

**REGULAR MEETING, MUNICIPAL BOARD**  
**MONDAY, JUNE 15, 2009**  
**7:00 P.M.**

**PRESENT** Commissioners Blackler, Blackwell, Hubbard, Moffa, and Roney, Director of Municipal Operations (DMO) Lotkowitz, Trustee Angelillo

**ABSENT** Commissioner Dolmatch

**OTHERS** Cliff Abrams of 37 State Street, \*John Camp of C&S Engineering representing the Town of Skaneateles, SCS Participation in Government student Andrew Brown-Mahoney

**MINUTES**

On the motion of Comm. Blackler, seconded by Comm. Roney, it was resolved and unanimously carried (5-0 in favor) to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2009 meeting as presented.

**CRYPTOSPORIDIUM-U/V SYSTEM**

Comm. Moffa recognized that the S&W Final Report – Basis of Design for Ultraviolet Disinfection was available at the last meeting, but not in time for a thorough review for discussion. The report includes the cost breakdown that we wanted so we can evaluate what our employees may be able to do to reduce the cost. In response to Comm. Moffa asking about the progress, DMO Lotkowitz reported meeting with Koester Associates – the scope of work was set and we expect them to provide a turn-key price. Comm. Roney noted that the cost keeps growing and is currently at \$790,000; Comm. Moffa said that's why we want to determine what staff can do. Comm. Moffa noted we originally received a price from Mark Kester for a 1 mgd Trojan unit, so questioned why the S&W report indicates \$220,000 for the unit. DMO Lotkowitz stated that we need to install two 2 mgd units. As stated in the report, "the Village operates with 2 mgd pumps that operate on an alternating basis; therefore the reactors are sized at 2 mgd each. The Village's average daily demand is 0.64 mgd and maximum day demand is 1.06 mgd for the Village system. At 1.06 mgd, the Village's maximum day demand has reached approximately half of the overall system's pump capacity. Therefore, the reactors are sized at 2 mgd each, allowing for system growth." Comm. Moffa concluded that the answer to his question is because of size. Comm. Roney asked if that includes the Town or not. DMO Lotkowitz said it is sized for current capacity which includes the Town. Trustee Angelillo said, regardless, we need the capacity.

**TOWN LETTER RE: RESERVOIR COMMITTEE**

Comm. Blackler recalled UV discussion with the Town in light of the Water Contract and asked the status of the contract. Trustee Angelillo said last he heard there isn't a signed contract; the Town agreed to the rate, but only wants a one-year contract as they are considering alternate water suppliers/operations. John Camp of C&S Engineering reported that there isn't anything new technically, but he is aware that the rate discussion took place. The Town is meeting with Onondaga County Water Authority (OCWA) this week to discuss the possibility of their providing water to the Town and operating their water system – the area is within OCWA's legal serviceable area.

**AMR STATUS**

DMO Lotkowitz said we should be receiving additional electric meters by the end of this week – most of them are single-phase meters. Since Comm. Blackwell was not present at last month's meeting, DMO Lotkowitz reviewed his spreadsheet again. Comm. Blackwell noted that the AMR cost went from an approved total of \$404,991 to \$505,352 creating a deficit of \$100,361. DMO Lotkowitz said the shortfall includes meters that feed the Town which weren't originally included and some additional meters for the Village. Not all remaining meters are ordered, including the Town meters. Comm. Blackwell recalled that the Municipal Board resolved that we should purchase the meters for the Town and questioned if that is written in the Water Contract. Comm. Moffa said we did make that recommendation, but the contract was already drafted. Comm. Blackwell asked if they couldn't change the draft; Comm. Moffa said it's not that they couldn't, they didn't change the draft. Trustee Angelillo said we forwarded a one-year agreement to the Town but he doesn't know where that stands. In response to Comm. Roney, Comm. Blackwell was adamant that the Village ought to own the meters even though we have the right to calibrate the meters as often as we

feel necessary. Water meters wear out and we need to make sure we have accurate billings. Comm. Hubbard said the Village Board may have a different opinion; Trustee Angelillo said they have not discussed it. Comm. Hubbard recognized it as a \$20,000 decision. DMO Lotkowitz added that the old meters have to be replaced to meet AMR. Comm. Moffa suggested that **Trustee Angelillo discuss this with the Village Board**. Comm. Hubbard said the Village Board should know that the AMR project is going to exceed the approved amount by \$100,000 and that the Town was going to bear the cost (\$20,000) of the district meters.

\*John Camp left the meeting.

