

APPROVED MINUTES

SARATOGA COUNTY SEWER COMMISSION No. 1
MINUTES OF March 28th, 2024
3:00 PM at the SCSD # 1

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Chairman Bisnett, Commissioner Doyle, Commissioner Smassanow, Commissioner Fillion, Commissioner Lansing, Commissioner O’Hara, Commissioner Scirocco, Commissioner Hotaling

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED: Commissioner Butler

ALSO PRESENT: Dan Rourke P.E., Executive Director; Andrew Marsden, Assistant Maintenance Manager; Gene Hutchings Jr., Chief Operator; Alex Yacobucci, Assistant Chief Operator, Michael Naughton, Atty.

Chairman Bisnett called the meeting to order. Pledge

PUBLIC COMMENTS: NONE

CHAIRMAN’S COMMENTS: NONE

Chairman Bisnett asked for a motion to approve the February 29th, 2024 minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of February 29th, 2024. *Commissioner Doyle made a motion to approve the minutes of February 29th, 2024. Commissioner Hotaling seconded the motion. No discussion. The minutes of February 29th, 2024 were approved: 8 Ayes, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent, 0 Nays.*

2020 CAPITAL PROJECTS

HVAC Upgrade at WWTP – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. Really no update on this project, we are just still waiting final equipment delivery dates and an updated schedule from the general contractor.

Interceptor Relining Phase VIIB – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. The final phase of this lining is occurring this week up around Round Lake and Shenentaha Park. After that is complete, we have some manhole rehab that have to do and we are paving an old portion of the trail, so the Zin Smith is going to be pretty torn up by time we are through there, then we just have to do some trail restoration backing up with topsoil, seeding and hay. The hope is based on our last meeting that this work will be done by mid-June.

Saratoga Springs Pump Station and F.M Evaluation and Design – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. The pace has slowed a little bit on this project. Currently they are working on the roof and some minor architectural work, while waiting on some of the HVAC Equipment and plumbing equipment. We are also awaiting delivery of the new exterior generator, that is another long lead item that we are waiting on to get that work under way.

2021 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Secondary Clarifier Gate and MCC Replacement – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. They have verified a lot of the different dimensions for the gates and clarifiers at this point. I believe there are only a couple of questions on some of the parts of the clarifiers where different manufacturers have to match things up like baffles and inlets. Once that is done, we will have the submittals complete and submitted, then two weeks after that hopefully they will be approved. One thing that came up on this project that the electrician brought it to our attention is there is a lot of old conduit in this facility that never really got demoed in any of the upgrades that have happened. It is confusing to us and to the contractors when they come in to do the work. In two of the areas, they asked if we wanted them to move it, obviously it wasn't part of the scope and we said yes, we think it is a good idea so they gave us a proposal to demolish the conduits in the pump and chlorine building, which is out main influent pump building here and then our incinerator room in the solids building as well. They gave us a price of not to exceed \$ 43,000.00. We are going to do it top of material because it is going to overlap with some of the other work. They are going to document what they do, show it to the engineer to make sure the engineer comfortable with the time it took to do some of this. If they use the whole \$ 43,000.00, the total contract price would go up to \$3,087,517.00. So, in the grand scheme of things to clean it up a little bit and remove some confusion in the future, we thought made sense to do, but I just wanted to make the commission aware of that potential extra work.

Chairman Bisnett stated you do not need any approvals because it is a small amount, so you can just go ahead? Executive Director Rourke stated yes within the 10%, but any discussion I always like to bring it just in case and I can move yes or no based on the discussion. If we are all good, we will keep moving forward.

Commissioner Smassanow asked is it going to be color-coded? Executive Director Rourke said no on the conduit. He stated we will have to verify, but what they are supposed to be doing is labeling the wire, so that you know if you are pulling wire back and forth that there is a tag on it. This is because there are multiple different circuits in a single conduit so it will be tough to label the full conduit and by labeling the wire if it is pulled out and it needs to be replaced you will know which is which.

2022 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Biosolids Handling Facility –Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. They responded back to our comments. A lot of our comments will be included in the 60% design. Expect it to be completed by early to mid-summer. Director Rourke shared a thought- If we are going to go through models and look at stuff, happy to have anyone on the commission attend that meeting, even virtually or share what we can on that as it is a pretty big project. The problem becomes we can only have so many commissioners until it is an actual public meeting. But think about it and if anyone is interested, we can try to figure that out.

Ammonia related WWTP Upgrades – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. This project is continuing to move forward. We had a meeting today to discuss the concrete floor work that needs to happen in the south tanks. There was a lot of questions on feasibility of install from the contractor. I do not have a final price on that yet. My guess is it is going to be at least a couple more weeks the engineers have to put their heads together to figure out some of the issues and come up with a final plan for the contractor to put a price to. So, I am hoping that by our next commission meeting I should have a final price to move that change order. That one is big enough that even if it is under 10% on a 35,000,000.00 contract we will probably move it through all of its paces, the commission, law and finance and the board, just for transparency's sake.

Aeration Tank Improvements – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. I am moving this from the agenda, it has basically been swallowed up by the ammonia project. That is what I had just talked about. It was separate before, just because I was unsure, I had thought it made sense to be a change order and I spoke with county attorney office and purchasing dept and they agree it falls within the scope of what a change order can be on a project. It is not a new undertaking it is related to the existing work, so anyways I will get rid of this on the agenda, and the work will now be lumped in with the ammonia project item.

D&R P.S. Upgrade – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. Work is slated to be complete in next month or so. The station is supposed to be started up in the next couple of weeks, so that work is moving along nicely. This is a relatively compact and quick project so hopefully by next meeting, we will be just about substantially complete and potentially be taken it off the agenda.

Strategic Infrastructure Planning and Financing – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. We have moved a couple of items forward under this item. One of the items is the Viall Ave sewer issue, which is a privately owned sewer that is not necessarily following all the rules and regulations of the DEC. We are having the engineer look at different options to upgrade that to potentially take dedication of that. The other one is Lakeview Landing where there is a big odor issue up there right now, those designs and cost estimates are moving forward under this item as well. The other thing that falls under this work is our pilot that we were looking at for Global Foundries, our Wastewater Treatment Plant pilot that we were looking to build. My main contact that was kind of floating that idea through management in Global Foundries is out for 6 weeks, so that has kind of hit pause at this point, so we do not have an answer on that yet.

----- Discussion -----

Commissioner O’Hara asked; Can you explain what you mean by the pilot?? Executive Director Rourke, yes the goal would be to model our wastewater process, so our activated sludge process, basically on the back of a semi-truck. We would have different size, 1,000-gallon tanks, some solids removal here, different probes around then dose the pilot with expected discharges from Global Foundries, at different ratios over the life of Global Foundries basically, what is the buildout of 8.1 look like, what does 8.2 potentially look like, and how does that affect our plant. Then that pilot would hopefully be able to shed some light on what we might see on the full-scale plan as opposed to right now we just see it at the full-scale plan. The thought was if we could build something like this it would shed some light on what we could do full scale to better acclimate and treat for that discharge from Global. The problem is it is not cheap, my guess is, it is 6-figures plus for something like that, so that why we want to partner with Global Foundries, maybe share some of the costs and knowing it could benefit both of us. So, I am awaiting that response back from Global to see if they want to partner or not.

Commissioner O’Hara Is there no way to do it using the internet or software, or AI kind of things? Executive Director Rourke stated so there is modeling software out there, the problem is, well we have looked at that, and that is really good for telling you what happened, it is not really good for telling you what is going to happen. Because you can not necessarily in the model say I am going to increase the level of this chemical. You can say I am going to increase the load of BOD and TSS, but you can’t say I am going to jack up azoles for 8 hours a day and then turn them off and see what happens. It is a living system, that’s part of it to, it is biology so it is hard to model anything that is living, it is tough to do. We do it as a check after the fact, like how did we do process wise, treatment wise, what were the variables that went into it, the myriad of variables, it is not just the chemicals, it is the water temperature, return rate, wasting rate, all of it. So, we do use the modeling to inform that and I know there are AI programs out there that are being built but right now my understanding is they are being built around conventional plants, conventional activated sludge where it is

95% residential/commercial. Where we are a little bit unique in that we treat let's just say during the day 65/35 residential and industrial and at night 50/50 or more industrial than we are residential/commercial.

Commissioner Scirooco Sounds like a great initiative to try and do something to get a better idea of what might happen. NY is heading this way in terms of semi-conductor fabs. Like Global is one right now we are going to be here forever unless they come up with a different way to treat wastewater, so why not have something like this in our back pocket.

Commissioner Smassanow asked if anybody looked at Taiwain or Germany probably dealing with the same stuff. Executive Director Rourke, yes there are issues related to what we have to deal with here to other plants, the main difference here is the size of the semi-conductor plant and the size of our plant. So that ratio is a little bit different. Frankly it we did not have a permit limit when AMD or Global was built we do now so it wasn't an issue when Global was built, and so it wasn't thought about, wasn't planned for unfortunately where some of those other facilities maybe the limits were a little bit more stringent at the time so the plants could figure out how to pretreat it on their site right as opposed to us dealing with it down here. In terms of the affect on the plant here when you start talking about 50% of our flow it is a relatively unique situation you do not see it everywhere.

Commissioner Hotaling another thing is start out running 32 nanometer the whole chemical changed now they're a 14 nanometer everybody is going to 3-5-7 nanometer. So, by the time they get built out with the new technology it is probably going to be 80% different. Executive Director Rourke stated another good reason for the pilot. Commissioner Hotaling with the pilot they can monitor. Commissioner Smassanow stated pilot sounds like would be a good idea no matter who pays for it. Executive Director Rourke stated even if we foot the whole bill. Commissioner Smassanow stated even if charged them fee for analysis of their stuff. Executive Director Rourke stated they have to treat for this stuff, it is not an option. We are pretty firm in our stance, and they know that so I thought if they do want to use this MBR process that the pilot would have, take it and see what you can do with it for 6 months. Hopefully it can happen.

-----End of Discussion-----

2023 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Moreau Forcemain Extension – Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. This project is complete and all good. It will come off the agenda. The Forcemain is all hooked up. The two things holding that up is the Moreau pump station which is waiting on a couple of final things (that is the town's pump station) and then our Ace pump station which is the next item.

Ace Pump Station Upgrade –Executive Director Rourke gave a status update. I would say this project is about 90% - 95% complete. The pumps and control panels are in and I think we are looking to start that station up here in the next couple of weeks. At that point we will be good to accept flow.

Building 5 Roof Replacement - Per Executive Director Rourke, the weather delayed the start of this roof - replacement. I believe in the last meeting we passed a change order to add a small roof to that. Personally, I thought it fell well within the scope of the change order, you're doing the same work in basically the same location, but the purchasing department did not agree with me. So, they are forcing us to go out to bid for that work. We are getting the bid package together now so we will go out to bid that building 7 roof replacement and it will come back before the commission once we have the bid results to act on.

Spa Park Station Upgrade and South Broadway Design – Per Executive Director Rourke there is no real update here, the engineers are just continuing to work on the pump station design and the sewer extension planning down South Broadway.

2024 CAPITAL PROJECTS

North Side Primary Clarifier Upgrade –We are finalizing the Purchase Order for the parts for this. We are also working on putting together installation specs for the tank install. All of the equipment we are buying is part of that Purchase Order and then we are also going to put a bid spec together to procure install primary sludge pumps as well as our influent channel blowers. We are going to do it in an (add) alternate approach. We are going to bid the base cost of installing the tank parts first. First add alternate for pumps and pump install and then a second add alternate for blowers and blowers install and that is mainly to just ensure, we have \$ 2.25 million in budget for that this year. The hope is we can get all the work done under that but I do not want to get no work done if we are over that, so that is why we are going with this add alternate approach.

Town of Wilton Forcemain Capacity Upgrade Design – Executive Director Rourke stated this contract is generated and out to the engineers for signature at this point. Once it is fully-executed we will get a kick-off meeting scheduled.

MISCELLANEOUS

Heritage Springs Valuation – Executive Director Rourke stated we shared our appraisal with our counsel. We are just awaiting a response from them.

PFAS Claim – Per Executive Rourke stated with Attorney Naughton makes sense to go into Executive Session on the basis of possible litigation in the future.

Commissioner Doyle made a motion to go into Executive Session Commissioner Lansing seconded the motion. Approved: 8 Ayes, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent, 0 Nays.

Commissioner Lansing motioned to come out of Executive Session. Commissioner Fillion seconded. Approved: 8 Ayes, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent, 0 Nays.

MOTION TO ENTER INTO RETAINER AGREEMENT: *Commissioner Scirocco motioned to approve Retainer Agreement; Commissioner Smassanow seconded. Approved 8 Ayes, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent, 0 Nays.*

ATTORNEY REPORT – NONE

DEDICATIONS

1417 Saratoga Rd, Mixed Use Development - Town of Ballston- requested dedication of the sanitary sewer infrastructure servicing the 1417 Saratoga Rd., Mixed Use Development, in the Ballston.

A motion to accept Resolution 2-2024 dedication of 1417 Saratoga Rd., Mixed Used Development was made by Commissioner Doyle and seconded by Commissioner Scirocco.

Discussion involved conditions of dedication, Resolution 2-2024 accepting dedication of 1417 Saratoga Rd., Mixed Use Development, consisting of 2 manholes, and approximately 569 lf of 8” PVC SDR 2635 Gravity Main Sewer in the Town of Ballston.

Passed: 8 Ayes, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent, 0 Nays

Attorney Naughton stated the only thing with the resolution was the bond, it was kind of squirrely but I finally got a commitment that it was going to be in affect for 1 year. Executive Director Rourke: from the date of dedication? Attorney Naughton: from the date of the dedication, because it was dated 1/31/2024, and they kept saying good until the end of the year, so I told them to put it in writing and they finally did.

Commissioner Bisnett Asked if the DEC issue with BoCrest has been resolved. Executive Director Rourke: BoCrest specifically no I do not think we have a resolution on that and I don’t think we have a resolution on Hudson Heights yet do we

Commissioner Lansing we have done a capacity analysis we feel that the pipes are appropriately sized for both BoCrest and Turning Point. Executive Director Rourke stated that is what he kind of thought too when I was looking at it, So, yeah just in general overall DEC is being very stringent on their capacity analysis so every single thing that goes in Scott has touched on it a couple of times with the 3.7 per minute dumping into our interceptor. But what we have done is I got our interceptor model and available capacity shown, I am just waiting on a couple of really minor things that I wanted to change on it, but what it shows is the least amount of capacity available in our interceptor sewer is over 8 million gallons per day. Chairman Bisnett mentioned taking a lot of time to get into this and just wanted to let everyone know DEC is giving us a hard time so it is taking a lot of hours and staff time and the people that are trying to get the projects done are just being tied up and nothing is happening.

Executive Director Rourke thanked everyone. A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Hotaling seconded by Commissioner Doyle and passed unanimously.

**Next meeting April 25th, 2024
3:00 P.M. at the Sewer District # 1 Office
1002 Hudson River Road
Mechanicville, NY 12118**