



TOWN OF KINGSTON
BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
OPEN SESSION
WATER DEPT OFFICE - 22 ELM ST, MICHAEL J.
MACPHERSON MEETING ROOM & VIA ZOOM
JULY 26, 2022

3:30 PM – CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Richard W. Loring, Jr. called the meeting to order at 3:30pm.

In attendance were Kristen Berger of Resilient CE, Mike Carmasine and Mike Ohl of Comprehensive Environmental, Inc, Commissioner Robert Kostka, Foreman Chris Veracka, Superintendent Matt Darsch and Clerk Stacey Smith.

Vice Chairman Robert Erlandsen had not arrived yet.

APPROVAL OF DEPARTMENT BILL SCHEDULES:

Departmental bill schedules were presented and signed.

MEETING MINUTES:

VOTE TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 28, 2022 AND JULY 12, 2022

The minutes were held off on voting until the full board was present.

At approximately 4:05pm, Vice Chairman Erlandsen made the motion to approve the minutes of June 28, 2022. Chairman Loring seconded the motion. Commissioner Kostka abstained as he was not present for the meeting. The motion was voted 2-0-1 to approve the minutes of June 28, 2022.

Commissioner Kostka made the motion to approve the minutes of July 12, 2022. Chairman Loring seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Erlandsen abstained as he was not present for the meeting. The motion was voted 2-0-1 to approve the minutes of July 12, 2022.

APPOINTMENTS:

MIKE OHL & MIKE CARMASINE OF CEI, INC RE: GRASSY HOLE/I-86 TREATMENT PLANT

*STATUS ON REQUEST TO MASS DEP FOR OPERATION AS A SATELLITE FACILITY

*STATUS ON PUNCHLIST FOR WINSTON BUILDERS

Mr. Ohl stated he had better news than last time when the plant had stopped operating. The critical issues, such as the series of leaks with the chemical feed fittings and connectors and the pumps not being operational all contributed to the stop of the plant operation. Additionally, with the recent high humidity and warm temperatures, the dehumidifier isn't working. Mr. Ohl said he met with the contractor and the pump supplier. The pump had been found to be defective and related to air binding due to the contractor changing some of the fittings. The plant did go back online. It was discovered in one of the three pumps, the hydraulic fluid was discolored. The pump supplier took the pump back, as clearly something is wearing in a brand new pump, and left the remaining two pumps. A spare pump has been placed back in as a duty pump. The defective KOH pump has been sent back to the supplier and we are awaiting resolution. Mr. Ohl stated he is requiring a new pump. It will not be a refurbished one. He added, in the meantime, the supplier has provided a spare albeit a slightly different type.

Ms. Berger stated it is a completely different style parastatic pump and one in which the Town has had no training to

operate. She added, right now it's in a box in the office here and it's really useless.

Chairman Loring asked about the materials as there was a question last time regarding the use of aluminum versus stainless steel. Mr. Ohl responded, that the adjustment sleeve on the knobs are aluminum and should be stainless steel. That remains on the checklist of items to be addressed. He added, the chemical feed fittings have been replaced by the contractor and are being monitored.

Chairman Loring asked, by whom they are monitored. Mr. Ohl stated, the town is monitoring as part of the ongoing operations of the plant.

Chairman Loring said, he is concerned when there is punch list including an item that needs to be watched, and we are watching for issues that the contractor is ultimately responsible for.

Superintendent Darsch stated another issue was the tubing and the elbows, the solid sleeves, were splitting. This seems to have been corrected with new pieces.

Mr. Ohl said regarding the dehumidifiers, the contractor has placed temporary dehumidifiers in the location.

They should have been commercial industrial type humidifiers. Superintendent Darsch stated they added one more today. Ms. Berger stated, the equipment is sweating so much that bolts on the equipment are rusting. These will all need to be properly cleaned. She suggested commercial dehumidifiers be installed. Commissioner Kostka agreed, commercial dehumidifiers need to be in place. Mr. Ohl stated the issue is with the condenser outside the building.

Mr. Ohl stated the other item that has come up since our last meeting is the generator isn't starting. Superintendent Darsch added that it starts it just won't run a load. Mr. Ohl said this is despite it having run a load for approximately 4-5 hours during start up. This needs to be addressed and fixed immediately.

