

APPROVED MINUTES

SARATOGA COUNTY SEWER COMMISSION No. 1 MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 23, 2023 3:00 PM at the County Complex

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Bisnett, Butler, Doyle, Hotaling, Keegan, Lansing, Fillion and Smassanow

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED:

ALSO PRESENT: Dan Rourke P.E., Executive Director; Shannon Herrington, Sr. Account Clerk Typist; Gene Hutchings, Chief Operator; Nathan Morris, Assistant Chief Operator; Andrew Marsden, Assistant Maintenance Manager; Michael Naughton, Assistant County Attorney.

Chairman Bisnett welcomed everyone to the January 26, 2023 Saratoga County Sewer Commission meeting.

Chairman Bisnett called the meeting to order.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS: Chairman Bisnett proposed that the commission consider a 10% tax break for volunteer EMT & Fire fighters. The total cost would be less than \$50,000.00. Executive Director Rourke said he thought that was reasonable and would consult with the attorney. Commissioner Hotaling commented that the Town of Halfmoon has already adopted the tax break and there has been positive output. Commissioner Doyle stated that the Town of Ballston supports this idea. Commissioner Rourke questioned whether this would be a break for the user fees only or would it also be for the collector fees. Chairman Bisnett suggested looking at the numbers to see the impact. Commissioner Hotaling asked if this would have to go to a public hearing. Commissioner Butler also questioned if it would be a public hearing. Executive Director Rourke replied that he was unsure as our charges are not a tax and Attorney Naughton also was unsure. Executive Director Rourke commented that there is a public hearing with regard to the Scale of Charges. Commissioner Hotaling said we would have to act before March 1st so it would not happen this year. Attorney Naughton reiterated that we would have to act before March 1st and stated that the district is not tied to the assessment but rather the Scale of Charges. He stated that it is too late for the Scale of Charges for this year but it is possible for next year. Executive Director Rourke questioned if this would be for 1 year or continuous. Chairman Bisnett replied that it would be continuous. Attorney Naughton said he would look into it. Commissioner Smassanow commented that as a veteran he gets a favor card and perhaps we could offer something similar. Chairman Bisnett responded that we will see what the legal department comes up with.

Commissioner Bisnett asked for a motion to approve the January 26th minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of January 26, 2023. *Commissioner Hotaling made a motion to approve the minutes of January 26, 2023. Commissioner Lansing seconded the motion. No discussion. The minutes of January 26, 2023 were approved: 8 Ayes, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent, 0 Nays.*

2020 CAPITAL PROJECTS

HVAC Upgrade at WWTP – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update and stated that it is going before the Board of Supervisors today for approval.

Interceptor Relining Phase VIIB – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update and stated that the work has commenced on West Circular Street. He said that they set up bypass from approximately West Circular Street to Park. He stated that the pumps should be running next week. He stated that the relining of the first 10 or so runs will be happening the week after next. He said that we are trying to maintain communication with the residents the best we can. He concluded that work is moving forward.

Saratoga Springs Pump Station and F.M Evaluation and Design – Executive Director Rourke asked for a Motion to Award two contracts. He stated that there were 4 primary contracts, general, electrical, HVAC and plumbing contractors but we only got bids for two, general contractor and electrical. Bids for the general contractor ranged from \$4,148,000.00 to \$6,519,700.00. W. M. Schultz was the low bidder at \$4,148,000.00. There were 4 general contractor bids in total. He stated that the engineering costs were low but the cost was higher for the manhole rehabilitation on Excelsior Ave. Executive Director Rourke stated that there were 9 electrical bids ranging from \$619,000.00 to \$911,000.00. Dynamic Electric was the low bidder and they were on board with moving forward. Executive Director Rourke stated that W.M. Schultz has done work for us before but Dynamic Electric has not. He stated that we will re-bid the other contracts as soon as possible. He said that if we do not receive bids a second time we will see if the general contractor will take on the work as a change order. Executive Director Rourke asked for a Motion to Award the two bids to W.M. Schultz and Dynamic Electric.

MOTION TO AWARD BIDS - *Commissioner Doyle made a motion to award. Commissioner Smassanow seconded the motion. The motion was approved: 8 Ayes, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent, 0 Nays.*

2021 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Secondary Clarifier Gate and MCC Replacement – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update saying that there was a pre-bid meeting and they have issued the first addendum. We are on schedule to open the bids on March 9th.

Technical Determination of Local Limits/Inhibition Testing – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. He said we are continuing to look at data and work with Global Foundries to understand where we need to be in terms of local limit for ammonia as well as ways to control their discharge of potentially harmful chemicals. The work with Arcadis is ongoing. We are looking at different models of information for the plant. He stated that we are sharing our information with Clarkson University to help them help Global Foundries to better understand the potential effects.

2022 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Biosolids Handling Facility – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. He said we have had some sub-surface work done. Last month they came and did some borings. The hope is to sit down at the end of March to explore all options. He stated that we were told there are some favorable options for financing for this project and we should have an answer by June. Commissioner Smassanow asked where this would be. Executive Director Rourke replied that it would be at the treatment plant. He said we would add on to the new maintenance facility and likely tear out the concrete ash lagoons and put a couple of digesters there. He said the add on to the maintenance facility would include a dryer. The goal of that is to reduce volume. If we

reduce the amount of tons we reduce the amount of cost. Commissioner Keegan questioned if the solar field would accommodate that but Executive Director Rourke said that unfortunately it would not.

