

WANAQUE VALLEY REGIONAL SEWERAGE AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 23, 2014

The WANAQUE VALLEY REGIONAL SEWERAGE AUTHORITY conducted a Regular Meeting which commenced at 6:02 p.m., in the Wanaque Valley Regional Sewerage Authority Administration Building, Wanaque, New Jersey with Chairman, Robert Moshman presiding.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Gregory White, Executive Director, read the following announcement. This is the Regular Meeting of the Wanaque Valley Regional Sewerage Authority. In accordance with the Open Public Meeting Law, notices of the meeting were furnished to the respective Municipal Clerks of Ringwood, Wanaque and West Milford; together with a request that an additional copy of the notice be placed in each Municipal Building. Notices were also sent to the following newspapers; the North Jersey Herald News, the Trends and the Record and placed on the WVRSA website. A copy of the notice will be filed with the minutes of this meeting.

SALUTE TO FLAG

The Chairman led the Salute to the Flag.

At this time the Chairman asked for a Roll Call.

ROLL CALL

Gregory White, Executive Director, took a Roll Call.

Commissioners Present: Frank Covelli, Robert Hadley, Scott Heck, Robert Moshman

Commissioners Absent: Andrew Bolduc

Also Present: William J. Bailey, Esq., Huntington Bailey LLP
James Kelly, P.E., Boswell Engineering
Gregory White, Executive Director
Margaret M. Maas Recording Secretary (Arrived 6:06 p.m.)

MINUTES - 05-28-14 Regular Meeting Minutes

The Chairman asked if everyone had had an opportunity to review the Minutes and if so did they have any comments or would someone like to make a motion to accept them. It was decided to carry them over until the next meeting and the following motion was moved.

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MINUTES 05-14-14 Regular Meeting Minutes

MOTION Moved by Frank Covelli, 2nd by Scott Heck to adopt a Resolution authorizing carrying these minutes over until the next meeting.
The Chairman asked for all those in favor to signify so by saying Aye.
Commissioners Covelli, Hadley, Heck and Moshman all stated Aye. Commissioner Bolduc was absent.

MOTION CARRIED

REVIEW OF CONSENT AGENDA

The Chairman stated that our Consent Agenda consists of Vouchers only tonight and that we will address that later this evening.

REPORTS

The Chairman stated that he would like to change the order of the meeting this evening and asked Mr. Kelly if he was prepared to give the Engineering Report.

Engineering

Mr. Kelly stated that he is here tonight to provide a status update regarding the engineering design of the proposed 2014 Capital Improvement Project for the Authority ("WVRS"). He reported that the project is listed on the Superstorm Sandy NJEIFP Project Priority List as No. 43 - Rank 128, with an estimated project cost of \$3,879,000.00.

Mr. Kelly reported that it is currently anticipated the NJEIF program may be in a position as early as the Fall of 2014 to permit projects to proceed to construction once the funding steps have been completed. Mr. Kelly stated that he has copied this letter to the Authority's Counsel and Auditor advising them of this status.

Mr. Kelly enumerated several items that have been identified, for possible inclusion in the upcoming project and proceeded to discuss each with the Commissioners:

- 1) Lime Room Modifications
- 2) Non-Potable Water pump Strainers
- 3) Influent Splitter Box Bypass Piping
- 4) Replacement of Hot Water Unit Heaters
- 5) Sludge Building Grinders
- 6) Spare Parts
- 7) Effluent Flow Meter Modification
- 8) Motor Control Center Upgrades
- 9) Haskell Pumping Station Easement Acquisition
- 10) NJDEP/EIT Coordination

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REPORTS

NOTE: Commissioner Bolduc arrived.

Engineering Cont.

Mr. Kelly concluded his report by stating that the exact level of effort for the additional work identified above cannot be firmly quantified at this time, we estimate the cost to be approximately \$65,000.00. The identified supplemental tasks would increase the total estimated engineering fee from \$270,000.00 to \$335,000.00. Mr. Kelly reported that as previously noted in our December 5, 2013 proposal, the estimated engineering costs for this design effort are significantly less than the allowance for facilities planning and design established for NJEIT projects as set forth in N.J.A.C. 7:22-5 which is \$478,000.00 for the project identified in this proposal.