Chairman Loring stated, define immediately. He went on to add, this problem has existed since our last meeting two weeks ago with the dehumidifier and it is still not corrected. Discussion continued regarding the immediacy not being stressed with the contractor and the importance of having this treatment plant running at 100%. Chairman Loring said he is concerned about the integrity of the inside of the plant being compromised with an inadequate dehumidifier.

Commissioner Kostka asked about the remaining retainage and how long this could be held. Mr. Ohl responded, until you are satisfied, there is no set timeline. Ms. Berger explained to the Board the balance on the account and what is being requested to be paid. Chairman Loring stated he is in no hurry to sign the current pay requisition for Winston Builders due to their reluctance to respond to these issues.

Mr. Ohl stated he had issued the contractor an updated punchlist. He will also be presenting an updated change order proposals regarding the chemical feed facility. It is estimated it could be 12-16 weeks to obtain the equipment necessary. This would be work outside the SRF Program. Additionally, another item is the roofing issue regarding the gable ends of the building and the visible gaps that appear. This is not favorable as it will provide space for insects, such as wasps and hornets, to nest. He has spoken with the roofing contractor and they have come up with a closure piece that would match to the roof trim. The other outstanding change order item is the trench drain, specifically to be redirected to the dry well. That still has yet to be submitted. Mr. Carmasine said they have the price from the plumber but Winston Builders is waiting for their price to cut the slab, remove it and recast the slab.

Mr. Ohl said the last item he has today is that the request, to operate the plant as a remote satellite building, has been submitted to MassDEP. Commissioner Kostka suggested this should be easier to obtain since we have a track record with operating Trackle Pond the same way. Commissioner Kostka stated he just received a text from Vice Chairman Erlandsen that he is on his way. He didn't realize the meeting was at 3:30pm; he thought it was at 4:30pm.

Mr Carmasine updated the Board regarding the pressure relief valve (PRV) on Marion Drive which has been completed. This was waiting on the completion of Grassy Hole/I-86 Treatment. KJS, LLC has completed their work, it has been set to specific pressure limits and the check the Town had been holding can now be sent to the contractor. Superintendent Darsch said he had found some corrections that needed to be made regarding the "as built". Mr. Carmasine said, yes, those will be addressed with the final copies; he was unable to get them finished today.

KRISTEN BERGER, RESILIENT CE RE: OPM UPDATES ON GRASSY HOLE/I-86 TREATMENT PLANT

* SRF REQUEST

Ms. Berger stated she had no further updates. The SRF Program is all caught up with submittals and reimbursements received. She stated we will process the next submittal when the Board is comfortable doing so in light of all the issues discussed today. Chairman Lloring asked Ms. Berger, as the Board's representative, if she had any input regarding the contractor, Winston Builders. Ms. Berger stated she felt the contractor response has been slow. She agreed the immediacy of which they respond has not been conveyed enough.

WATER SUPERINTENDENT DEPARTMENTAL UPDATE:

PROJECTS COMING UP:

RFP FOR ENGINEERING

MAIN ST PROJECT - UTILIZATION OF ARPA FUNDS OF 400K

Ms. Smith wanted to make the Board aware of some immediate projects. The RFP for Engineering should be prepared to go out for bid as the current contract is coming to its expiration.

Superintendent Darsch stated the monies through the ARPA program totaling \$400K will need to be spent by the end of 2023.

Commissioner Kostka said we should act on the RFP sooner than later. Chairman Loring stated it's necessary to get that in place before we begin to work on the Main St project.

Commissioner Kostka made the motion to put out the RFP for General Engineering. Vice Chairman Erlandsen seconded the motion and it was voted on unanimously (3-0-0).

SANITARY SURVEY BY MASSDEP JULY 20, 2022

Superintendent Darsch stated the Sanitary Survey with MassDEP went well. There was nothing alarming that was pointed out.

Superintendent Darsch asked Mr. Ohl if he'd been able to review the materials regarding RDA for the property off Rt 44. Please refer to the discussion under Business of Water Quality Review Committee.

NEW BUSINESS:

LETTER DATED JULY 15, 2022 FROM SOUTH SHORE COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL RE: UPDATE ON LOW INCOME WATER ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Ms. Smith presented updated information regarding the South Shore Community Action Council's program for Water Assistance. She stated since she last presented the program, they have updated their deadline submittal date to September 1, 2022, which will work now with our shut-off program. She stated this program is only available to those already on fuel assistance with South Shore Community Action Council. After speaking with South Shore Community Action Council about the process and the program portal she feels confident this could be helpful in clearing up some delinquent account balances.

