

**VILLAGE OF SKANEATELES
MUNICIPAL BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – April 22, 2015**

Present: Chairman Moffa, Commissioner Blackler, Commissioner Hall, Advisor Dienst, Village Trustee Stokes-Cawley, Rich Ladouceur Solvay, NY (Solvay Electric Supply), Norman Traino Baldwinsville, NY (Cree Lighting), David Colegrove

Chairman Moffa called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm.

Approval of Minutes. Upon motion of Comm. Hall, seconded by Chairman Moffa, the minutes of the March 25, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved as corrected.

Electric System Master Plan. Advisor Dienst reported that he and DMO Harty have yet to meet to conclude the wrap-up of this document, due to vacation travels. Chairman Moffa noted that Alan Dolmatch is back in town and as the primary author of the document, might be able to conclude the changes easily. Mr. Dienst said that he would contact Mr. Dolmatch.

DMO Harty apprised the Board of the PSC meter testing requirements. There is a need to do both acceptance testing before meters are placed into service and also in-service testing to ensure meters are continuing to operate correctly. Since the technology has migrated to all solid state meters, the test equipment must be upgraded to keep pace. Choices include fixed location equipment that can do acceptance testing and portable equipment that can be taken to the premises to perform tests in the event of meters complaints. Some equipment can test only single-phase meters, some can test 3-phase meters. Radian has a test equipment unit that can test all meters and can be used portably. While a more expensive unit, its capabilities allow it to be cost-effective when compared to multiple units. **On motion of Comm. Hall, seconded by Comm. Blackler, the Board unanimously endorsed her recommendation to acquire Radian test equipment at a cost of \$18K. Advisor Dienst agreed that it was a reasonable approach.**

Unit substation. DMO Harty discussed progress made in the implementation of the new substation. Things are moving fast. National Grid was on site today to make site decisions. Soil borings are complete and the foundations are being designed. Soil resistivity testing will provide the foundation for the grounding grid design. An initial estimate for rigging services is \$32K - \$45K. The May meeting will consider craning, containment and foundation slab approvals.

AMR. DMO Harty stated that we will be scheduling water meter replacements on Fridays. Information has gone out to the first group of residents, and appointments are being set.

NY Prize competition. DMO Harty discussed that the Village will be pursuing the NY Prize grant opportunity that would fund a feasibility study for development of a micro-grid that would provide energy independence for the WWTP, the schools and the Community Center, in which power to those locations could be provided by alternative energy sources constructed at WWTP. Chairman Moffa asked if we were receiving letters of support from stakeholders. Comm. Hall

noted that applications are due by May 15. DMO Harty is working on the application with Brian Pincelli of CNYRPDB.

Water System. DMO Harty stated that the current schedule is to go to bid at the end of May, with construction taking place this summer outside the school year.

Village Hall/NYSERDA Grant – DMO Harty reported that she has been conducting an energy analysis on building performance – comparing solar production vs. consumption. Production of 54 MWH during 2014 was slightly under our expectations, which consumption ran at 56 MWH. In doing the system commissioning, DMO discovered that one PV string was underperforming by some 4 MWH due to a defective fuse. One of the HVAC components that should have been operating only when the building was occupied was in fact running 24X7; estimated to consume 1.5 to 2 MWH. These fixes made to the HVAC system operation and the current performance of the solar PV system should move the building clearly into net zero energy operation, and will probably make it a net producer of energy. NYSERDA is excited about the performance that the Village should be able to document. Any excess power will offset purchased power needs.

DMO went on to discuss the opportunity to deploy four additional solar panels in the canopy area in the front of the building. Doing so can enhance the project's value as an educational demonstration by making the solar capability of the Village Hall more apparent. It can also help overcome part of our winter deficiency seen this year because of snow cover. DMO believes each panel can produce considerable additional solar energy. These additional panels can be placed into service for a total cost of \$5K (inverters & installation), which can be covered under the NYSERDA grant by rearranging some of the contributory costs. **It was the unanimous consensus of the Board that the Village Trustees should move ahead with this project.**

SU Senior Project – The SU students are working diligently, according to their advisor.

