

APPROVED MINUTES

**SARATOGACOUNTYSEWER COMMISSION No. 1
MINUTES OF AUGUST 6, 2020
3:00 PM at the Treatment Plant**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Howe, Bisnett, Cannon, Doyle, Fillion, Keegan, Loewenstein, Thompson

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED: Hotaling

ALSO PRESENT: Dan Rourke P.E., Executive Director; Anne Gorman, Confidential Secretary; Assistant Chief Operator, Gene Hutchings; William Bills, Maintenance Manager; Chad M. Cooke P.E., Deputy County Administrator; Michael Hartnett, Assistant County Attorney

Chairman Howe welcomed everyone to the August 6, 2020 Saratoga County Sewer Commission meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Commissioner Bisnett

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS: Chairman Howe asked for a motion and a second to go into executive session to discuss litigation regarding the 2008 plant expansion project with staff present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Commissioner Doyle and seconded by Commissioner Cannon, the Commission moved to go into Executive Session at 3:04 p.m. in accordance with the Open Meetings Law (Public Officers Law § 105(1)(2) for a discussion regarding pending litigation regarding the 2008 plant expansion project with staff present. Motion passed: 8 Ayes, 1 Absent, 0 Nays.

On a motion by Commissioner Bisnett and seconded by Commissioner Doyle, the Commission moved to go out of Executive Session at 3:21 p.m. in accordance with the Open Meetings Law (Public Officers Law § 105(1)(2). Motion passed: 8 Ayes, 1 Absent, 0 Nays.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of July 9, 2020. *Commissioner Doyle made a motion to approve the minutes of July 9, 2020. Commissioner Bisnett seconded the motion. No discussion. The minutes of July 9, 2020 were approved. 6 Ayes, 2 Abstain, 1 Absent, 0 Nays.*

2018 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Regional Biosolids Handling Facility – Executive Director Rourke said this Commission passed a motion last month to increase the bond amount for the Joint Regional Biosolids Facility and hire Bond counsel. He said due to a miscommunication with bond counsel unfortunately it slipped through the cracks that a public

hearing was required prior to the bond resolutions passed last month and with that, the two (2) motions from last month's Sewer Commission meeting were tabled at the board meeting. Therefore, we now need a motion to schedule a public hearing for September 9, 2020 at 4:25PM for the increased bonding amounts for the Joint Regional Biosolids Project.

Commissioner Loewenstein made a motion to approve forwarding a recommendation to the County Board of Supervisors to schedule a Public Hearing for Wednesday, September 9, 2020 at 4:25 P.M. before the Agenda Session at the Saratoga County Municipal Center in Ballston Spa. Commissioner Doyle seconded the motion. No Discussion involved the increased project amount, the bond resolution and grant funding. The motion for approval for scheduling of the Public Hearing for Wednesday, September 9, 2020 at 4:25 P.M. at the County Complex passed: 8 Ayes, 1 Absent, 0 Nays.

Ammonia Related WWTP Upgrades – Executive Director Rourke reported a meeting is scheduled for August 19, 2020 with NYSDEC to review what the findings have been with the last 6 months running the pilot and to talk about what our finalized correction is for this upgrade and what technology we will be going with. Before that discussion there will be a previous discussion internally with our consultant to look at annualized costs for the two (2) options and our Basis of Design Report for the direction we choose is due for submittal August 28, 2020. Executive Director Rourke said he thought it wise to meet with NYSDEC prior to submitting our report because some of these options they may not be entirely familiar with.

Interceptor Rehabilitation Design – Executive Director Rourke reported we are still awaiting final design documents and working through the bonding schedule to ensure we have the funds available for the debt service accrued. There was a meeting held earlier today with the Capital Projects Committee to look over a few things, like small overall rate increases. He said we are not talking about rate increases today but wanted to make the full Commission aware of the meeting and that it went well. He informed we usually start visiting rate increases in September and the budget is due to the County Administrators office this month and that will let us know what direction we think makes sense. In terms of the project itself, we are still hoping to go out to bid this year for that work. He added it is a flexible project and we can work with it based on what we find once the budget consensus is complete.

Commissioner Loewenstein asked how big the bond was for this project and if we would have to set a public hearing for that as well. Executive Director Rourke said right now the bond is set at \$27M and yes we are going to have to go through the same process of resolution to approve the capital expenditure and a bond resolution and public hearing to state how much we are bonding. He said he wants to get the rate discussion finalized which could lead to a bid be early next year. He said he wants to make sure everyone is on the same page and we are solid with our numbers prior to moving forward.

2019 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Knox Woods (HM) and Riverside #1 (ST) Pump Station Upgrades – Executive Director Rourke reported the contracts are almost fully executed. A pre-construction meeting is scheduled for August 20, 2020 and the pump submittals are on order so once we have that pre-construction meeting that project will keep moving forward.

2020 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Environmental Benefit Project (EBP) – Executive Director Rourke reported we are working on getting the task order signed and executed so procurement can begin. If we get that signed in the next week or so, there is a hefty ten (10) week lead time on the stands for the solar equipment so we would be looking at installation beginning at the end of October.

Storage Building/HVAC and Roof Replacement Design – Executive Director Rourke reported the contract is executed. A kickoff meeting was held last Friday, July 31, 2020 with the consultant to begin discussing the path forward. They are going to get back to us with a schedule as the intent is to have portions of the project or the whole project out to bid and under construction prior to next summer.

WW Covid Testing – Executive Director Rourke reported the contract is out for execution. A meeting is scheduled for tomorrow with himself, County Administration, County Health Department and the consultant to determine the best way to interpret, share and react to these results with Arcadis and other County officials. Executive Director Rourke said we are getting hits in the wastewater so the science is working and that is a good thing. He said we want to make sure we are passing all the information on in an appropriate manner once we fully understand it.

Chairman Howe said we will move on to the attorney report and added it was nice to see Attorney Hartnett today. Attorney Hartnett said it was good to be back and he was filling in for Attorney Naughton who was not feeling well. Chairman Howe asked if there was anything to report besides the one (1) dedication.

ATTORNEY REPORT – Attorney Hartnett said there was nothing to report other than one (1) dedication which was just a deed, not an easement as it is all within a previously dedicated easement from Belmonte. All paperwork is in complete and in order.

DEDICATIONS

Sonoma Grove PH II – Town of Wilton – Sonoma Grove, LLC requested dedication of the sanitary sewer infrastructure servicing Sonoma Grove Phase II in the town of Wilton. *A motion to accept Resolution 5-2020 dedication of Sonoma Grove Phase II was made by Commissioner Fillion and seconded by Commissioner Cannon. No discussion. Resolution 5-2020 accepting dedication Sonoma Grove Phase II consisting of (1) manhole and approximately 503 ft of 2” DR-11 low pressure force main in the Town of Wilton passed: 8 Ayes, 1 Absent, 0 Nays.*

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Bisnett and seconded by Commissioner Keegan. No discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING
Thursday, September 3, 2020
3:00 P.M. meeting at the Treatment Plant