DMO Lotkowitz clarified that we are tracking Electric Department staff costs as they prepare copious timesheets, but that is not included in the \$100,000. Comm. Hubbard concluded that the \$100,000 is out-of-pocket real money so this adds \$20,000 to the wound. In response to Comm. Blackwell asking how many single-phase meters have been installed, DMO Lotkowitz said he can add a column to his spreadsheet to include that information. We have 1,155 electric meters yet to purchase and have 400-500 coming in this week. Comm. Blackwell confirmed that 300 electric meters and 150 water meters have been installed. DMO Lotkowitz said he thinks all the electric meters will be installed by the end of this year. Comm. Moffa commented that he attended a couple of meetings and learned in some cases the entire meter doesn't have to be replaced. DMO Lotkowitz said the readouts need to be replaced; Comm. Blackwell said we planned on 700 new water meters and touch pads on others. Recognizing that the AMR project has a long way to go, Comm. Blackwell asked how it can be accelerated. DMO Lotkowitz said the Electric Dept. installations move along fairly quickly when they have the meters, but there has been a delay in getting the meters. The "Water Dept." can install 10-15 per week. The goal was a 3-year installation and we'll beat that. Comm. Blackwell stated that the vendor has been negligent as it took months to get the meters. There was an eight-month period that we twiddled our thumbs waiting for the meters to be delivered. We've spent \$60,000 with nothing to show for it. Comm. Roney said we didn't expect to show anything yet. Comm. Moffa suggested that it is an opportune time to work on the meter installations without the West Lake Street project occupying the staff's time. DMO Lotkowitz said the staff is spread thin, however, because we didn't hire seasonal help for the cemetery and the DPW crew helps with WWTP operations also. Comm. Blackwell said he thinks meter installations need more urgency. DMO Lotkowitz said he is discussing this with the Electric Dept. employees. Comm. Moffa said staffing discussion is for the Village Board, but we need to keep Sensus on track for shipping. In response to Comm. Roney asking about the status of the software, Comm. Blackwell said Mike from Williamson was at the Village Office today, but it is not complete. In response to Comm. Blackler, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Couch said she is of the understanding that the remaining work will be done remotely. She further acknowledged that the Village Office delayed this work to allow sufficient time to get the tax and utility bills out in May. Comm. Moffa recognized that parallel billings will have to be run for some time; DMO Lotkowitz indicated that we will do manual reads on all the meters to verify accuracy.

### **TRANSFORMER ENCLOSURE ISSUES**

DMO Lotkowitz reported that the temporary service in back of the Village Office was removed and replaced. He advised that two more quotes are still needed from surveyors, but it has been difficult getting them to respond. Comm. Hubbard suggested contacting American Group 1 as he thinks they have an "in-house" surveyor. Comm. Roney said he believes EDR does also.

### **SYSTEM DIAGRAM PROJECT**

Relative to arranging for interns to assist, DMO Lotkowitz said he is still developing what the database is going to look like and anticipates working on its attributes next week.

### **ORCHARD ROAD SANITARY SEWER STUDY-STATUS OF RESOLUTION #2009-1**

Relative to this Board recommending to the Village Board that they require all sump lines be eliminated from going into the Sanitary Sewer, DMO Lotkowitz said this will come up again with the West Lake Street work. Comm. Moffa explained that it is a Federal mandated requirement that the DEC monitors and suggested that we take a positive step by distributing flyers asking residents on Orchard Road to consider putting sump pump discharges into their yards. He added that he thinks it would be good timing with the newly paved road and with all the work that was done. In response to Trustee Angelillo, Comm. Moffa said an additional line was put in for storm sewer but nothing was tied in because it would have been very costly.

Comm. Roney commented that that was our compliance issue. Comm. Moffa said we can require steps be taken. Comm. Roney said theoretically the Village will be required to do so if the residents don't. Comm. Moffa reiterated that CMOM will require it. Recognizing that laterals were not provided on Orchard Road, DMO Lotkowitz asked what the next step is. Comm. Blackwell said it was passed on to the Village Board, but they haven't really addressed it; Comm. Blackler said he noted it was entered into the Village Board minutes, but not discussed at any length. **Trustee Angelillo** asked Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Couch to resend him the April 20, 2009 Municipal Board Meeting Minutes that include Resolution #2009-1. Subsequently, **he will talk to the Village Board.**

#### **ISO-HYDRANT RATING-STATUS OF DISTRIBUTION MODEL**

DMO Lotkowitz stated that he sent the preliminary water model result for West Lake Street that confirms that an 8" line is best to improve flows. On the east side is a 4" line and on the west is a 6" line; Route 41A has an 8" line currently. DMO Lotkowitz said the bottom line is that an 8" line is the recommended option. Comm. Moffa asked if C&S ran a distribution model. DMO Lotkowitz answered yes, for the town that includes the village. Comm. Moffa suggested that **DMO Lotkowitz get a copy of the C&S distribution model.** DMO Lotkowitz said some evening when time allows we'll take more readings in the Historic District. Comm. Moffa recalled that we agreed to take a closer look at flows and thought that was going to be our highest priority. DMO Lotkowitz said that the Electric Dept. has incurred quite a few hours of overtime lately and they are attempting to keep costs down. Also, there is a by-pass valve in the water department so we have that option, but would have to issue a boil water directive.

