

REGULAR MEETING, MUNICIPAL BOARD
MONDAY, JANUARY 18, 2010
7:00 P.M.

Present Commissioners Blackler, Blackwell, Dolmatch, Hubbard, and Moffa, DMO Lotkowitz, and Trustee Angelillo*

Others Cliff Abrams 37 State Street
Present Spencer Parker 3406 West Lake St.

Minutes

On the motion of Comm. Dolmatch, seconded by Comm. Moffa, the minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 21, 2009 were approved unanimously. (5-0)

Cryptosporidium-UV Lamp Life

DMO Lotkowitz explained that he sent a letter to Calgon with questions pertaining to this and has not received a reply to date. He will follow-up. Comm. Moffa requested that he keep on top of it, as it is important criteria, to which DMO Lotkowitz agreed. Comm. Hubbard asked if we have found any other vendors. DMO Lotkowitz stated that he has a meeting scheduled with Severn Trent on Thursday, January 28, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. in the DPW building. They make a system that utilizes microwaves to activate their patented system. Commissioners Moffa and Hubbard both stated that the vendors need to be on the Department of Health list. DMO Lotkowitz understands. Commissioner Moffa would like to be present at the meeting and plans to join DMO Lotkowitz. Comm. Blackwell asked if Trustee Angelillo is aware of the grant that the Jordan Elbridge school district just received. Trustee Angelillo deferred to DMO Lotkowitz who responded that he has applied for 3 grants through the WQIP and will research the Federal grant that Comm. Blackwell is referring to. There seems to be some confusion amongst the commissioners on whether we applied for the same grant, or were rejected from it; if they were stimulus grants, Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) grants or Water Quality Improvement Projects (WQIP) grants. DMO Lotkowitz is going to check into the grants he has applied for recently and make sure that the grant applies to the Cryptosporidium project. Comm. Blackwell wants somebody to contact Jordan-Elbridge and obtain some information. It was announced that Ken Kaufmann is also a good source of information on that project. DMO Lotkowitz stated that he spoke with Ken recently, but not about the grants. Comm. Dolmatch asked where we are with regard to the Town being on board for the project. There is discussion about the Town, their paid water bill arrears and the non-existence of contracts going forward, but the fact remains that the Town purchases over 50% of the water that will be processed by this UV system and their participation can't be ignored or taken for granted.

Transformer Enclosure Issues-Follow-up on Doug's Fish Fry

DMO Lotkowitz said he doesn't know the status of the transformer, as he hasn't looked at it. Comm. Dolmatch feels that the Doug's Fish Fry swing's positioning prohibits a safe entry to the transformer. He also feels there are vines and bushes that are a danger in that area. It was discussed that the area needs to be evaluated and anything in the way of the transformer doors must be addressed. Comm. Moffa expects a follow-up at next month's meeting.

Electric Substation Deficiencies - August 13, 2008 Report

DMO Lotkowitz has asked HMT to advise us as to what else exactly needs to be done to the area. besides the issues we have already addressed. They have a history of keeping track of the area for years. He has a proposal of items they are going to address in 2010. He needs to review it in more detail with them. Basically it is approximately \$6,000.00 worth of work, plus an additional \$10,000.00 of work that they recommend. Comm. Dolmatch asked who oversees the work that HMT will perform. DMO Lotkowitz replied that that when the work is done, one of our electric dept. employees would supervise and acknowledge that the work was done satisfactorily.

DMO Lotkowitz stated that he would also be present. He feels it is work that needs to be done and that there is money in the budget for it. The infrared testing will be done, weather permitting in the spring. The insulators will need to be changed, which will require a village wide shutdown. The Village of Groton and a couple other areas' electric departments will have to assist us. Comm. Blackwell is disturbed that the HMT report identified these problems over two years ago and nothing has been done, even though at that point they identified that immediate action needed to be taken on safety issues.

ISO-hydrant rating-suggest Flow Rates safety ramifications

DMO Lotkowitz said he hasn't done anything with this in the last few months. He does have a packet of Village nodes.

Status of Stimulus Bill Applications

Comm. Moffa asked what changes have taken place since DMO Lotkowitz's last report on the applications. DMO Lotkowitz did call Albany and the DEC regarding the WQIP grants. He was told they are still reviewing and will be completed, with selections made, after the first quarter ends. Comm. Dolmatch asked why Jordan-Elbridge would have received their grant money when the decisions have yet to be made. DMO Lotkowitz explained these are grants that are related to storm/wastewater, not water quality. The DWSRF was something that was updated in May with the Stearns and Wheler report. It wasn't an application that points were assigned for. Comm. Dolmatch inquired why others have been awarded money for projects similar to ours. This has been in the process for many months. Have we missed out? Comm. Blackwell is uncomfortable with us missing an opportunity because we aren't taken the necessary steps to be fully informed. He offered his assistance to DMO Lotkowitz to get the information we need in order to apply and obtain grant money similar to that of Jordan-Elbridge's. Comm. Moffa said that he would like to be a part of DMO Lotkowitz and Ken Kaufmann's meeting. Comm. Hubbard stated that consulting engineers are usually the ones who spearhead the grant process. He feels that Barton & Loguidice probably worked intently on obtaining the grant that Jordan-Elbridge received. DMO Lotkowitz explained he would contact them for some assistance. He also mentioned that after a conversation with the Mayor regarding grant writing, it may not be a bad idea to have someone here specifically for that purpose. Comm. Dolmatch stated that he would like to know why we didn't make the cut, if we were on the list. Comm. Moffa said we all are aware of the contacts we can utilize to obtain the necessary information; we just need to make contact. DMO Lotkowitz will research and advise.

