

WaPORT EWEN WATER AND SEWER BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2022

Present: Nicholas Butler, Port Ewen Water & Sewer Superintendent
George Post
Mike Mulligan
Kevin Rentfrow
Mike Tronolone

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m.

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 13, 2022 MEETING – Upon Motion of Kevin Rentfrow, seconded by George Post, the minutes were approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

Roger Mabie Water Treatment Plant -

Bids for the WTP upgrades were closed in September (Billy attended the opening of the 2 bids received by Town Clerk Holly Netter).

The overall WTP project was covered but HVAC, plumbing and electrical work had to be rebid separately. There was also bid alternates. If the contractor that was awarded the bid, that contractor had option to take on the additional HVAC, plumbing and electrical work.

Bid alternates covered were raw water wet well manhole rungs, clarifier B settler grading thickener tank painting and raw water wet well pipe painting.

Contractor coming in the lowest was W.M. Shults Construction Inc. and Tighe & Bond had reviewed past performance of the company. T&B recommendation was to award W.M. Shults Construction Inc bid. The bid didn't include bid alternates.

T&B indicated that legally, the 3 alternates needed to be rebid and Shults agreed to only bid for HVAC and plumbing which would leave the electrical.

The Town Supervisor had requested Superintendent to obtain input from the W & S Board members to hear any concerns, thoughts or reservations they had with the implementation of the WTP Plan or either of the other "Big 3." The Board was asked if the consensus was to move forward with the WTP project.

Mike Tronolone – Issue originated from infrastructure assessment and what investments were needed to ensure WTP operated properly.

Nick Butler – Project prioritized by what immediate steps were needed to effectively maintain plant. There have been some change orders in what needs to be on the list and the NYS DOH had signed off.

Mike Mulligan – Improvements are needed but is this the time to commit given supply chain issues and rising costs. Prices may not necessarily decrease. Grant percentages of the 60/40 grant does remain the same but where is the Esopus match being taken from. Are there any new funds available from ARPA or

any other funding sources. Could certain items in the project be modified to deliver 80/90% of the improvements and stay within the original budget.

Nick Butler – Lowest bidder could be awarded the contract and Esopus would owe 40% on the WTP.

- Cost issues – is it time to move forward
- Is it worth waiting
- Should other sources be sought

Mike Mulligan – Are there any currently anticipated rate increases and if one or all projects get approved, what rate increases if any would occur.

Nick Butler – Budget request was being prepared for 2023 to present to the Town Board. Bookkeeper had stated that the financial advisor reviews the budget and result would impact the need for any rate increases.

Nick was still concerned about lack of communication with the City of Kingston and the improvements being made to the City's infrastructure and what portion was Esopus on the hook for and the financial impact.

To finish fiscal year 2022, the budget should be sufficient.

Mike Mulligan - Was there a substantial increase in the budget for 2023 requested and would the 20% be coming from rate increases or were there other funds that could be tapped into.

Nick Butler – Was not aware of any other funds that could be tapped. An increase was needed to cover the additional employee and the 2 pieces of equipment and everything else was similar contractually.

Mike Mulligan – If final approval was granted for the Big 3 requests, would that increase costs in 2023 and would money have to be found to cover aspect of that. Nick didn't believe it would. Mike Mulligan asked how the proposed bid presently compared to what was anticipated in 2019. Given the figures, it appeared 400k would need to be paid.

George Post – was there a way to break down what would be needed per water customer to cover the Town's share of the project cost. Could water bill be charged to customer usage.

Mike Mulligan – taxes for properties in water districts could also be raised but he was opposed to raising bills/taxes.

Nick Butler – The delay created by the pandemic now presented an increased cost and supply issue. Had Covid not occurred, would shovels now be in the ground and the question now was should the projects proceed. Monies had been expended for Tighe & Bond services to date.

Mike Mulligan – Could any of the projects be scaled back to make more palatable.

Nike Butler – If a re-evaluation were to take place and plans were scaled down, would NYS BOH approval again need to be granted. His concern was if the State would accept as-builts. Recapping the Board's concerns, major concerns revolved around funding – was it the right time now and the difference in prices

of materials – what was budgeted for and situation now. How much time was allowed to accept bid from Shultz and how long would bid stand. Nick Butler would take notes from the Board members to the Town Supervisor.

Mike Dauner's foreman report had been provided. Fire hydrants were going to be winterized. TAM had pumped out North Broadway pump station.

Water bills had been mailed out on the 29th of September.

Nothing out of ordinary on the Health Department report.

Hydrant use permit had been issued to Wurts Street Bridge renovation and had been generating money as a result of the water usage. Project manager had provided a tour of the project to Nick Butler. The condo had been charged for a day for the use.

Water & Sewer Board Alternate was being considered and Nick Butler would follow up with Jared Geuss regarding what was needed to request to the Town Board.

Water Department employee – Notice was left at the Highway Department for two weeks prior to announcement being made on social media. Numerous responses had been received via Indeed.com as well as two hard applications having been submitted for review.

Meter replacement memo had expired September 30th and it was now time to implement enforcement on noncompliance. A follow-up memo was being considered to specify actions to be taken for noncompliance. There were less than 100.

Mike Mulligan inquired if any further information had been acquired regarding the pumpstation flows and the possible effects the proposed developments on Clay Road and Mountainview could have. Nick Butler toured the North Broadway sewer pump station with Erin Moore of Tighe & Bond. She suggested putting in a device to record the data to be used in tandem with a chart for calculations. Nick Butler wanted to know what was being sent to Kingston unnecessarily and the effect interceptor line repairs would have on the amount.

CHPE results for the test hydro plowing had not been received.

Vouchers were circulated for review. Upon Motion of George Post, seconded by Mike Mulligan, and all in favor, the Motion passed.

George Post noted that the next meeting was scheduled for November 8, which was Election Day. Secretary was directed to confirm rescheduling to November 10 via emails. Mike Mulligan and George Post were working as election inspectors so Doug DeKoskie would be needed to make a quorum.

Upon Motion of Mike Mulligan, seconded by George Post, the meeting was adjourned at 9: 20 p.m.

Dated: October 31, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Mance, Secretary
Approved: November 10, 2022