Ammonia related WWTP Upgrades –Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. He stated that the project was coming along well. He said we have had extensive conversations with the Environmental Facilities Corporation with regard to subsidized financing. He said we have to go back to the contractor to potentially make some changes to their bids to see if they can meet some of the requirements. There is the MWBE requirements and the American Iron & Steel requirements. What subsidized financing means is that you take market rate and divide it by 2 and EFC pays for what we don't pay for so if we pay 5% of that market rate, they will pay 2.5% of the market rate if we finance through them. Executive Director Rourke stated that it is well worth the effort if the contractor can meet those MWBE & American Iron & Steel requirements. Commissioner Smassanow asked where they get their funding from. Executive Director Rourke said that it is typically the state revolving fund and that money is funded through the Feds. Executive Director Rourke stated that they are looking to start digging the first week in April. He noted that the submittal review is still continuing as well for the big items.

Aeration Tank Improvements – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. He said we will have a review in the next week with the ammonia engineer and then meet with the general contractor of the ammonia projects in March. We will have them take a look at the plans for the work related to the floors in the 5, 6, 7 8 aeration basin and the walls that need to be structurally enforced. Also, there is a dewatering system that we are looking to install. We will have more information next month on how to handle that, whether it's a change order to the existing contract or if we have to go out to bid. Commissioner Hotaling asked if we approved money to repair this yet. He asked if we would need to do a change order. Executive Director Rourke commented that if we do a new bid the sequencing gets messed up. He stated that they have to do work on the tanks already. He said they need to put in new piping and new gates. Having two contractors trying to figure that out could be detrimental to getting the plant back up and running. He said the pricing is fair for the two contractors, Randall & Barton & Loguidice. Commissioner Hotaling asked if Jett was the contractor. Executive Director Rourke replied that they were not, they were the last contractor, Jersen is the general contractor.

D&R P.S. Upgrade – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. He said this project is just about to be advertised. There is a pre-bid conference on March 9th for opening bids on March 22nd.

Capacity Evaluation – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. He stated that we just received some options for a potential pilot about a week ago. He said we are reviewing those. We would like to bid some of the inhibition testing we are doing for Global Foundries with some of the pilot options we are looking at to see how it affects the full-scale facility from a treatment perspective. Commissioner Hotaling asked if we were using the model data. Executive Director Rourke said we were using Arcadis' model. Commissioner Hotaling stated that he wanted to be sure that we were enhancing what we are doing with this data and using it for other projects. Executive Director Rourke said he 100% agrees.

523 South Main Roof Projects – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. He said final approval for the asphalt roof should happen today at the BOS meeting. He said the work on Building 1 is about 95% complete. The manufacturer needs to do a final walk through and create a final punch list.

523 South Main Abatement –Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. He said previous items should be approved after this meeting today at the BOS meeting.

2023 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Moreau Forcemain Extension – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. He said this project is going through the approval steps today. He said that one thing he would like to bring up is that there is a pump station upgrade that we are looking at as part of this project. He said the ACE pump station is actually owned by the Wilton Water & Sewer Authority. He said we are working on an agreement similar to what we had with Ballston Lake and Carpenter’s Acres for that work. We are working with Mike Mooney and the County Attorney, Mike Naughton, has been working on it with WWSA’s attorney as well. It is not ready for any type of public consumption yet. Executive Director Rourke stated that we are still reviewing it and once we have more information on that he will be sure to share it with the commission. Commissioner Bisnett asked if we were spending our money to upgrade the pump station and if WWSA was still going to own it. He questioned who was going to maintain it. Executive Director Rourke said that WWSA has a chunk of change that they were going to put toward the upgrade, somewhere around half a million dollars, but we are going to need more than that. Executive Director Rourke said he reached out to Mike Mooney to see if he has more money to put into this and then we would sign an agreement to take over operations and maintenance. He stated that the purpose of this is because we are constructing a forcemain to service the town of Moreau. The town of Wilton thinks it is wise that we own the pump station as we will own the forcemain that pumps into it. Commissioner Bisnett commented that if we are going to take possession of it, we should make sure it’s in good shape. Commissioner Hotaling asked about the communication. Executive Director Rourke commented that he believed that they were on the Mission system and Andrew Marsden, Assistant Maintenance Manager, confirmed that they were. Commissioner Smassanow asked if the pump station was a Smith & Loveless. Executive Director Rourke asked Andrew Marsden and Andrew said he believed it was. Commissioner Smassanow asked what horsepower it was but Executive Director Rourke was unsure. Executive Director Rourke concluded that he will work with Mike and get some defining costs and more information. He stated we got the draft plans from EDP today and he will look at them and understand what they want to do with the upgrade

MISCELLANEOUS

Heritage Springs Valuation –Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. He said it is the same as some of the previous projects. It is going through the final approval steps this afternoon hopefully with a successful vote.

ATTORNEY REPORT – Attorney Naughton had no report.

DEDICATIONS – Betts Farm, PDD. Chairman Bisnett asked for a motion to approve Resolution No. SD 1-2023, Betts Farm, PDD, located in the Town of Halfmoon.

MOTION TO APPROVE – *Commissioner Hotaling made a motion to approve. Commissioner Doyle seconded the motion. The motion was approved: 7 Ayes, 1 Abstain, 0 Absent, 0 Nays.*

Executive Director Rourke thanked everyone. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Fillion and seconded by Commissioner Doyle. The motion passed unanimously.

**Next meeting March 30, 2023
3:00 P.M. at the Treatment Plant**