Mr. Kelly asked if this proposal meets with your approval, would the Board provide us with the necessary authorization to proceed and we will finalize the identified project.

The Chairman stated that if everyone agrees with and accepts Mr. Kelly's Report; would someone like to make a motion accepting the Report.

MOTION

Moved by Frank Covelli, 2nd by Robert Hadley to approve and accept the Proposal for Supplemental Engineering Services, 2014 Capital Improvement Project dated 7-22-14, from our Engineer Mr. Kelly, with a total cost not to exceed \$65,000.00.

The Chairman asked for a Roll Call.

On Roll Call Commissioners Bolduc, Covelli, Hadley, Heck and Moshman all voted yes.

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Kelly thanked the Board and stated that his report was completed.

The Chairman asked for the Executive Directors Report.

Executive Director

Mr. White stated that he would like to note and comment on the passing of Congressman Robert Roe. Mr. White stated that Congressman Roe was a friend of this Authority from its inception. He stated that Congressman Roe was the principal author of the Clean Water Act, that is the foundation of the environmental protection policy and regulations we have today. He stated that the Congressman visited and toured this Authority several times.

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REPORTS

Executive Director Cont.

Monthly Report - Noise, Odor Control Report

Mr. White reported that there were numerous odor reports over the last month. He stated that he responded to all of them and he reported that the carbon in the misters has been changed. He reported that there were no noise or early truck arrival complaints.

Updates - Flow/Operations/ Revenue

All Plant operations are going very well. The trucks are coming in at a normal pace and the Revenue is coming in at a regular pace.

Certificate of Deposit - Reinvestment

Mr. White reported that the Authorities two Certificates of Deposit matured this month. Mr. Ferraioli was contacted and authorized Mrs. Parrinello to poll the Banks for their Rates of Interest and to reinvest the Certificate of Deposits at the one with the best interest rate.

Equipment Auction

Mr. White reported that recently Ringwood Borough held a Town Auction. The Authority had three items in the auction. He reported that all three items were sold and the proceeds will be received and deposited.

Fiscal Year 2015 Budget Preparation

Mr. White stated that the preparation of the 2015 Budget will begin soon and asked that any Commissioners that were available to attend the meetings regarding same.

August Meeting Date

Mr. White asked the Commissioners what their preference was with regard to when to hold the next meeting of the Authority. He asked if they wished to have an August Meeting or should it be a combined August - September Meeting, sometime in early September, due to vacation plans. Discussion was held and it was agreed that the Board, as a whole, wanted to get back into Regular Monthly meetings and it was decided that the next meeting will be, as previously scheduled, on August 27, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

At this time Mr. White stated that the Executive Directors Report was concluded.

The Chairman asked for the Legal Report.

Legal Report

Mr. Bailey stated that all the items that he had for this evening should be held in Closed Session.

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OLD BUSINESS

The Chairman asked if there was anything to be addressed under Old Business. Upon receiving no response he stated that he would move on to New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

The Chairman asked if there was anything to be addressed under New Business. Upon receiving no response he stated that he would move on to the Public Portion of the meeting.

PUBLIC PORTION

The Chairman invited anyone that wished to address this Board - to step up to the microphone and identify themselves for the record.

Dominick Cortellessa, President of the Wanaque Reserve. Mr. Cortellessa stated that there has been an increase of intensity of complaints and there has been no satisfactory explanation given. He stated that the complaints are now coming in from Building #7 and from the Club House, residents are complaining that they cannot use pool - due to the odors. The residents feel that their quality of life is being compromised. He reported that the residents state that they cannot walk the grounds - due to the odors. Mr. Cortellessa stated that there are residents, that are trying to sell their condos experiencing problems with the Real Estate people who are advising their clients "Do not buy in Buildings # 8, 9 and 10"; due to odors.

Mr. Cortellessa stated that we are here tonight to ask this Board to please resolve this problem. He stated that he doesn't want to call the DEP in.

Chairman Moshman asked is there a particular time of the day when this is happening.

Mr. Cortellessa stated during the day at the pool, and the evening at the club house - residents wishing to sit and visit during the warm summer evenings cannot come out of their units due to the odor. He stated that previously it related mostly to Buildings # 8, 9 & 10; now he is receiving complaints from Buildings # 7 and others.