Commissioner Kostka made the motion to approve and accept the contract of the LIWAP, Low Income Water Assistance Program, through South Shore Community Action Council. Vice Chairman Erlandsen seconded the motion and it was voted on unanimously (3-0-0).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

EMAIL DATED 7/6/22 FROM CROWN TROPY RE: MEMORIAL PLAQUE FOR FRED D. SVENSON JR. WATER TREATMENT FACILITY

VOTE TO APPROVE THE ORDER OF THE PLAQUE

Superintendent Darsch brought the Board's attention to the memorial plaque for the new treatment plant.

Commissioner Kostka made the motion to approve the order of the cast aluminum plaque in bronze finish to be installed on the Grassy Hole/I-86 Treatment Plant.

Vice Chairman Erlandsen seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously (3-0-0).

WATER CORRESPONDENCE FROM LAST MEETING:

BUSINESS OF WATER QUALITY REVIEW COMMITTEE:

UPDATE FROM CEI ON REVIEW OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PROVIDED BY GRADY CONSULTING AND RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATE FOR 163 SUMMER/1 TREMONT ST PROJECT

Ms. Smith asked Mr. Ohl, based on his earlier email from today, was he ok with issuing a water quality certificate for the 1 Tremont/163 Summer St project. He stated, yes, based on our previous letter to the engineers that we needed to have an O & M Plan submitted. They submitted the plan, he reviewed the plan and it appears suitable. We just have to make sure all the standard conditions are in the Water Quality Certificate.

Ms. Smith asked for assistance with the wording of a water quality certificate for this project as this is the first new one she has encountered. She has only had to update existing water quality certificates up until now. Ms. Smith also inquired about the updated plans showing the new services and such that the Board has requested, and do they have to be presented prior to the issuance of Water Quality Certificate. Mr. Ohl said, yes updated plans are needed prior to the issuance of a certificate.

UPDATE FROM CEI ON REVIEW OF PLANS REGARDING THE REQUEST DETERMINATION OF APPLICABILITY (RDA) REGARDING RT44 CRANBERRY BOG PROJECT ON BEHALF OF PK REALTY TRUST

Mr. Ohl said he reviewed the RDA for the parcels to the northwest of Rt 44. He stated no specific project or use is identified in the paperwork. From his view, it appears this is an exploration of uses that are suitable for the property. Chairman Loring asked who the applicant was. Ms. Smith replied, PK Realty Trust. Chairman Loring asked, if this is definitely within the overlay district for Trackle Pond. Mr. Ohl responded, yes. Chairman Loring stated a letter will need to be sent to the Conservation Commission stating this piece of property is in the Zone 2 overlay district with multiple wells and it will need a Water Quality Certificate with whatever they want to do. He added, a letter from our engineer to us stressing the need for a water quality certificate and then, in turn, a letter from our Board to the Conservation Commission would be appropriate. Mr. Ohl stated he sent a letter via email today. Ms. Smith said it is included in the packet. After reviewing the letter, Chairman Loring said it would appear a cover letter to Conservation stressing the importance of adherence to the water overlay requirements as CEI has explained, would be sufficient.

At 4:00pm, Vice Chairman Erlandsen arrived.

Ms. Smith confirmed that a cover letter attached to CEI's letter would suffice going to Conservation. Chairman Loring stated, yes that will be fine.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

AUGUST 9, 2022 AT 3:30PM

ADJOURNMENT OF OPEN SESSION:

Prior to adjournment, Ms. Smith wanted to thank Superintendent Darsch for his service. She added, in the nine years she has worked for the water department, he has been a great boss to work for and she wishes him all the best in his retirement.

Foreman Chris Veracka stated it has been an honor to work with and learn from Matt all these years.

Commissioner Kostka made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chairman Erlandsen seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 4:15pm. (3-0-0)

ZOOM INFORMATION

TOPIC: BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

TIME: JUL 26, 2022 03:30 PM EASTERN TIME (US AND CANADA)

JOIN ZOOM MEETING

[HTTPS://US02WEB.ZOOM.US/J/87090342950?PWD=L1BMQK4Y3DBQVRVYMQZEMJWCXR1DZ09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87090342950?pwd=L1BMQkP4Y3DBQVRVYMQZEMJWCXR1DZ09)

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Respectfully submitted,

Name

Title