

APPROVED MINUTES

SARATOGA COUNTY SEWER COMMISSION No. 1
MINUTES OF September 28, 2023
9:15 AM at the Board of Supervisors

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Bisnett, Butler, Doyle, Fillion, Keegan, Lansing, Scirocco

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED: Hotaling, Smassanow

ALSO PRESENT: Dan Rourke P.E., Executive Director; William Bills, Maintenance Manager, Andrew Marsden, Assistant Maintenance Manager; Andrew Proler,

Chairman Bisnett welcomed everyone to the September 28th, 2023 Saratoga County Sewer Commission meeting.

Chairman Bisnett called the meeting to order.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS: None

Chairman Bisnett asked for a motion to approve the September 1st, 2023 minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of September 1st, 2023. *Commissioner Fillion made a motion to approve the minutes of September 1st, 2023. Commissioner Keegan seconded the motion. No discussion. The minutes of September 1st, 2023 were approved: 7 Ayes, 0 Abstain, 2 Absent, 0 Nays.*

2024 Scale of Charges

Motion to Approve the 2024 Scale of Charges – *Commissioner Butler made a Motion to Approve. Commissioner Scirocco seconded the motion. The motion was approved: 7 Ayes, 0 Abstain, 2 Absent, 0 Nays.*

2020 CAPITAL PROJECTS

HVAC Upgrade at WWTP – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. He stated that the sheet metal workers are on site and have been replacing ductwork for our HV4. The HV units have a delivery set for February 2024.

Interceptor Relining Phase VIIB – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. He stated Phase 1 has been completed of the bypass pump with the actual lining along railroad within the Town of Halfmoon and beginning in the City of Mechanicville. They are putting in bypass pipe to Rte 4. He also stated that the goal is that Phase 2 throughout the heart of the City of Mechanicville should be done late October/early November.

Saratoga Springs Pump Station and F.M Evaluation and Design – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. He stated that most of the manholes are in disrepair and that they were part of this project and have

been lined. The new bypass connection to be able to bypass the station is installed. Also, the 1st pump that is going to be rebuilt is expected to be in in October. They are also starting to do some of the internal plumbing work at that station as well.

2021 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Secondary Clarifier Gate and MCC Replacement – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. He stated there will be some meetings coming up in next week or two to see where we stand on the submittal process. This General Contractor is (the same as our Ammonia Project) Jersen Construction and we want to understand where they sit to get a schedule. Also the electrician Stilsing does have work planned for the project in the next month or so. We need a better understanding of the GC schedule, there are some overlaps and sequencing requirements with our Ammonia project that we need to figure out as part of the project.

2022 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Biosolids Handling Facility –Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. He stated this is progressing well. He stated we are still on track for 60% design plans beginning to be done by 2024. They developed a site plan that we do have which will be rolled out following the meeting for you to take a look at and if have any questions. It is a good representation of the scope that we are going to be undertaking as part of this project.

Ammonia related WWTP Upgrades – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. He stated that at the end of 2022 we had no bids for prime plumbing contract, the purchasing department said the best thing to do was to rebid it. We needed to do some engineering work to look at where it needed to be defined better to try to get more people to bid. It was rebid and the only bid received was for \$ 98,250.00 with J.W.Danforth. They are also our mechanical contractor on this project. We did receive an award recommendation late yesterday (9/27/2023) from the engineer. Executive Director Rourke made a motion to award for JW Danforth for \$ 98,250.00 for the plumbing contract for the Ammonia project.

Commissioner Lansing made a motion to award; Commissioner Fillion seconded the motion. The motion to award was approved: 7 Ayes, 0 Abstain, 2 Absent, 0 Nays.

Aeration Tank Improvements – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. Per Executive Director Rourke, the work needs to be done in the existing south aeration. It was part of litigation that was settled and we received the final drawings from that engineer and now they are in the hands of our ammonia engineer to review and see if any conflicts arise with our ammonia design. Once we get that price we will need to do a change order for the contract with the general contractor and also amend our bond resolution at that time. It should all be able to be rolled up into our EFC financing. At this point there is no scheduled implications because not looking to be into those tanks until middle of next year.

D&R P.S. Upgrade – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update and said work continues on this project and the pump submittals are complete, we are waiting on delivery of those. Also, the contractor has started some minor work at station.

