

**VILLAGE OF SKANEATELES
MUNICIPAL BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – June 26, 2018**

Present: Chairman McQuaid, Commissioners Angelillo, Blackler, Elliott, and Rhoads, DMO Harty, Deputy Robinson, Trustee Stokes-Cawley.

Excused: Commissioner Palmer

Chairman McQuaid called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

ADMINISTRATION

Minutes. Upon motion of Chairman McQuaid, seconded by Comm. Angelillo, the minutes of May 22, 2018 were unanimously approved as submitted.

Introduction of Miranda Robinson. Chairman McQuaid welcomed Miranda Robinson as Deputy DMO and explained the purpose and processes of the municipal board. She recapped that while the Board has an involved agenda, that usually DMO Harty chooses what she wants to talk about. The Board has an objective to keep the meeting to one hour. Chairman McQuaid then stated that the Board is all volunteers of varied backgrounds and that Trustee Stokes-Cawley brings major issues from the Village Board. The Municipal Board helps with project approvals, capital investments, financial planning and utility management, much like a private sector Board of Directors. Its role is not to represent the Village publicly, nor to privately represent any individual interests.

Chairman McQuaid then asked all members present to make a brief personal introduction.

- Mary Ellen McQuaid – National Grid – metering and billing technology
- Marc Angelillo – former Trustee – industrial water treatment business
- Tom Elliott – National Grid – estimating and risk management with a background in civil, electrical and environmental engineering design.
- Walt Blackler – Apple grower, former Trustee – user of water and electric systems
- Carol Stokes-Cawley – liaison to Board of Trustees
- Tom Rhoads – Onondaga County – help to make dirty water clean

Electric Utility

General & Financials. DMO Harty reported that the Electric Fund was up \$140,000 year over year due to a decrease in expenditures due to reduced storm damages and recovery of funds from Parkside and transfers from other funds within the Village.

NYMPA/MEUA. Chairman McQuaid reported that she attended the NYMPA Annual Meeting. The group has a solution for the Bitcoin scenario by ensuring that costs are appropriately charged to the consumer; applications are handled and priced on a case-by-case basis. Carbon pricing is coming; the PSC will develop a proposed program and the ISO will implement it. There will be an offshore REC called OREC. Only one company will be impacted.

Operational projects.

- **Storm Assessment.** No comment at the meeting.
- **Substation.** No comment at the meeting.
- **AMR Deployment.** No comment at the meeting.
- **LED Street Lighting.** No comment at the meeting.

Water Utility

General and Financials. DMO Harty reported that the water fund ended with a balance of \$535,000. While an operating loss of \$245,000 was budgeted, the actual performance was deficit of only \$42,000 due to lower expenditures, labor vacancy, delay of the water main project, and a decrease in water main repair expense. Water rates are being analyzed in light of the expected debt service. Village water usage has been trending down (44%) and Town usage has been trending up (56%).

Operational Projects

- **Water Main Capital Project**

The Village Board completed the SEQR and bond resolution for the water main capital project. the anticipated schedule is for the Board to authorize bid advertising with submissions due 7/30 and award on 8/9. Paving on East Lake Street by DOT is to begin in October. The contract will encourage the contractor's urgency to complete the East Lake Street portion of the project via liquidated damages.

- **Sensus Conversion.** No comment at the meeting.

Additional Topics.

- **Blue Green Algae Treatment**

DMO Harty and Deputy Robinson discussed with the Board the more important HAB area stating that what the Village currently has as treatment options work -- now and for the next few years. Extended chlorine contact is a viable solution. At the recent DOH meeting the Village was requested to submit an action plan by July 31, to address operations reconfiguration, communication with residents, communication with emergency responders, protection of the

water source, and isolation and protection of finished water. This action plan is Deputy Robinson's first priority.

This year the Village will be doing the sampling within the distribution system, probably at the high school which is the first customer after the water tanks' contact time. The City of Syracuse will handle sampling at the intakes and at the gatehouse wells; weekly beginning in June. Samples will go to COS and be processed by labs at a cost of \$200 per sample. There are now approved labs in Syracuse and Ithaca for public drinking water evaluation. Every sample taken by Village personnel on Saturday or Sunday will involve a call-out. These costs have not been budgeted. DOH says the clarity of the lake is at a 20 year high. DOH says the GHD-proposed jar testing is not necessary at this time.

The County will be the clearinghouse for results like last year. A detection level of 0.15 at the City intake or presence of a confirmed bloom, when verified, will kick off our distribution system reconfiguration for extended contact time.

Comm. Rhoads observed that at the public meeting there seemed to be a great concern on the part of those who draw water directly from the lake, especially emergency distribution of drinking water. Skaneateles Lake Association is recruiting monitors for physical monitoring at tributaries and gathering samples. Public messaging will be important.

Comm. Angelillo noted that as more frequent or widespread testing is done, the likelihood of finding something will increase. DMO Harty recounted that while the toxins were at the intakes, they made it to the gatehouse, but they were never detected in finished drinking water made available by the Village. The Board discussed the importance and difficulty of consistent and accurate messaging in a social media world.

There does not seem to be a present need to undertake any additional capital expenditures for other treatment methods.

Sewer Utility

General & Financials. DMO Harty reported that the sewer fund ended with a balance of \$203K as a result of a \$90,000 surplus generated by lower than expected expenses and income from the I&I fees from the Mexican restaurant.

The SPDES permit renewal is 95% done and will be submitted on time.

Other Matters Considered by the Board.

- Historic Fixed-Price Transmission Congestion Contracts. These are financial instruments to hedge spot market purchases of electricity required above the Village's hydropower allocation. DMO Harty said they have worked to protect us from volatility and there is

no reason to not continue. Any fees are passed through in our billing. The period from December 26 through January 7 was the coldest in 100 years. **On motion of Comm. Angelillo, seconded by Comm. Elliott, the Board unanimously recommended renewal to the Trustees.**

- **Critical Impact Permits.** The Board discussed its processes for providing this new recommendation process, including that its opinion is specifically desired on the impact of a project on Village infrastructure for water, sewer and electric, as well as levels of I&I fees. Streamlining of the referral notification process needs to happen. The Board also discussed the information that it needed in order to reach such a conclusion and asked the DMO staff as an action item to create a form to collect existing and proposed utility consumption data that can be made part of the building permit application.
- **Critical Impact 44 State Street.** After discussion, on motion of Comm. Blackler, seconded by Chairman McQuaid, the Board refers the matter back to the Planning Board without a recommendation due to an incomplete application, and asks that the Planning Board obtain the existing and proposed average and peak utility requirements for water, sewer and electric, as well as an engineered plan on how and where utility services are to be connected and routed.
- **Critical Impact 37 Jordan Street.** After discussion, on motion of Chairman McQuaid, seconded by Comm. Angelillo, the Board refers the matter back to the Planning Board without a recommendation due to an incomplete application, and asks that the Planning Board obtain the existing and proposed utility requirements for water, sewer and electric. The existing usage should be compiled by year for each of the previous five (5) years.
- **DEC Report on enhanced lake monitoring action plan.** DMO Harty hit several high points which relate to watershed management; most of which are already being done. COS spends \$600,000 per year in watershed monitoring currently.

Meeting Dates. The July meeting will be held on July 24, 2018 at 6:00 pm.

On motion of Chairman McQuaid, seconded by Comm. Angelillo, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 7:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Dundon, Clerk to the Boards