

**VILLAGE OF SKANEATELES
MUNICIPAL BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – October 22, 2014**

Present: Chairman Moffa, Commissioners Blackler and Hall, Advisor Dienst, Electric & Water Superintendant Allan Abbott, Trustee Stokes-Cawley, Trustee Lanning.

Minutes: On motion of Comm. Hall, seconded by Chairman Moffa, the minutes from the meeting of September, 24, 2014 were approved as submitted.

Chairman Moffa called the meeting to order at 6:41 pm.

Unit substation. Advisor Dienst reported that our hoped-for preferred site, the Town-owned site in the Village, is not available for use. The Town did not want to encumber it as it may be sold in the future. This was preferred because of its immediate access to the two Fennel Street feeders. The alternate preferred location now under review for the new electric substation is the location adjacent to the DPW and WWTP. A survey of this site is now being completed to ensure that the unit can be located on land which is already part of the Village, near where the spoils piles are located currently. That would preclude any Town Zoning issues coming into play. It is within easy access of the 34.5KV tap that National Grid has running through this area. In the last couple of weeks the Village has executed and returned to National Grid the agreement that initiates the study by National Grid and NYSEG regarding the ability to tap into the 34.5KV line and the method to do so. The Village has made a \$25,000 deposit to cover their costs, with any unused portion to be returned. The unit is still located in Bath; plan to keep the unit heated and stored in Bath until the site is ready with site work probably beginning in early spring. The need for completion of the Environmental Assessment Form was discussed and the Municipal Board agreed that it would be the sponsor submitting this document for review by the Trustees under SEQRA. The Board heard the explanation of the preliminary oil-containment plan envisioned by CHA that involves the use of a non-permeable membrane liner for the containment vessel and berm.

Recloser controllers. The new recloser controllers have been received to replace the current units which are obsolete. We are awaiting CHA's specification of trip settings; then will proceed to install the new recloser controllers at the main substation.

LED street lighting. The Board wants to keep this as a front-burner topic. Chairman Moffa had contacted Ephesus (supplier of the two Thayer Park demo units). They are no longer pursuing municipal business; they are having greater success with ball fields and sports arenas. They could make no referrals but warned against engaging any company that is heavily reliant on Chinese product. Chairman Moffa has asked Bob Lotkowitz for the other contacts that he had spoken to. The Board's goal is to generate multiple proposals for the Village to consider. Mr. Moffa noted this was an element in the recently-adopted Climate Action Plan.

Underground Service. Mr. Abbott reported that the small phase to replace poles on the south side of Fennell Street is underway as part of the feed for the Teasel Barn project at 21 Fennell

street. Brillo is doing the excavating for conduits. The Kinney Drug transformer would be fed from the back. Mr. Abbott is concerned about the responsiveness of Verizon and Time Warner Cable in performing their transfers of service drops off the poles and into the underground conduits. The Village's contact at TWC has left. We will need to ensure that their original estimate remains unchanged. Verizon has never provided a complete quote; they gave a limited estimate for entry into their Central Office from the street of some \$200,000.

Community Center. Chairman Moffa noted that in some informal discussions recently, the incorporation of green alternatives as part of the Community Center expansion arose. Mr. Moffa stated that he wanted to reach out to Charlie Wallace of the Community Center to have a single-purpose meeting to discuss the center's future development track and plans to include green initiatives to mitigate usage. Advisor Dienst will assist Chairman Moffa. The Board believes that the center has opportunities to save energy and therefore costs. The Board believes that Chris Carrick of CNYRPDB may have had a discussion with them as well; Mr. Dundon will inquire. Chairman Moffa noted that the cost of solar panels had dropped to \$2.50 per watt, and may well be less now. While the YMCA may not be able to get a grant, the green initiatives may well be prudent to pursue. A leasing arrangement might be a good fit.

DMO position. Mr. Dundon reported that interviews continue.

AMR. Mr. Abbott said that installs would resume after current priority work is accomplished, such as the cross-tie and the Fennell Street implementation. There was some discussion over the decline in current failure rates, though further analysis is necessary to analyze past failures. Mr. Abbott believes that the failures are related to first-generation meters; the performance of later units seems better. The one-year warranty period runs from date of purchase rather than from date of first installation. The Board would like to review the EJP contract to ensure that the supplier is performing to their contract obligations. Mr. Dundon will obtain it and get it to Comm. Hall for review. From the February 2014 minutes DMO Lotkowitz reported, *"The rough count of remaining meters is 127 water and 223 electric, though many of the electric meters will not be done since they are on streetlights and other village services. Most of them are in the Downtown District with the stores."*

Demand Response. Mr. Abbott reported that he had become aware of a company that might have a more lucrative demand response arrangement than Constellation Energy. Mr. Abbott will get the company information to Mr. Dienst. It is the Board's understanding that the agreement with Constellation has not been executed.

The Board agreed that the following topics will be updated for the next meeting:

Climate Action Plan

CNY Solar Ready program

Water System Plan

Electric System Master Plan

NYS Unified Solar Permit. Trustee Stokes-Cawley explained that this is an effort to help reduce some of the soft costs of solar energy deployment by standardizing and streamlining the permitting process throughout many communities. We have an opportunity to customize the

permit terms and establish fees based on our circumstances. If the Village adopts this approach we will get \$2,500. The Board questioned if this would be a positive or a negative for the CEO? Trustee Lanning indicated that he has partnered with Earthworks Ministry to launch Solarize Skaneateles, which will attempt to use aggregate buying power to make solar more affordable, by presenting a vendor with multiple installation opportunities. Net metering policies and procedures will have to be developed by the Village since it is required by state law.

Solarize NY program. Ms. Stokes-Cawley explained that this was a program to advance larger scale installations of solar generation for municipality applications. Mr. Dundon is to follow up with Chris Carrick to see if any projects were discussed during Climate Action Plan development, including the Community Center. Mr. Dienst will follow up with Bob Lotkowitz to ascertain if there are restrictions on electrical generation in communities with municipal power systems [May 2014 minutes - *DMO Lotkowitz stated that under NYMPA rules, the Village municipal electric company may not develop its own generating capacity unless it is targeted for a specific customer. In essence it must be installed "behind the meter." The idea of the City of Syracuse generating hydro power at the dam was discussed.*]

Next Meeting. The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday November 19, 2014 at 6:30 pm. It will be limited to one hour in length, since the Historical Landmarks Preservation Commission meets at 7:30 on that date.

On motion of Comm. Hall, seconded by Comm. Blackler the meeting was adjourned at 7:48 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Dundon, Clerk to the Boards