

FINAL COPY

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

Tuesday, January 9, 2024

Plant Administration Building

Members Present: George Kolba
Edward Crumb
Chris Papastrat
Stephen Andrew - Remote
Ron Lake
Bruce King

Also Present: Elliott Wagner, Superintendent
Billie J. Goodson, Business Manager
Alfred Paniccia, Jr., Esq., Co-Counsel
Ron Warwick, Asst. Superintendent (exited at 5:37pm)
Howard Reeve, Facility Engineer (exited at 5:37pm)
Larry Travis, E.E., Electrical Engineer (exited at 5:37pm)
Clarence Shager, COB Comptroller / JSB Fiscal Officer (exited at 4:13pm)
Zachary Mulcahy, Binghamton Resident, Operator II (exited at 5:37pm)
Bryan Witbeck, CMMS Clerk (exited at 5:37pm)
Adam Afify, Head Operations (exited at 5:37pm)
Clark Giblin, Village of JC Trustee (exited at 5:37pm)
Michele Cuevas, Confidential Secretary
Nate Hotchkiss, COB Councilman (exited at 5:37pm)

Chairman Kolba called the meeting to order at 3:29 PM. Sign in sheet was passed. All six (6) 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

Board member Crumb welcomed and introduced newly elected City of Binghamton Councilman Nate Hotchkiss. Mr. Hotchkiss is a Binghamton native and represents the 4th District. Everyone welcomed Councilman Hotchkiss.

Meeting Minutes Approval

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board approves the submitted December 12, 2023, Regular Board Meeting Minutes with the suggested changes as contained in the Board Folders.

Motion seconded by Bruce King.

Motion carried. 6/0

Fiscal Officer's Report

Chuck Shager overviewed the Fiscal Officer's Report, copies of which were distributed in each of the Board folders and then opened the floor for any questions or comments pertaining to the report.

Mr. Shager went through the end of year status of 2023 budget line items.

Mr. Shager mentioned that a settlement was made by the Owners with PC Construction on their contract. Mr. Shager reported that PC Construction was suing for \$42 million but settled for \$17 million, and the final payments were made.

Mr. Shager suggested to Superintendent Wagner to get a 5-year capital plan together before the end of the year 2024. Mr. Wagner did state that we do have a lot of information for this plan and will be working on this.

Mr. Shager also stated that he is looking for a cost basis of the Plant's inventory from Superintendent Wagner.

A lengthy discussion followed on the (Terminal Pumping Station) TPS Improvements grant application that was deemed incomplete by the NYS-EFC office and denied. A few options were discussed. Superintendent Wagner, Head Operator Afify, Facility Engineer Reeve, and Board Member Crumb explained in detail all the history and situation at the TPS and the near-term need for this project/refurbishment.

(Mr. Shager exited the meeting).

Superintendent Wagner welcomed the City of Binghamton and Village of Johnson City legislative body members to schedule a tour of the facility.

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.

December Superintendents Report 01/09/2024

December precipitation was 5.85 inches. We had a total of 43.33 inches of precipitation in 2023. Our 17-year average precipitation is 41.24 inches/year. Average daily plant flow was 24.79 MGD which is 10.36 MGD greater than November. Our average daily flow for the year was 17.08 MGD.

CBOD=11 mg/L. TSS=11 mg/L. TN=3.5 mg/L with 5 data points remaining. NH3=0.12 mg/L. Phos=0.506 mg/L.

Micro-Turbines produced 139,447 kwh. Solar produced 1,967 kwh.
Annual Micro-Turbine production for 2023=1,177,923 kwh for approximately \$82,479.69.
Annual solar production for 2023=54,975 kwh for approximately \$3,776.42
Combined Micro-Turbine and Solar=\$86,256.11
The annual "grid" electric cost for both facilities was approximately \$805,131.00.
Digesters averaged 56.25% Volatile Solids Reduction for the month.
Digesters averaged 60.64% Volatile Solids Reduction for the year.
2023 saw us close out the CN Viewport Recovery Project.

Identified a water leak in the Micro-Turbine underground piping and repaired it.
Identified and worked towards completion of the H-Line, Emseal replacement project.
Replacement of HVAC condenser coils for the UV building.
2024 Budget process.

With Mr. Crumb performing most of the work, we updated the Rules and Regulations for the Binghamton-Johnson City Sewage Treatment Plant.

Mechanical department all attended a 4-day welding class.
Replaced the spray water wash check valve.
The Solar Array Inverter was replaced under warranty.

We experienced 1 power failure from NYSE&G, the generator system worked as designed. The power failure lasted approximately ½ hour.

Superintendent's Report-cont.

All in all, it has been a trying year with the 2 major work efforts. I would like to report that even with these added work efforts the City, Village, Board and Plant workers all worked together to overcome once again. We were able to complete/perform approximately 5,225 work orders for the year.

Each year we track over 44,400 data points to fill out the Discharge Monitoring Report.

We had less than 6 numbers out of limit.

We update a minimum of 32 Workbooks/Spreadsheets monthly.

Write a minimum of 10 annual reports for the DEC and EPA.

Annual Laboratory Audit and proficiency tests.

With the help from GHD, the facility filed the NY2A application (300 pages) for the permit renewal.

