

VILLAGE OF SKANEATELES
MUNICIPAL BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING – April 24, 2013

Present: Chairman Peter Moffa, Commissioners Blackler, and Hall. DMO Lotkowitz. Village Trustee Lanning. SFD Leaders Jim Buff and Dick Perkins. Carrie Chantler *Skaneateles Journal* and Joe Genco *Skaneateles Press*.

Minutes: On motion of Comm. Blackler, seconded by Comm. Hall, the minutes from the meeting of March 27, 2012 were approved unanimously by the members present as submitted.

Chairman Moffa called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Before going further, Chairman Moffa announced the resignation of Member David Blackwell. The Chair said, “I wanted to express my gratitude for his active and dedicated input. We will miss the efforts that he has always been known to put into an issue. The Municipal Board is grateful for his many years of service.”

AMR – DMO Lotkowitz reported installation of 27 water meters and 1 electric meter, so progress is continuing. DMO thinks we are getting close to the end of the water meters; leaving fewer than 120 water meters to complete. Knocking on doors to set appointments seems to be the most effective way to catch people at home.

Community Center – DMO Lotkowitz reported that the upcoming meeting involving himself, Chairman Moffa and Community Center personnel is in the process of being rescheduled. That meeting is to update the schedule for the infrastructure construction needed to provide the Village’s electric service to the Community Center. They are also going to review two recent reports on potential energy conservation. While the NYSERDA report did not address lighting, that would seem to be the source for substantial savings. Mr. Buff characterized it “as low-hanging fruit.” Chairman Moffa recounted his experience of seeing daylight coming through the skylights while artificial lighting is also being used. He projected that use of LED fixtures and appropriate controls could provide savings. DMO mentioned that discontinuing refrigeration for the dehumidification and updating controls would be beneficial. Mr. Buff stated that the Johnson Controls that were put in are excellent, but he asserts that they are not being used.

Chairman Moffa observed that the use of long-life LED lighting fixtures could improve the arduous process of changing fluorescent tubes – especially over the pool where scaffolding must be used. Mr. Buff stated that part of the problem is that everything is on a single switch; there is no way to isolate sections. DMO reported that a company called Six Nines Power is developing an energy storage modeling program and want to do a demonstration project. They are looking at 3 municipal power systems – Arcade, Solvay and Skaneateles. The next level may be a project to do energy storage – shaving the peaks and filling the valleys to provide a more efficient utilization of power. This company uses battery storage. Chairman Moffa mentioned a relatively new technology out of MIT called liquid metal.

URD Serv.-Fennell/Jordan Streets Design - DMO Lotkowitz reported that there was no update on URD service except to note that work is in progress to install the new transformer and UG feed into the new Village Hall. That transformer will also serve the adjacent senior housing.

Master Plan of Village Electric System – DMO Lotkowitz reported that he will be meeting with CHA next week to get this project moving. Recognizing the importance of timely completion of this work, CHA will assist in the push to final completion.

Ephesus Technologies Demo of LED Street Lighting – DMO commented that the LED streetlights have been demonstrated to work and use less energy, but Ephesus Technologies needs to be taken out of the equation and a more mainstream vendor considered.

Parkside Subdivision, Section 4 – On the new Section of Parkside Subdivision that is before the Planning Board, the MB has been asked to comment on water pressure impacts on service to 18 additional lots. DMO feels that pressure should not be an issue there since the area is served by a loop that connects Fennell with Elizabeth – a brand-new 8 inch main.

The street lighting technology (LED vs. Sodium) was also raised by PB. DMO said that street lighting is implemented by the Village using funds from an escrow account funded by the developers. Thus the technology will be consistent with the Village's overall direction.

Water System Asset Management Plan and Study – The Board turned to the Water System Asset Management Plan and Study that was conducted by GHD and reviewed by the Board and the Trustees at the March meeting. DMO had copies of the handouts from the GHD presentation and made them available. He recapped the methodology and findings, including:

- The current assets currently deployed within the system, including the location and sizing of pipes.
- The pump station that is connected to the City of Syracuse wells and pumps water through the transmission main to the water towers on East Street. It is housed in the cylindrical tank for 300 minutes and then makes its way to the adjacent storage tank. Since the cylindrical chlorine contact tank was first installed, the Village has implemented its UV disinfection system that reduces the required contact time.
- During maximum day conditions, the fire flow availability at several hydrants was studied. The results are contrasted with the much higher recommended fire flows specified by the ISO. Those are calculated based on type of building construction and density within the community.
- During average day conditions, pressures were measured throughout the system. On the east side of the Village, some of those pressures are below the 35 psi minimums specified by the Department of Health. The Department of Health recommends 35 psi minimum normal working pressure, with pressures never allowed below 20 psi under maximum demand conditions.
- The recommended improvements include the use of connections of the distribution system to the transmission main that are possible because of the reduced chlorine contact requirements. These are recommended at the Jordan/Austin area and the northern part of East Street. The major baseline improvement was the installation of a replacement 12 inch main from the tank site down east street to Onondaga Street, and a replacement 8 inch main from Onondaga Street down East Lake Street to the Village line.
- Those improvements would make marked improvements to both the maximum day fire flows and the average day pressures
- The estimated cost for these improvements is \$1,930,000 -- to complete tie-ins to the transmission main and replacement of the mains on East Street and East Lake Street. Additionally GHD recommends the Village routinely replace any 4 inch mains; those costs are not included.

