## **APPROVED MINUTES**

# SARATOGACOUNTYSEWER COMMISSION No. 1

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 7, 2021 9:15 A.M. at the COUNTY OFFICES

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Howe, Bisnett, Butler, Cannon, Doyle, Fillion, Hotaling, Keegan and Lansing

**COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED:** All present

**ALSO PRESENT:** Dan Rourke P.E., Executive Director; Anne Gorman, Confidential Secretary; Chief Operator, Gene Hutchings; William Bills, Maintenance Manager; Andrew Marsden, Assistant Maintenance Manager; Michael Naughton, Assistant County Attorney; County Administrator; Ridge Harris, Deputy County Administrator

Chairman Howe welcomed everyone to the October 7, 2021 Saratoga County Sewer Commission meeting.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Led by Executive Director Rourke

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS:** Chairman Howe thanked the Commission for their dedication. He said for everyone being present and here today, he truly appreciated their efforts. The same goes for our plant employees, he said we have the best of the best working for us. The way our plant operates on a day to day basis to the way it is handled in the field, he said he had an opportunity to be working in the field in construction locally and seeing how the County operates from the outside was very impressive. Maintenance Manager, William Bills runs a tight ship, Chief Operator, Gene Hutchings is one of the best in the business and of course you don't get there without someone leading like Executive Director Rourke does. Chairman Howe said he truly appreciates everybody and their efforts. The Commission agreed and thanked everyone as well.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES of September 2, 2021.** Commissioner Bisnett made a motion to approve the minutes of September 2, 2021. Commissioner Keegan seconded the motion. No discussion. The minutes of September 2, 2021 were approved. 8 Ayes, 1 Abstain, 0 Nays.

### **2022 SCALE OF CHARGES**

Chairman Howe entertained a motion to approve and establish the 2022 Scale of Charges.

Commissioner Hotaling made a motion to forward the proposed Scale of Charges for 2022 to the Board of Supervisors for approval. Commissioner Doyle seconded the motion. No discussion. The motion for approval of the proposed Scale of Charges for 2022 as presented at the Public Hearing held at 9:00 A.M. on October 7, 2021 and to be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for approval passed: 9 Ayes, 0 Nays.

Chairman Howe thanked Executive Director Rourke for all his hard work in preparing the 2022 Scale of Charges.

#### **2020 CAPITAL PROJECTS**

Storage Building/HVAC and Roof Replacement Design — Executive Director Rourke informed this item has shifted a little more towards looking at potential property purchases. We had a discussion last month about potential property in Mechanicville and after speaking with Commissioner Butler, who looked at another potential property for sale in the Town of Halfmoon, on the advice of the County Attorney's office we got a broker to work for us. His name is Joe Cardinal from Howard Hannah and he is working on our behalf to look at the two (2) properties and doing a comparable analysis with other properties in the area. A meeting is scheduled with him next week to go over what he has found and to talk about potential offers and see if it makes sense to move forward. Executive Director Rourke said we also checked with the County Attorney's office on the authority of the property purchase and it is his understanding that the Commission can authorize a property purchase at the Commission level and Chairman Howe can sign the documents and we don't necessarily need to bring it forward to the rest of the Board. Executive Director Rourke said this is an opportunity to potentially streamline this process as well and in the interest if timing.

Executive Director Rourke said once he has a little more information on the second property in the Town of Halfmoon he will gladly share that with the Commission. He informed it is in the same price range as we were looking at before but the vicinity is what we really like. The condition may not be quite as nice as the other location but how close it is the plant is really a benefit, as well as for future planning, this property could potentially be used for other treatment requirements if needed. It is on our interceptor and it is next to the Hudson River as well. He added that if we ever needed a second outfall for tertiary treatment or preliminary treatment, it seems to check a lot of boxes for us, not only currently but potentially for future planning as well.

Interceptor Relining Phase VIIB – Executive Director Rourke informed he has reached out to the Office of State Comptroller and we are still awaiting final approval from them. He doesn't think they will have many comments, and those should be coming soon. We are also awaiting a finalized plan set to be submitted from the engineer as well and that should be received by the end of October. Executive Director Rourke said we were really concerned with the first set of plans with some access points and we wanted to make sure we were defining those access point areas as wells as additional work that may need to be done after lessons learned with the Clifton Park Trunk Sewer. He said access in a swampy wet area made things difficult. We needed to really bone up the soil and put a lot of stone down which had an added cost and change order, so we are trying to capture that on the front end this time. The goal with this project is to still be out to bid before the end of the year with construction beginning in early 2022. There are (2) municipalities that we really want to sit down with, the City of Saratoga Springs and as well as the City of Mechanicville as they will be the ones most effected as it is mainly on the Zim Smith Trail. Emails will be sent out to all municipalities as well as public outreach to those areas mostly effected so everyone is aware the project.

**Riverside (Stillwater) I&I Reduction Design** – Executive Director Rourke reported we are just finishing final comments and should be out to bid very shortly, in the next week or two with hopefully an award to the lowest construction bidder at our December meeting.

Saratoga Springs Pump Station and F.M. Evaluation and Design – Executive Director Rourke reported we are still completing design. We have reached out to get a minor contract with Kenyon Pipeline Inspection Services (KPI) to look at our very last section of forcemain that the Saratoga Springs Pump Station dumps to and to put to bed any conditions of that 24" pipe running through downtown Saratoga Springs. We've done an initial analysis of the pipe thickness that has come back positive and so we want to do a couple of more tests to look at the interior of the pipe and to dig up another area and check thicknesses, that will drive if we do anything else with the forcemain right now or if we push that forcemain work maybe later on in our capital plan.

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