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

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

Howard Reeve-Facility Engineer Yearly Report

Facility Engineer Reeve highlighted some of the accomplishments made in 2023 in his report included in the Board Folders. He noted that 2023 year ended on a positive note, and he is looking forward to carrying the momentum into 2024.

With proper planning, the facility should be able to continue with the improvements that are slated for 2024 while maintaining and repairing the facility. Mr. Reeve continued to speak about the achievements that were made in 2023 and future successes anticipated in 2024. Everyone followed along with his summary report.

Superintendent Wagner introduced the plant personnel that attended the meeting.

Business Manager's Report

Ms. Goodson reviewed her Business Manager's Report.

Board Approval

Polydyne Piggyback Contract

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board approves the renewal of the piggyback contract with SNF Polydyne through the Oneida County Bid Ref #2258 for liquid emulsion polymer with an initial contract term January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024, with four additional one-year extensions with no change in terms or conditions, but subject to annual unit price cost adjustments determined by the Consumer Price Index, and authorize the Chairman to sign the acceptance letter dated January 8, 2024.

Seconded by Steve Andrew.

Discussion.

Co-Counsel Paniccia has concerns with the documents that he received on this contract. Some of his concerns is the amount of the contract price per pound. He would like to request that the contract states \$1.31 cost per pound.

Mr. Andrew withdrew his second. Mr. Crumb withdrew his motion. (Matter to be addressed at a future meeting).

Business Manager Goodson would like specifics on what Board Members and Co-Counsel need for contract renewals and other contract documents. Business Manager Goodson will e-mail Board Members and Co-Counsel additional information that was requested.

PVS Technologies-Ferric Chloride Contract

Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board approves the extension agreement to PVS Technologies, Inc. contract for Ferric Chloride 38% solution for an additional twelve-month period beginning March 21, 2024, through March 20, 2025, at a unit price of \$2.71 per gallon and authorize the Chairman to sign the acceptance letter dated January 9, 2024.

Seconded by Bruce King.

Motion carried. 6/0

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

Committee Reports

Construction: Ron Lake mentioned that the H-Line repair is almost complete.

Finance: Edward Crumb – Mr. Crumb noted that in the JSB SharePoint Folder is a subfolder for the 2024 budget and some related references for all to look at. If you would like paper copies, please contact the Confidential Secretary, Mrs. Cuevas. Mr. Crumb noted that the remaining 2023 claims need to be sent for approval so the Plant and City of Binghamton can wrap up the claims for year 2023. A committee meeting needs to be set-up to discuss the Capital Plan. Two major near term capital projects that need to be pursued are the TPS Improvements Project and the Micro-Turbine. The Board needs to move ahead with earmarking funding for these projects.

Edward Crumb made a motion for the Facility Engineer and the Business Manager to create a draft RFQ/RFP for design engineering services for the TPS Improvements and circulate the same for review/comments along with the preliminary report from GHD.

Seconded by Bruce King.

Motion carried. 6/0

Personnel: Stephen Andrew – Nothing to report.

Flow Management: Edward Crumb – Mr. Crumb reported on the Bunn Hill Retreat project. The Town of Vestal must submit the application to the City of Binghamton and then the City of Binghamton will forward it to the Joint Sewage Board. After receiving, a Flow Management Workgroup meeting will be scheduled.

Ad Hoc: Bruce King – Nothing to report.

Correspondence: Michele Cuevas – Nothing to report.

Old Business:

NYS-EFC Letter 1/8/24

Edward Crumb made mention of the letter received from the NYS-EFC stating that the application was deemed incomplete and therefore could not be selected to receive an award. The incomplete information was a State Revolving Fund application (which would require Owner approval for borrowing/bonding) and an environmental review documentation. Mr. Crumb noted that it wasn't the Board's intent for there to be bonding, that the grant would be applied for, and whatever in-kind money was needed would come from the JSB's existing Fund Balance money.

IWPP-report

Superintendent Wagner noted that there are 19 permitted users in the IWPP as of the beginning of 2024. The status of two pending fines was discussed.

Village of Johnson City Car Wash 60 Lester Avenue

Edward Crumb made a motion to approve the request for the car wash at 60 Lester Avenue and that he same be placed on file. No permit is needed based on the information provided in the application (no “physical change at the point of connection to a publicly owned sewer pipe”).

**Motion seconded by Bruce King.
Motion carried. 6/0**

Edward Crumb made a motion to direct the Superintendent to forward the material safety data sheet documents to our Pretreatment Engineer Jason Greene for the car wash at 60 Lester Avenue.

**Motion seconded by Bruce King.
Motion carried. 6/0**

(Councilman Hotchkiss, Trustee Giblin, Messrs. Warwick, Afify, Reeve, Travis, Witbeck, and Mulcahy exited the meeting)

Executive Session

Motion by Edward Crumb enter Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

**Motion seconded by Bruce King.
Motion carried. 6/0**

The Board entered Executive Session at 5:44PM.

Out of Executive Session

**Bruce King made a motion to exit the Executive Session.
Motion seconded by Chris Papastrat.
Motion carried. 6/0**

No action was taken during the Executive Session.

The Board exited Executive Session at 6:03PM.

The next regular Board meeting is February 13, 2024, at 3:30PM.

Adjournment

**Bruce King made a motion to adjourn.
Motion seconded by Chris Papastrat.
Motion carried. 6/0**

Meeting adjourned at 6:05PM.

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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