#### **STIMULUS BILL-STATUS OF APPLICATIONS**

DMO Lotkowitz said he didn't have anything new to report.

#### **STATUS OF WEST LAKE STREET PROJECT**

DMO Lotkowitz said the project is 50% complete and should be getting drawings by the end of the week. He is meeting tomorrow morning with CHA engineers to walk the West Lake Street site.

#### **STATUS OF 2008 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT**

DMO Lotkowitz reported that the Village's 2008 Annual Water Quality Report was distributed via U.S. Postal Service mail prior to the deadline of May 31. The report is also on the Village's website [info@villageofskaneateles.com](mailto:info@villageofskaneateles.com).

#### **ELECTRIC SERVICES**

Regarding Resolution #2009-2, Trustee Angelillo reported that the Village Board wants more information before engaging Wilson & Wilson to update the 2005 Power Supply/Rate Impact Analysis for Adding New Load report to include current utilization and current purchase power rates both with the Skaneateles Community Recreation facility as is and with an additional rink. DMO Lotkowitz said the additional load may be beyond the capacity of the transformers at the Electric Dept. substation. Also, we need to know if there will be a new circuit or a modified circuit to feed the center. Trustee Angelillo commented that he thinks there will be significant cost to the recreation center. DMO Lotkowitz said the recreation center would be responsible for the cost of any public side infrastructure upgrade, as Mirbeau was. In response to Comm. Blackler asking if he is correct in understanding that the transformers at the Electric Dept. will be taxed, DMO Lotkowitz said yes, from what he sees. Trustee Angelillo said he thinks that perhaps the Village Board misunderstood the Municipal Board's recommendation. Comm. Hubbard suggested having Wilson & Wilson update the report now so that we can give the numbers to Charlie Wallace of PARCS. Comm. Roney said he suspects that it will cost less to have the report updated than it did for the initial report. Once the total usage is determined, CHA can perform a technical study to decide how best to get the energy from the substation. Comm. Roney said it is as important to PARCS as it is to us. Comm. Hubbard commented that the information is needed to determine if it can be done. **Trustee Angelillo indicated that he will get information from V.I.P. and talk to the Village Board.**

#### **TRANSMISSION CONGESTION CONTRACTS**

Although not on the agenda, Comm. Blackwell explained the 2009 Transmission Congestion Contracts (TCC's) issue that the Boards have been reading about lately. For a series of months the Village has experienced hydroelectric power congestion price spikes. NYISO (New York Independent System

Operator) regulates the amount of charges and power through the system. If something constricts the flow from west to east, more expensive north to south power is substituted. NYMPA and the MEUA challenged NYISO to explain and/or get it under control as \$100,000 was paid last year for congestion. The only explanation NYISO gave was that they ran into some concrete cracks; NYMPA and MEUA were not given any additional information. NYISO offered an insurance policy at \$10,000 per megawatt of capacity – the Village has 5MW. NYMPA analyzed probabilities of getting hit with another \$100,000 and at best guess, determined that consumers should take out an insurance policy at 80% (\$40,000 for the Village of Skaneateles). Comm. Blackwell confirmed for Comm. Roney that the annual congestion premium will be paid for May through May. Comm. Blackwell said from his analysis he'd have been comfortable with 100% or 80% and he thinks it simplifies the tool for NYMPA if the bulk of the group is at 80%, which he believes will be the case. Comm. Blackwell clarified for Comm. Blackler that the bulk of our inexpensive power is from west to east and when the flow gets disrupted we get more expensive power from north to south. Again, it is controlled by NYISO and we have no control over it. NYMPA and the MEUA have asked NYISO to be more diligent, but they answer only to FERC. DMO Lotkowitz recognized that it is real money being lost. Comm. Moffa noted from the June 8, 2009 minutes that the Village Board resolved to purchase a Transmission Congestion Contract for four megawatts from the NYISO at a cost of \$10,326.60 per megawatt. Comm. Blackwell said we don't know for sure what is going to happen, but recent history makes the insurance policy seem prudent.

#### NEXT MEETING

The Board was reminded that the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, July 20, 2009.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m.

  
Patty Couch  
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer