

FINAL COPY

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BINGHAMTON - JOHNSON CITY JOINT SEWAGE BOARD

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

Plant Administration Building

Members Present: George Kolba
Edward Crumb
Chris Papastrat
Stephen Andrew – Remote (Audio/Video) (entered 3:45pm; exited at 4:30pm)
Ron Lake
Bruce King

Also Present: Elliott Wagner, Superintendent
Billie J. Goodson, Business Manager
Alfred Paniccia, Jr., Esq., Co-Counsel
Ron Warwick, Asst. Superintendent
Howard Reeve, Facility Engineer
Larry Travis, E.E., Electrical Engineer
Clarence Shager, Fiscal Officer, and COB Comptroller (exited at 5:00pm)
Adam Afify, Head Operator (exited at 4:15pm)
Michele Cuevas, Confidential Secretary
Nate Hotchkiss, COB Councilman (exited at 5:38pm)
Jason Greene, P.E., GHD (entered 4:00pm exited 4:15pm)
Clark Giblin, Village of Johnson City Trustee, (exited at 5:00pm)
Bryan Witbeck, CMMS Clerk and Union President
William Demarest III, Esq. (Video)

Chairman Kolba called the meeting to order at 3:35 PM. Sign in sheet was passed. Five (5) Board members were present. Confidential Secretary Cuevas read aloud roll call. Chairman Kolba confirmed all present signed in, identified fire exits and requested cell phones be turned off or silenced during the meeting. All stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

Privilege of the Floor

Chairman Kolba asked if anyone would like the privilege of the Floor. No one wished to speak. The Chairman closed the floor.

Meeting Minutes Approval

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board approves the submitted February 13, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes with the suggested changes as contained in the Board Folders.

**Motion seconded by Bruce King.
Motion carried. 5/0/1 (SA)**

Fiscal Officer Report

Mr. Shager reported that all the 1st quarter 2024 estimated billings have been paid.

Mr. Shager went through the 2023 end of the year budget items and reported that he will be closing the books at the end of the week.

(Stephen Andrew joined the meeting; all Board Members are now present).

Mr. Shager spoke briefly on the TPS project and the next steps that need to be taken. After a brief discussion, it was decided to have a meeting together with both mayors, both comptrollers and hash out the details to get this project started.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Wagner overviewed his Superintendent's Report below which included graphs, charts, copies of which were distributed in the Board's folders. The first page of the report is set forth below.

February Superintendents Report

03/12/24

February saw 1.63 inches of precipitation.

Average daily flow was 18.72 MGD and a sum of 542.87 million gallons for the month.

CBOD=8 mg/L, TSS=3 mg/L, NH3=0.15 mg/L, Phos=0.29 mg/l, Fecal 2 MPN,
TN=3.7 mg/L with 2 data points remaining.

Micro-Turbine production=113,933 KWH.

Solar production=4,520 KWH.

PFAS, PFOS training at the Binghamton Holiday Inn last Thursday. Looks like testing may be coming in the not-too-distant future,

Superintendent's Report-cont.

Two Mechanics assistants moved up to become provisional mechanics, the Mechanics' Civil service test has been requested for some time now.

Kruger/Veolia and the plant had a meeting to discuss the February high flow issue. This meeting resulted in Kruger/Veolia acknowledging the plant staff took the appropriate actions to regain control of the CN cells. They also came up with a step-by-step Standard Operating procedure which will be put in our wet weather operating plan.

Met with the NYSDEC, City of Binghamton, Village of Johnson City engineering and sewer department to discuss the DEC's combining of the permits and the necessity to update the service area maps and the DEC regarding the same.

As a result of the Senior Account Clerk's efforts in coordinating with the NYS Deferred Comp representative there are 6 new contributors.

Working with Business Manager, Senior Account Clerk, Personnel Committee, and the Union to update the travel policy.

Superintendent Wagner further reviewed his charts and graphs and answered questions relating to them.

*****end of report*****

February IWPP

Jason Greene, P.E., of GHD attended the meeting remotely. Mr. Greene overviewed the submitted IWPP Report for February 2024, copies of which were distributed in the Board's folder. The 2023 IWPP annual report will be submitted. Doing PCR review for the second half of 2023. Permit renewals for All Spec Finishing, Ametek Inc., CH Thompson and Triple Cities Metal Finishing have been completed.

Ms. Cuevas noted that Ametek did pay their IWPP fine, and it will be noted in March's IWPP report.

*****end of report*****

(Messrs. Greene and Afify exited the meeting).

Business Manager's Report

Ms. Goodson reviewed her Business Manager's Report.

2024 Surcharge Rate Chart

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board ratifies the 2024 Surcharge Rate Chart with the correction discussed to footnote 6 (to correct the Debt Service of the Village and the City, which had been transposed).

Motion seconded by Stephen Andrew.

Motion carried. 6/0

*****end of report*****

Committee Reports

Construction: No new business.

Finance: Mr. Crumb mentioned the availability of WIIA and IMG Grants to municipalities, such as the Owners, with a June 14th application deadline. Upcoming work will include finalization of the 2023 billable wastewater flows and work associated with reviewing the 2023 Final Billing computation.

Flow Management: Mr. Crumb noted that there needs to be a quote request finalized for updating the service area map to reflect the addition of the Bunn Hill Road Sewer Extension in the Town of Vestal, as well as to update the Service Area Modelling Data Table and the I-I Remediation Basin Map.

Personnel: Mr. Andrew stated that Salary/Management staff can come to the Personnel Committee as well as union employees. It was also noted that the Board will need to consider updating policies to comply with New York Labor Law §201-i, which becomes effective today.

(Mr. Andrew exited the meeting; a quorum of five Board Members remains present).

Future Planning: Mr. King said that there will be a meeting set up with plant staff to go over a 5-year plan. Mr. Wagner has already started the asset management plan. So, we have a good start to move ahead with the future planning of the facility.

Ad Hoc: Bruce King – Nothing to report.

Old Business:

TPS RFQ/RFP documents

A lengthy discussion on changes to the RFP/RFQ documents took place. The final decision would be to advertise on the 22nd and 29th of March. The Pre-Bid walk-through would be April 4th. The Bid opening would be May 2nd.

(Messrs. Giblin and Shager exited the meeting).

Assistant Superintendent Warwick gave an update on the float that was in the Hillcrest parade on Sunday. Candy and pamphlets were handed out to parade attendees.

New Business: none

It was decided that a Special Meeting will be held March 26, 2024, at 3:30pm regarding the TPS Improvements Project and two procurement matters.

The next regular Board meeting is April 9th, 2024, at 3:30PM.

Adjournment

**Ronald Lake made a motion to adjourn.
Motion seconded by Edward Crumb.
Motion carried. 5/0/1 (SA)**

Meeting adjourned at 5:43PM.

Michele Cuevas
Confidential Secretary

cc: Board Members
Mayor Kraham, City of Binghamton
Mayor Meaney, Village of Johnson City
City Clerk, City of Binghamton
Village Clerk/Treasurer, Village of Johnson City
Alfred Paniccia, Esq.
Chuck Shager, Fiscal Officer
Elliott Wagner, Superintendent
Brown & Brown Empire State
Haylor, Freyer & Coon
Joshua Holland, Village of Johnson City Director of Public Services
Ronald B. Lake, P.E., City of Binghamton Engineer
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