Demand Response – DMO Harty said that she is still awaiting implementation details from Cpower.

EV Connect Charging Stations - The units are operational and available for use. The Board-approved charge of \$0.25 per KWH has been implemented. DMO Harty has given interviews to the *Skaneateles Journal* and the *Skaneateles Press*. The Board suggested that the Village include an informational flyer in the May utility billing, to publicize their availability. Completed.

LED street lighting. Comm. Hall stated that the Village was exploring the replacement of both cobra head and decorative fixtures with LED equipment. He introduced Rich Ladouceur of Solvay Electric Supply and Norman Traino of Cree Lighting who presented information on their experience in supplying LED municipal street lighting replacement fixtures. A total of 800 fixtures were deployed in Solvay and another 400 units in the Town of Geddes. Higher wattage units were deployed on main roads, with lower wattage units on secondary streets. Only 2-3 units were returned and they were found to have been mis-wired. The product has proved to be very reliable. Solvay's first order was in 2010, so the program is in its 5th year of operation.

Mr. Traino explained the rigorous testing program that Cree employs involving bench testing of components and operational testing of completed units. The LED unit carries a 10 year

warranty. Cree makes all its own LEDs and fixtures. He explained that the fixtures are scalable from 30 LEDs up to 140 LEDs. While 30 LEDs is generally equivalent to a 150W conventional fixture, pole heights can differ. So Cree designers would actually study the area's photometrics in order to specify the specific fixtures needed to deliver the required or recommended lighting levels. The 30 LED unit puts out 5,000 lumens and has a rated life of 100,000 hours for the lamps; at energy savings of 60% to 70%. Cree products are made in the USA, with the drivers sourced from Phillips. The typical outdoor fixture light is 5,700 Kelvin so it is a more blue light. Turtle lights are available with more yellow spectrum lighting. The units are available with photocells, which can be networked to a central control location.

Chairman Moffa asked if the intensity were adjustable? It is not, but Mr. Traino explained that shields are placed on the individual lamps to direct the lighting, such as on the house side of the fixture to reduce second-story illumination. Comm. Hall asked if trial units were available? Mr. Traino said yes, that if the Village picked the locations, Cree would recommend the correct fixtures. DMO Harty offered that the Village could provide its GIS database, which contains the coordinates of each fixture and should allow the calculation of height. Trustee Stokes-Cawley suggested that one location for a trial fixture should be right in front of Village Hall.

Advisor Dienst said that the Board would have to study the economics. Comm. Hall said that the existing fixtures are working but have regular replacements. Adv. Dienst suggested that one strategy could be to switch to LED as the existing fixtures fail. Mr. Ladouceur said that he could calculate payback if he knew the wattages. Typically payback is less than 5 years, but not at municipal electric rates. DMO Harty said that while this change would save energy, the greater savings may come from reduced maintenance. Mr. Traino suggested that the current fixtures may need replacement every two years. Any lighting changes would have to be funded through the Light Dept. budget. The Village has a total of 339 street lighting fixtures, with approximately 100 of them being the ornamental type. Cree would have to research our units to determine retrofit capability. Cree would allow a 60 day return policy. Warranty is handled by replace and return.

Chairman Moffa said that the recently-adopted Climate Action Plan quantified the benefit in converting to LED lighting. He has forwarded the addendum that supports the calculations to DMO Harty. **Comm. Hall asked if it was the sense of the Board to furnish Solvay Electric Supply and Cree with the GIS data and a cut sheet describing our ornamental fixtures? All members are in favor of doing so.** Comm. Blackler suggested that a trial include one in front of Village Hall, one on the east side of St. James Church, and one in a neighborhood such as Parkside. Chairman Moffa requested that Comm. Hall retain the leadership responsibility for this inquiry.

Next meeting. After discussion, all agreed that the next meeting be scheduled as anticipated on **May 27, 2015 at 6:00 pm.**

Upon motion of Comm. Hall, seconded by Comm. Blackler, the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Dundon, Clerk to the Boards