Village Proposal to PSC to increase rates

DMO Lotkowitz explained that this was a project Sally was working on. Since Sally has retired, he will contact the MEUA and work with them to continue on this project.

Wilson & Wilson Proposal status

It was determined after lengthy conversations regarding the Skaneateles Recreation Center that it is in the Village's best interest to take a proactive approach and be aware ahead of time of its power needs, past consumption, and the possibility that the Village may be asked in the future to supply power to it. Comm. Blackwell is confused by the title of this topic. He alerts us that it is not as simple as we are making it appear. DMO Lotkowitz states that he needs 2-3 years of power bills from the SRC in order to give them to Mark Guidaro. Trustee Angelillo will ask Town Supervisor Terri Roney for the bills in question. He also wants to put it on the record that he has already asked the Village board to authorize the cost of the Wilson & Wilson study, but they said no. Comm. Blackler stated that the contract with National Grid will be completed in a few more years. The center can then hook up to the village electric without a stranded cost penalty and save the members and taxpayers a lot of money. Comm. Moffa requested that the heading on this topic be switched to: MEUA Assistance-SRC Power Evaluation, since Wilson & Wilson are not performing a report.

CMOM Draft DMO Lotkowitz circulated three reports for review purposes. Recipients were: Comm. Moffa, Comm. Dolmatch and Trustee Angelillo. They will review and comment at a later date.

Status of NYMPA Solar Power System Host Site

DMO Lotkowitz stated that he will work on this next.

Status of Verizon Wireless Antenna Relocation

DMO Lotkowitz expressed concern about the contract due to an email that was sent this afternoon by Attorney Byrne. He stated that Verizon is not happy with the financial terms and that there are a few items he needs to take a look at for Attorney Byrne. He didn't get a chance to review it in its entirety. Trustee Angelillo and Comm. Moffa both referred to their copies of the email (same) and felt positive about the information contained therein. They both felt that normal negotiating was taking place and that it is normal pushback. DMO Lotkowitz will provide Attorney Byrne with the requested information.

Status of Turbidity Notification

The notices were mailed to Village residents on January 5, 2010. DMO Lotkowitz announced that he has a strategy he'd like to question the Department of Health on. Reports are done every four hours at midnight, 4 a.m., 8 a.m., noon, & 4 p.m. DMO Lotkowitz proceeded to explain what he had explained at the previous meeting, when Comm. Hubbard brought that to everyone's attention. DMO Lotkowitz said he didn't want to go through it again. No progress to report. He will contact the DOH.

Clough Harbour & Associates History

Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Couch copied Municipal Board members on page 4 of the minutes from the regular Village Board of Trustees meeting on August 25, 2008. CHA's proposal of August 15, 2008 was authorized by the Village Board. The proposal is to evaluate and make recommendations with regard to the Village's electrical system at a not-to-exceed cost of \$12,000 with the stipulation that the Municipal Board monitor progress of the work.

AMR Status

DMO Lotkowitz showed the Commissioners his most recent spreadsheet reflecting activity/overages for the project to date. Comm. Blackwell asked which Town District water meters had been installed and how the AMR readings compared to their past manually entered annual readings. DMO Lotkowitz responded that District 1's had been installed, but he didn't know the readings' performance history. Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Clark was asked to produce a report at that time. Unable to do so, she noted that Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Couch receives manual readings from the Town and maintains a spreadsheet from which she produces a manual voucher for the Town. DMO Lotkowitz will request that information of her. Comm. Blackwell is eager to determine two things: 1) He wants the District meters to get installed so that the savings can begin and 2) He wants to know where the project is headed. It has been drawn out much too long. Comm. Hubbard agreed and wondered how long it will take the water meters to be completely installed at the rate of 30/month. DMO Lotkowitz approximated that a third of the Village's water meters have been installed. He will check the actual schedule of appointments and verify. It is agreed amongst the commissioners that an actual number of meters that need to be replaced has not been determined. Numbers given by previous DMO Hunt, may be inaccurate. Comm. Moffa commented that we should continue to proceed with the project and replace any that need to be replaced. Comm. Dolmatch requested that the meters be evaluated this current cycle of meter readings and an accurate count be obtained. Comm. Hubbard stated that this project needs to move along or we will be discussing this three years from now. Comm. Blackwell asked what we have paid for in the project. DMO Lotkowitz stated that we haven't paid for anything yet, other than the meters. Comm. Blackwell asked why we are paying for anything, when Phase 1 has not been completed. After some additional questions on the costs, Comm. Moffa stated that the VB had approved the additional costs and offered that any project that is only 15% over budget is well within the overage of a typical project. He halted any further discussion on the AMR since it wasn't constructive.

NEW BUSINESS

Hydropower Withdrawals

DMO Lotkowitz stated that Comm. Blackwell summarized it very well in the email to Attorney Byrne.

Ad Hoc Committee

Comm. Moffa stated that at the last meeting, former Comm. Roney announced that he would consider chairing the committee on Alternative-Energy Technologies. Comm. Moffa understands that it would be a committee reporting to the Municipal Board on an interim basis. The Municipal Board would endorse first and then pass on to the Village Board. Comm. Moffa would like Mr. Roney to explain the details himself at the next meeting. Mayor Green is in favor of the initiative, but would like Comm. Moffa to report on the intent, composition and schedule of the Ad Hoc Committee to the Village Board before proceeding. The committee will, for the present time, be referred to as the Alternative Energy Technology (AET) Committee

NYISO-Notice of Data Requests for 2010

DMO Lotkowitz explained that he received an email regarding this. No further discussion took place.

Next Meeting

It is agreed that the next meeting will take place on February 22, 2010, as Comm. Moffa is unavailable on the regular meeting date.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Audrey C. Clark
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer