

APPROVED MINUTES

SARATOGA COUNTY SEWER COMMISSION No. 1

MINUTES OF APRIL 7, 2016

3:00 PM at the Treatment Plant

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Howe, Bold, Cannon, Loewenstein, Marshall, and Rinaldi

COMMISSIONERS EXCUSED: Doyle, Hale and Ostapczuk

ALSO PRESENT: Dan Rourke P.E., Executive Director; Anne Gorman, Confidential Secretary; Sue Duff, Chief Operator; Jim Bolduc, Assistant Chief Operator; Grant Eaton, Maintenance Manager; William Bills, Assistant Maintenance Manager; Chad M. Cooke P.E., Deputy County Administrator; Robert Wilcox, Assistant County Attorney

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS: Chairman Howe mentioned that the Engineering Committee had a discussion at its last meeting with regard to the incinerator being out of service, hauling and the incinerator study. He said Sue Duff, Chief Operator, had a great idea by suggesting that the SCSD staff and a representative of the Sewer Commission go on a field trip to New Hampshire and visit some WWTP facilities to gather information and get some opinions on incineration alternatives. Chief Operator Duff found some plants that were in close proximity to one another that deal with incineration, drying and anaerobic digestion. Commissioner Loewenstein said one of the company's facilities in NH currently has a contract with a WWTP in Rensselaer for sludge management and from an educational standpoint, thought it worthwhile for SCSD staff and a representative from the Commission to go and see it. The Commission all agreed it was a great idea.

Commissioner Loewenstein made a motion that for Saratoga County Sewer District to authorize SCSD staff and a member of the Sewer Commission to be allowed to participate in a field trip to New Hampshire to visit WWTP sludge facilities and for the funds be expended from the budget under the conference line item. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed: 5 Ayes, 4 Absent, 0 Nays.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES of March 3, 2016. *Commissioner Bold made a motion to approve the minutes of March 3, 2016. Commissioner Marshall seconded the motion. No discussion. The minutes of March 3, 2016 were approved. 5 Ayes, 1 Abstain, 3 Absent, 0 Nays.*

Executive Director Rourke gave updates on the following projects:

2014 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Incinerator Alternatives Study – As discussed at last month's meeting, we had requested GHD look into the cost of borrowing money as well as provide a synopsis. The final requests have been received and they are waiting to see if there are any further comments before the final report is signed and distributed.

Commissioner Loewenstein mentioned that the Engineering Committee met and went over the options. Executive Director Rourke said based on a sensitivity analysis, continued sludge hauling may be our best option right now but that we should re-assess alternatives in the future. Commissioner Loewenstein said GHD did a capital cost and present worth analysis and compared a number of alternatives. The most cost effective option may be digestion with co-generation, taking into account debt service and total operating costs. Non-stabilized or stabilized bio-solids were also discussed, the stabilized method may allow for a beneficial reuse of material and a more sustainable environmentally friendly end product. GHD stated this as a viable option in the report that is not high in capital cost. Executive Director Rourke said all of these options depend on the cost of hauling moving forward. Commissioner Bold said GHD is dealing with a lot of variables and has done a great job laying out the possible options. He said we shouldn't rush into a large capital expenditure or a major process change. Executive Director Rourke said the study was very detailed and that GHD did a great job and Commissioner Loewenstein agreed.

Main Influent Pump Replacement – Pump No. 2 was started up yesterday, April 6, 2016. Both new pumps are running to get some run time before finalizing project completion. The vibration analysis was done during startup, the contractor said there were no major concerns and we are awaiting the final report.

2015 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Bar Screen No. 3 and Mixer Project – Six (6) Bids were received for Contract No. 1 (General Construction) ranging from \$539,500.00 – \$898,000.00 and three (3) bids were received for Contract No. 2 (electrical) ranging from \$41,049.00 – \$190,000.00. The budgeted amount for this bid was \$700,000.00 and the engineer, MRB Group, recommended award to the low bidders. Executive Director Rourke asked for a motion to recommend award to Stephen Miller General Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$539,500.00 for Contract No. 1 (General Construction) and Spring Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$41,049.00 for Contract No. 2 (electrical).

Commissioner Marshall made a motion to forward a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to award Contract No. 1 (General Construction) to Stephen Miller General Contractors in the amount of \$539,500.00 and Contract No. 2 (Electrical) to Spring Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$41,049.00 for the Bar Screen No. 3 and Sludge Holding Tank Mixer Improvements. Commissioner Bold seconded the motion. No Discussion. Motion passed: 6 Ayes, 3 Absent, 0 Nays

Bar Screen No. 1 and No. 2 Replacement – This project is currently out to bid and the bids will open on Tuesday, April 26, 2016. Executive Director Rourke said he hopes to have a recommendation for award at the next Commission meeting.

2016 CAPITAL PROJECTS

Interceptor Relining Phase VI – Executive Director Rourke said this item coincides with what was talked about at the Engineering Committee meeting and he wanted to keep the Commission up to date on this issue as well. He said we are looking at Phase VI of the design services for interceptor relining to go out for RFP to complete another 3,000 – 3,200 feet of relining. Executive Director Rourke said he would like to get a RFP sent out tomorrow with proposals due back by May 2, 2016 to hopefully have a design contract for award at the next Commission meeting. Commissioner Bold inquired if the cost for the footage was already budgeted for and Executive Director Rourke confirmed that there is money in the budget for this project.

WWTP on-Site SWPPP RFP – Executive Director Rourke informed the Commission that NYSDEC has issued a new permit for the WWTP that became effective April 1, 2016. With this permit, there is a schedule for compliance to maintain a SWPPP (Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan) on-site that has to be completed six (6) months from the date the permit was issued. Executive Director Rourke said he will be issuing an RFP for Professional Services for an On-Site SWPPP.

Executive Director Rourke mentioned that this new permit has an ammonia limit of 26 mg per liter which is new. He said this is a little disconcerting because based on all the data we have from running the old side, we would not be able to meet that limit. Executive Director Rourke reached out to Rob Streeter, NYSDEC Enforcement Officer, who does our on-site inspections to let him know of our situation in terms of the issues with our aeration tank repairs. He asked if there was any way to get the effective date pushed back. Mr. Streeter was understanding and said he would contact the central office to have the permit modified. Executive Director Rourke said he has not received a finalized modified permit but did see a draft permit that moves the date back to the end of 2017. Executive Director Rourke said if we do not receive the finalized permit by the end of April we will need to meet that ammonia limit.

Attorney Wilcox asked if the Sewer District received a waiver for the interim period while it awaits the modified permit. Executive Director Rourke said NYSDEC is going to grant a Permittee Modification Request which gives us a modified permit within that schedule of compliance that is going to have a “monitor only” ammonia limit until the end of 2017. Commissioner Marshall asked how far off we were from the 26 mg per liter limit. Executive Director Rourke said we have seen numbers as low as 25 mg per liter and as high as 36 mg per liter and that these numbers fluctuate, partly because Global Foundries effluent has a very high ammonia concentration. Executive Director Rourke has begun conversations with Global Foundries regarding the new imposed limit. Executive Director Rourke said he would follow up with NYSDEC Region 5 on the Permittee Modification Request to get a copy of the modified permit.

Pump Station Generators – This project is currently out to bid for nine (9) generators and eleven (11) transfer switches. Executive Director Rourke said this is part of the Sewer District’s Capital Plan. It is a monetarily sizable amount of money (\$190,000.00) and SCSD staff will be doing the installation. Commissioner Loewenstein asked if the generator expenditure was covered in the budget and Executive Director Rourke confirmed that it was.

ATTORNEY REPORT

Attorney Wilcox said the attorneys report would be discussed during executive session as it regards on going litigation related to the WWTP expansion project of 2008.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion by Commissioner Cannon and seconded by Commissioner Marshall, the Commission moved to go into Executive Session at 3:26 p.m. in accordance with the Open Meetings Law (Public Officers Law § 105(1)(2) for a discussion with Counsel regarding pending litigation regarding the 2008 plant expansion project.

On a motion by Commissioner Bold and seconded by Commissioner Cannon, the Commission moved to go out of Executive Session at 3:48 p.m. in accordance with the Open Meetings Law (Public Officers Law § 105(1)(2).

DEDICATIONS – None

COMMITEES

Engineering Committee – Commissioner Loewenstein said the Engineering Committee met on March 23, 2016 and discussed GHD’s draft report and provided comments through Executive Director Rourke to GHD. GHD responded and addressed all concerns regarding reviewing the options as well as the cost estimate in particular, the debt service. He said the goal is to develop an environmentally sustainable cost effective solution and the way the report is structured will give us some options and time to continue to review those options.

Commissioner Loewenstein said the Committee talked about the trip to New Hampshire to gather information and get opinions on incineration alternatives. He thanked the Commissioners for approving this and said it will be a worthwhile endeavor for the staff as well as the Commissioners.

The Committee also looked at the total Capital Plan which was previously prepared and revised by Executive Director Rourke. He said the goal is to prioritize the capital projects, develop an overall plan, and try to work within the current budget. Commissioner Bold talked about the need to possibly redo the capacity analysis as a potential project. Commissioner Loewenstein said the Engineering Committee is making progress and has a plan to put together a final Capital Plan over the next several months and present it to the County for financing and funding options.

Chairman Howe thanked Commissioner Loewenstein and the Engineering Committee for their continued efforts.

Growth Committee – None

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Commissioner Marshall and seconded by Commissioner Cannon. No discussion. The motion passed.

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING
Thursday, May 5, 2016
3:00 P.M. at the Treatment Plant