Commissioner Bolduc stated that everyone here wants the same thing but he and the other Commissioners are not engineers.

Mr. Cortellessa stated that he is not asking the Commissioners to do it - but to please put the right people in place that can.

Mr. Kelly, Authority Engineer, stated that we have identified a number of vents that may be one of source of odors and that they have had filters installed in them. Mr. Kelly stated that we have identified that the Oxidation Ditches are a main source of odors; but at the same time we have also found that summer is the worst time and that it puts the most strain on the plant

Mr. Kelly stated that the NJDEP has put some funds out for improvement and if all goes well we will be able to fast track the new work that he discussed, which is scheduled for the spring of 2015

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PUBLIC PORTION Cont.

Dominick Cortellessa -President of Wanaque Reserve.

Mr. Cortellessa stated that he does acknowledge what is coming; but here and now is the problem that needs fixing.

Commissioner Heck stated that the Commissioners take your problem seriously. Commissioner Heck asked Mr. White if he had records of all the complaints.

Mr. White stated that he has all emails etc. listed in a book. Commissioner Heck asked Mr. White for copies of all the complaints for all of the Commissioners. Mr. White stated that he would provide that to them.

Mr. Cortellessa asked for discussion on why the trucks were using the front dumping location as opposed to the one in the back of the plant.

Mr. White reported that there was a problem at the dump area, due to the pump station impellers being jammed with rags - disposable wipes mostly - that required the rear dump area to be shut down for repair. The unit had to be opened and the rags/disposable wipes removed, which was a major issue as they were so jammed that they could not be cut out - that they had to be burned out. Upon finally getting down to the impellers it was discovered that they were damaged and had to be replaced. Mr. White stated that fortunately we had additional blades to replace the damaged ones and that the new blades would be installed tomorrow and the plant will be running normally again.

Commissioner Covelli suggested that there should be an additional meeting with Mr. White, Mr. Kelly and the Commissioners to do some investigation and come up with some answers.

Mr. Cortellessa asked when you have a problem/issue there should be a sense of urgency to get it done quickly. He stated that he thinks it would be a good idea for them to have a meeting and get back to the residents with some kind of an answer.

Mr. Cortellessa stated that he, as a Councilman for the Borough of Wanaque, has been getting complaints from residents that they cannot use Back Beach facilities due to the odors.

Commissioner Covelli asked Mr. White to set up a meeting ASAP.

Commissioner Heck asked Mr. White - that if there is an issue - he is to address it ASAP and even if he needs to put employees on overtime - get it corrected as quickly as he can and asked that he notify the Commissioners of the problem. He stated that he would sit on any Committee that is established to deal with such issues.

Commissioner Covelli stated that the residents deserve to hear that we are doing something.

Mr. Cortellessa thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak tonight.

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PUBLIC PORTION Cont.

Joyce, resident of Wanaque Reserve Joyce stated that there has been nothing said about the Quality of the air and the Quality of our health.

Commissioner Heck stated that Passaic County Health Dept. was contacted and they told us that they do not have the ability to come here, investigate the situation and make a recommendation.

Maurice Houckes, Jr. Retired WVRSA Employee. Mr. Houckes stated that he retired 1 1/2 years ago. He stated that since then he has heard that the employee have created an organization that would represent them in all dealings with the Authority. Mr. Houckes asked if they are successful in getting any benefits; such as help in paying for their Health Care Costs when they retire - he would like to know if he would be Grandfathered in on those benefits. Mr. Houckes stated that he worked for the Authority for over 20 years and during that time there were many discussion on using monies in an Bank Account the Authority opened called "Future Liabilities" to help retirees cover the cost of Health Benefits after leaving employment.

Chairman Moshman answered Mr. Houckes' question. The Chairman stated that this question has been answered many times already. He stated that the Authority did have an account called "Future Liabilities"; but that money was never designated to be used to help any employee cover their post employment Health Coverage. He acknowledged that the employees did request such coverage from the Commissioners multiple times. The Chairman stated that those monies, as a matter of budgetary housekeeping, were used to pay certain Bond requirements. The Chairman stated that this was explained to everyone when it took place. That account was dissolved to do what we felt was necessary under our Bonding responsibilities. He stated that as far as what will happen in the future he is not able to discuss about what might or might not happen.