Capacity Evaluation – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. We had a good meeting with the engineer regarding the plan of attack for modeling a collection system and developing capacities within the collection system. We decided not to go the very complex route and look at every parcel, we decided to find

some specific nodes to make the lift a little easier but still get some really good information. Then we can build up the model after that if we need to for any more specific locations defined that may be problem areas within the collection system. This is a really good start. DEC has been enforcing a rule that basically any development no matter how small needs to prove capacity from that development all the way down to the sewer plant. It has become burdensome for us, the developers, and the engineers doing the reports. There is already money in contract and we already talked about doing this so I think the timing is good to really kick this off the ground because I think it will help a lot of people and a lot of entities so that we are not slowing down developing in the county.

2023 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Moreau Forcemain Extension – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. He said the project is going pretty well and 30% of pipe installed.

Ace Pump Station Upgrade –Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. The contractors have been issued a notice to proceed. The plan is to be in the station next week to be digging some test pits so that work being completed. We need to button up a couple things on the pump submittal so they can be ordered, but that work continues and the goal is that work to be complete by 1/31/2024. That is so to not fall behind with Town of Moreau’s wants to discharge into our system. There is a timeframe that needs to be met, so our goal is to accept those flows ASAP.

Headworks Conveyor –Executive Director Rourke gave a status update that there is a conveyor in our screen and grit building that takes and screens the grit and moves it off to a dumpster, that is at the end of its useful life. We bid out for a furnishing and install contract for this conveyor and received 3 bids ranging from \$ 252,200.00 – \$ 269,000.00. We bid this out on our own because it is a pretty simple to install. The low bid was with Jersen at \$ 252,200.00. It is a very heavy equipment to cost. The equipment itself is about \$ 180,000.00 for the conveyor, so the demo and install is a smaller portion of this contract. We will need a motion to award to Jersen Construction for \$ 252,200.00

Commissioner Fillion gave a motion to Award; Commissioner Keegan seconded the motion to award. The motion to award was approved: 7 Ayes, 0 Abstain, 2 Absent, 0 Nays.

Executive Director Rourke also added that we budgeted \$ 250,000.00 so we came very close to budget but we will be able to find that difference of \$ 2,200.00 to fund it.

MISCELLANEOUS

Heritage Springs Valuation –Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. Assessment report was shared with everyone via email. Basically the report came back with a value for the system and we are going to take information and talk with interested parties and see if it is something that is a viable option of purchasing the system or do we want to do something else and wait on it and figure out the next step. The company Heritage Springs has not received our report yet. They will receive it we just wanted to figure out our next steps first.

Chairman Bisnett asked how numbers looked compared to what we thought. Heritage Springs had some idea what they wanted to get but value is less, that is reason we want to figure out next steps and to understand what

might come of it. The options for the next steps are to agree and purchase for amount or don't agree and we can potentially condemn the system for the amount of money, or we take system and the report did say under transportation corporation law we basically have the authority to condemn the system for the cost of the system after 30 years. When we develop our best path forward we will include the town, county administration and sewer to see which way to go.

QA Program –(Not on Agenda) Executive Director Rourke gave a status update on the QA Program we have that engineers go out and watch lateral and pipe being installed. We are going to eventually take over as part of these dedications. The developer put money in escrow for engineers to do the work. We have had this program a long time now and we had promised to look at the rates every two years but since 2019 the rates have not been raised for the engineers who are hired as a third party. They have sent an email regarding costs increases to us. Engineers costs have gone up significantly and they are looking to hopefully become whole.

Basically Director Rourke would like to look at where rates are and what they are requesting to make whole. An idea that he thought of would be to pay for mileage which we don't pay for right now, or something like that.

Chairman Bisnett stated he discussed with Dan and they feel this is something Scott would be good to work on with Dan, with his background he would be the best candidate. Commission Lansing accepted.

ATTORNEY REPORT – None

DEDICATIONS

Kelly Farms Phase 5
Summit at Halfmoon
(Forest Ridge Phase 3)

Motion to Accept Kelly Farms Phase 5 Dedication – *Commissioner Doyle made a motion to accept. Commissioner seconded the motion. The motion was approved: 6 Ayes, 1 Abstain, 2 Absent, 0 Nays.*

Motion to Accept Summit at Halfmoon Dedication -- *Commissioner made a motion to accept. Commissioner seconded the motion. The motion was approved: 6 Ayes, 1 Abstain, 2 Absent, 0 Nays.*

Executive Director Rourke thanked everyone. A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and the motion passed unanimously.

**Next meeting October 26th, 2023
3:00 P.M. at the Sewer District # 1 Office**