

## APPROVED MINUTES

### SARATOGA COUNTY SEWER COMMISSION No. 1 MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 5, 2015 9:15 A.M. at the COUNTY OFFICES

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Howe, Bold, Cannon, Doyle, Loewenstein, and Rinaldi

**COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED:** Hale, Ostapczuk and Marshall

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dan Rourke P.E., Executive Director; Anne Gorman, Confidential Secretary; Sue Duff, Chief Operator; Jim Bolduc, Assistant Chief Operator; Grant Eaton, Maintenance Manager; Chad M. Cooke P.E., Deputy County Administrator; Robert Wilcox, Assistant County Attorney; Stephen Williams, *Daily Gazette*

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:** Chairman Howe wanted to thank everyone for an absolute seamless transition with the Executive Director's position. He said Deputy County Administrator Cooke was very influential in that but also Sue Duff, Chief Operator; Jim Bolduc, Assistant Chief Operator; Grant Eaton, Maintenance Manager and all the employees at the plant, as well as the District in itself, did an outstanding job.

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

Executive Director Rourke wanted to reiterate what Chairman Howe said and also thanked everyone for making his transition smooth.

#### **2016 SCALE OF CHARGES**

*Commissioner Doyle made a motion to forward the proposed Scale of Charges for 2016 to the Board of Supervisors for approval. Commissioner Loewenstein seconded the motion. Discussion involved clarification of two (2) numbers included in the public hearing discussion with regard to the \$19M budget and \$16M revenue. Commissioner Loewenstein and commissioner Bold had a discussion after the public hearing and wondered if there was a deficit. Deputy County Administrator Cooke clarified that \$16M was for sewer user charges. Commissioner Loewenstein inquired about the remaining \$3M. Executive Director Rourke said the remaining \$3M was for septage rates, collector fees, permits, quality assurance inspections, plan reviews and exceedances and that it was a balanced budget based on expected revenues and expenditures. The motion for approval of the proposed Scale of Charge for 2016 as presented at the Public Hearing held at 9:00 A.M on November 5, 2015 to be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for approval passed: 6 Ayes, 3 Absent, 0 Nays.*

## **2014 CAPITAL PROJECTS**

**Main Sewage Pumps** – As discussed at last month's meeting, we are still waiting for Pump No. 5 to be finalized in order to take ownership. Executive Director Rourke said there have been some communication issues with the pump and the VFD's (variable-frequency drives) as well as the seal water system. He also mentioned that it still seems to be taking a while to get the contractor, Trinity Construction, and the subcontractor, CKM Electric, involved and scheduled to get the job done. The Sewer District as well as the project engineer is trying their best to get them there to complete the project.

**Incinerator Alternatives Study** – A meeting was held on October 22, 2015 with SCSD staff and GHD to discuss flow information as well as the solids loading data to determine a path for future projections. Initially, GHD's report projected a 90% flow rate within the next four (4) years. These numbers did not seem realistic, so we have asked them to look more at past growth as well as Global Foundries' solids loading rate, which is significantly lower and they were in agreement with that. We also asked them to look at the CDRPC (Capital District Regional Planning Commission) and their growth numbers for the County as the flow amounts did not match up with the growth of population.

Commissioner Loewenstein asked if there was a schedule for GHD's final report with projected Capital cost. Executive Director Rourke said we do not have a finalized schedule at this time. GHD is going to revise the solids loadings numbers and we anticipate receiving a finalized report from them in the next month or so.

Executive Director Rourke mentioned that the Sewer District filed for an extended compliance schedule in 2012. The Sewer District would have to meet compliance regulations by November 21, 2015 and that is not going to happen due to a lack of Title V requirements. He said he had to change that to a Final Closure Statement as of March 20, 2016 and will need to inform NYSDEC by November 21, 2015 that the incinerator will not be started up again until we can meet the new Title V requirements. Executive Director Rourke said this does not shut the door entirely on incineration; we would just need to meet all Title V requirements and all regulations for emissions prior to starting up again.

Commissioner Doyle felt the Engineering Committee look at the growth rate numbers before sending a letter to NYSDEC. Commissioner Loewenstein said he would schedule a meeting with the Engineering Committee and asked Executive Director Rourke if he could provide a copy of the letter to NYDEC as well as any meeting minutes from the meeting recently held with GHD. Chairman Howe said he would like Executive Director Rourke be involved in the Engineering Committee meeting as well.

**Milton Pump Station Upgrade** – Executive Director Rourke said we are still waiting for the Department of State to do an inspection and issue a Certificate of Occupancy. It will be at least another three (3) to four (4) weeks lead time until the pump station can start accepting septage and open for business. Maintenance Manager, Grant Eaton gave an update and said it may take the inspecting engineer a couple of weeks to go over the engineering reports and plans but other than that, the pump station is fully operational.

## **2015 CAPITAL PROJECTS**

**Bar Screen No. 1 and No. 2 Replacement Project** – When SCSD staff met with GHD for the incinerator alternative study they had a discussion about the Bar screen Replacement Project. GHD is on schedule and the project should go out to bid early next year.

**Temporary Dewatering System** – Moretrench has drilled fifteen (15) wells and the project is approximately 50% complete. They ran some initial pump tests to gather information and that went well. SCSD staff and Moretrench have established a good relationship and are working well together.

## **ATTORNEY REPORT**

Attorney Wilcox said Executive Director Rourke was able to contact the property owner who owns property continuous to the Halfmoon Canal property. He said thanks to his efforts, we will finally resolve our access road issue and hopes to have an access road for emergency ingress and egress by the next Commission meeting. Commissioner Bold said he would like some details after the meeting.

Attorney Wilcox had nothing to report with regard to the ongoing litigation. He said he hopes to have a more in depth report by the next meeting.

## **DEDICATIONS**

Attorney Wilcox said Park Place at Wilton was not ready for dedication at this time and will be deferred to next meeting. Elena Court is ready for dedication and all paper work has been received.

**Elena Court (Swatling Falls Subdivision PH II)** – Town of Halfmoon – Beacon Homes, LLC has requested dedication of the sanitary sewer infrastructure servicing the Swatling Falls Subdivision Phase II at Elena Court in the Town of Halfmoon. *A motion to accept dedication of Elena Court in Swatling Falls Subdivision was made by Commissioner Bold and seconded by Commissioner Doyle. No Discussion. Resolution 20-2015 accepting dedication of Elena Court in Swatling Falls Subdivision consisting of 2 manholes and approximately 780 ft of 8” SDR 26/35 gravity main pressure in the Town of Halfmoon passed: 6 Ayes, 3 Absent, 0 Nays.*

Commissioner Bold shared some information with regard to the Swatling Falls project. He said the Town of Halfmoon had a road dedication for Elena Court at its last Board meeting and the developer also dedicated a 20 acre parcel for a nature park. He said the area includes the falls and the Town creek; it is a very nice scenic area and will be open to the public.

## **COMMITTEES**

**Engineering Committee** – Commissioner Loewenstein said he had nothing to report at this time. The next Engineering Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 17, 2015 at 8:00 a.m. at the Treatment Plant.

**Growth Committee** – Commissioner Hale – No report

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

**NEXT COMMISSION MEETING  
Thursday, December 10, 2015  
3:00 P.M. at the Treatment Plant**