Mr. Houckes thanked the Chairman for the information.

At this time the Chairman asked for a motion to close the Public Portion.

MOTION Moved by Scott Heck, 2nd by Robert Hadley to adopt a resolution closing the Public Portion of the meeting.

The Chairman asked for all those in favor to signify so by saying Aye.

Commissioners Bolduc, Covelli, Hadley, Heck and Moshman all stated Aye.

MOTION CARRIED

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CONSENT AGENDA - Vouchers #13566 - #13642

The Chairman asked if there were any comments on the Vouchers. When there were none, he asked for a motion accepting and approving the Consent Agenda as presented.

MOTION Moved by Robert Hadley, 2nd by Andrew Bolduc to adopt a Resolution accepting and approving the Consent Agenda as presented.
The Chairman asked for all those in favor to signify so by stating Aye.
Commissioners Bolduc, Covelli, Hadley, Heck and Moshman all stated Aye.

MOTION CARRIED

The Chairman asked for a motion to go into Closed Session

CLOSED SESSION

MOTION Moved by Scott Heck, 2nd by Robert Moshman to adopt a Resolution authorizing going into Closed Session for Personnel Issues.
The Chairman asked for all those in favor to signify so by stating Aye.
Commissioners Bolduc, Covelli, Hadley, Heck and Moshman all stated Aye.

MOTION CARRIED

Closed Session commenced at 7:40 p.m. and was concluded at 7:50 p.m. with the following motion.

MOTION Moved by Robert Hadley, 2nd by Robert Moshman to return to Open Session.
The Chairman asked for all those in favor to signify so by stating Aye.
Commissioners Bolduc, Covelli, Hadley, Heck and Moshman all stated Aye.

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURN

MOTION Moved by Robert Hadley, 2nd by Robert Moshman to adopt a Resolution adjourning this Meeting.
The Chairman asked for all those in favor to signify so by stating Aye.
Commissioners Bolduc, Covelli, Hadley, Heck and Moshman all stated Aye.

MOTION CARRIED

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The Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Minutes respectively submitted by,

Margaret M. Maas, Recording Secretary

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CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

PRESENT: Commissioners Bolduc, Covelli, Hadley, Heck and Moshman
William J. Bailey, Esq., Huntington Bailey, LLC
Gregory White, Executive Director
Margaret Maas, Recording Secretary

PURPOSE: Personnel Matters

Employee Association

Mr. Bailey stated that he has had several calls and meetings with the Public Employment Relations Commission (PERC). Mr. Bailey reported that the Employee Association members are all non-participating members and that they do not have legal representation any longer. Mr. Bailey stated that therefore, they do not have collective bargaining powers.

Mr. White stated that in a recent meeting with the employees, they are requesting a 2% increase for one year. Mr. White stated that they are also asking for paid time off to attend TCH classes, which are now required for license renewal. Mr. White stated that the employees to-date have been paying to have a TV in the lunch room. They are asking for the Authority to pick up that cost.

Mr. White reported that when he introduced the possibility of uniforms, to be provided by the Authority, they did not like the idea. He stated that one of the reasons stated were: they do not like the quality of the material of the uniforms. Mr. White stated that he told them that he would set up a meeting with the representative from Cintas who will bring in additional samples of the uniforms for them to see.

Mr. White stated that the safety liaison has requested a meeting with the Commissioners..

Plant Operations

The Commissioners asked Mr. White why he had not reported the problem with the plant that caused the trucks to dump at the front of the plant and cause additional odors during his monthly report portion of the meeting.

Mr. White stated that as he was aware that there was going to be a Public Portion regarding the odor problem, due to the presence of many residents of the Wanaque Reserve; he thought it best to go over it once - rather than several times. Discussion ensued.

The outcome of the discussion was that Mr. White was directed to send a memo to all Commissioners whenever there are issues within 48 hours.

Personnel Committee

There was discussion of when the Personnel Committee could meet to work out the particulars for the upcoming Budget such as; pay raise, getting paid to attend license renewal classes, pay for the TV in the lunchroom.

The Chairman asked for a straw poll from the Commissioners on these topics, which will be voted on at the next Regular Meeting.