the Open Meetings Law (Public Officers Law § 105(1)(2) for discussion with Counsel regarding impending litigation regarding the 2009 plant expansion project.

On a motion by Commissioner Bold and seconded by Commissioner Cannon, the Commission moved to go out of Executive Session at 4:11 p.m. in accordance with the Open Meetings Law (Public Officers Law § 105(1)(2) and thereafter, adjourned the meeting.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Bold and seconded by Commissioner Cannon. No discussion. The motion passed.

**NEXT COMMISSION MEETING
Thursday, April 9, 2015
3:00 P.M. at the Treatment Plant**