Trustee Lanning asked if those costs assumed contracting the work out [Yes] and if Village crews should be involved. DMO prefers to bid it out given the timeframe of the project.

Chairman Moffa referred to the issue of public health and fire flows as engendering considerable discussion. He explained that both issues have to be addressed and in fact are mutually integrated, since it's a single system. Because of these needs, we need to consider moving quickly on appropriate recommendations. Mr. Perkins stated that if we overdraw in the Village, Districts 2 and 3 will be out of water. Mr. Buff explained that SFD's concerns are driven by the fact that their fire district is larger than just the Village.

DMO reported that all of the Village's data and the model prepared by GHD has been given to the Town for review and analysis by C&S engineers. He said the Village is going to do what is recommended in this report for the Village. The Town needs to look at what the Town's special requirements may be on the east and west sides, due to varying elevations. Mr. Buff indicated that SFD had met with the Town as well.

Mr. Buff stated that SFD has set up a tanker operation; every department that has a tanker in our area, on a second alarm basis all the way to Homer, will be bringing water in here. The hydrant system can't handle a 1000 – 1500 GPM truck-mounted pump, even in downtown.

The question was raised by Chairman Moffa about the ability to draw water from the lake in the park. Mr. Buff and Mr. Perkins explained that the trucks might get mired in mud in the parks. A hose can't be extended from the street because the truck must be within 20 feet of the water. Mr. Perkins stated that the possibility of a dry hydrant in each park is much more feasible now because directional boring can permit access without breaching the seawall. There is a dry hydrant in the outlet near the Old Stone Mill, but access for fire trucks is often limited by parked vehicles. Mr. Buff noted that there is an unused old 10 inch line from the lake, but its usability and access is undetermined. Trustee Lanning asked about the 8 inch line near the Packwood House. DMO Lotkowitz replied that that is the access point and pump for diversion of transmission water into the distribution system. Activation of that option may cause a 'boil water' condition.

There was discussion about the City's chlorination procedures and the location of that activity. SFD asserts that the City chlorinates at the intake 100% of the time. While the city has the capability to chlorinate at the park, their practice is to do it at the intake. Mr. Buff stated that when the chlorination line was run to the park, the City could not get a road cut permit, so the Village cut the road and put the conduit in place. He believes that as a *quid pro quo* the City agreed to do the chlorination for the Village in perpetuity at a rate of one part per million. Mr. Perkins said that the City injects some 700 gallons of chlorine per day. Their maximum flow from the lake is 43 million gallons per day.

Chairman Moffa asked if the City has the ability to chlorinate at excessive levels. Mr. Buff stated that they do. Chairman Moffa explained that bacteria kill is equal to concentration times time, so higher concentrations can reduce the required contact time. The Village does have rechlorination capability installed as part of the UV disinfection system.

Chairman Moffa suggested that a meeting with the City of Syracuse officials could result in the development of a protocol to be able to tap off the transmission main at that point. Super-chlorination is a fundamentally understood treatment in such conditions. If the City concurs, both parties can approach the Health Department for approval.

Chairman Moffa continued that he sees the need for two motions related to the recommendations. First, for the system improvements that are proposed by GHD in the amount of \$1,930,000 and second, that the Village meet with the City and develop a protocol for implementation under fire conditions. He asked for a motion.

On motion of Comm. Hall, seconded by Comm. Blackler the Municipal Board recommends to the Village Board that it proceed with the improvements as recommended by GHD, totaling \$1.93 million. The Municipal Board believes that this project should be well underway this summer. The overall replacement of 4 inch mains should be an ongoing project during street replacement activities. Upon the unanimous vote of the Commissioners present the motion was approved 3-0.

On motion of Chairman Moffa, seconded by Comm. Hall the Municipal Board recommends that the Village meet with the City of Syracuse as soon as possible to discuss the steps that could be taken, should there be a fire, to tap off that 8 inch main, while protecting public health by increasing chlorination levels. Once the technical aspects of that protocol are determined, then to meet with the County Health Department to gain their approval for such protocol as well as to obtain a permanent reduction in contact time requirements based on the GHD findings. Upon the unanimous vote of the Commissioners present the motion was approved 3-0.

Comm. Blackler suggested that we need a separate pump from the lake to hydrants. Mr. Buff stated that SFD has secured an arrangement with Cayuga County Emergency Management to use their 1500 GPM trailer-mounted pump with 30 feet of suction hose stored at the Sennett FD. They will bring it to Skaneateles under mutual aid. Mr. Perkins has met with the Town. Since the ground reservoirs must be taken off-line for potable water, the Town will install a fire hydrant connected to the 700,000 gallons of water in those reservoirs for fire-fighting use to fill tankers.

Chairman Moffa said that the County Health Department has taken a stringent view of things, given the condition where you have no alternative but to alert the Village residents about the 'boil water' order. That's where there is a high risk, because if you don't touch all bases there can be wide-spread consequences; even one case can be deadly. Mr. Buff said the Chiefs fully understand that the Health Department has said that you can hit a hydrant for life safety. Chairman Moffa said that the Board would like to see that directive in writing. DMO felt that was not wholly consistent with the letter sent to the Village by the Health Department.

Next meeting – The Board agreed to hold its next meeting on May 22, 2013.

The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 8:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dennis Dundon
Clerk to the Boards