

RAHWAY VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

Engineering Committee Meeting

Minutes

December 6, 2018

Commissioner Lambe, Engineering Committee Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m.

Commissioner Lambe read the statement on “Open Public Meetings Law”.

“In accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, State of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by the inclusion of the date, time and place in a Notice forwarded to the Star Ledger, the Home News Tribune and the Clerk of each of the eleven member municipalities on February 6 and again November 28, 2018.

If any member of this body believes that this meeting is being held in violation of the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, please state your objection and the reasons for same at this time.”

.... Hearing no objections, we shall proceed with our regularly scheduled meeting.

Roll Call

The following members were present:

Robert M. Beiner	for the Borough of Kenilworth
Michael Furci	for the Township of Springfield
Michael J. Gelin	for the Township of Woodbridge
Stephen D. Greet	for the Borough of Garwood
Loren Harms	for the Borough of Roselle Park
Louis C. Lambe	for the Township of Cranford
Robert Rachlin	for the City of Rahway
Martin C. Rothfelder	for the Town of Westfield
John J. Tomaine	for the Borough of Mountainside

The following members were absent:

Robert B. LaCosta	for the Township of Scotch Plains
Frank G. Mazzarella	for the Township of Clark

The following were also present:

James J. Meehan	Executive Director
Karen A. Musialowicz	Secretary-Treasurer
Joanne Grimes	Purchasing Agent/Board Secretary
Dennis Estis, Esq.	General Counsel, Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith
Howard Matteson, P.E.	Consulting Engineer, CDM Smith, Inc.
Dan Ward	Superintendent
John Buonocore	Chief Engineer/Asst. Superintendent
Anthony Gencarelli	Manager of Regulatory Compliance

New Business**Moody's Rating Update.**

Discussion regarding Moody's updated rating of the Authority and matters pertaining to the 2019 budget.

Mr. Meehan stated that Moody's had contacted the Authority with regard to the Authority's rating. He noted that Moody's had advised that they are not changing the Authority's rating however they have included a note of "negative outlook" because the Authority has very low reserves and minimal cash on hand. Moody's gave Mr. Meehan and Ms. Musialowicz time to review the documentation and get back to them prior to implementing the change. Moody's also advised that in the past, the Authority's rating was based on both the financial status of the member municipalities and that of the Authority, however, that has changed and it will now be based solely on the Authority itself.

Contract #1915 – Environmental Consulting Services

The Authority had engaged Prestige Environmental to perform services related to site assessment of 1044 East Hazelwood Avenue prior to the Authority purchasing the property. That work was performed under Contract #1619 which has since expired. Prestige has submitted a proposal to perform a "discreet inspection" of all RVSA facilities on East Hazelwood Avenue at a cost of \$7,500.00. A copy of their proposal has been distributed to the Commissioners for review.

Mr. Lambe asked if a representative of Prestige could come before the board to discuss their findings. Counsel stated he would make the request.

Sewer Connection - Woodbridge

A local sewer connection was received from Pallavi Venugopal for property located on Oak Tree Road in the Township of Woodbridge. The applicant is proposing to retrofit 3900 sq. ft. of existing commercial space for a restaurant. The restaurant (The Yellow Chilli) will be a 90 seat restaurant with an anticipated flow of 3,150 gpd. John Buonocore reviewed the application and found it to be in order.

Excess Flow Hearings

Letters were sent to both the City of Rahway and Township of Clark on November 12, 2018, advising them of the Hearings which are scheduled for January 10, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. respectively.

Flow Rights/Metering

The work group has an update that will be verbally provided at the meeting.

Mr. Meehan stated that John Buonocore, Lou Lambe and himself had met to discuss the metering. The Authority had intended to install a back-up meter at meter location #1, however, sediment was found in the pipe again. The Authority is having the pipe cleaned again and will install the meter immediately thereafter.

Mr. Lambe asked if the Authority had met the Emergency Action Planning deadline instituted by the State. Mr. Gencarelli indicated that it had not but the report would be going out shortly. Mr.

Gelin requested that a copy of the Plan be sent to him once it's completed.

Monthly Reports

The Monthly IPP Report was received and has been distributed to the Commissioners.

Report of Consulting Engineer

This report covers the following work activities for the month of November 2018.

A. Retainer Services

During the period, CDM Smith prepared the monthly report for November 2018 and attended the November 2018 Engineering Committee Meeting.

B. Miscellaneous Engineering Services

During the period, CDM Smith performed the following:

- We submitted preliminary design to staff regarding heat exchanger improvements in the Cogeneration Building.

C. Digester Gas Treatment System Design – Construction Services

No activity during the period.

D. Digester Covers and Waste Gas Burner Replacement – Design, Bidding, and Construction

During the period, CDM Smith performed the following:

- Coordinated with staff, attended progress meetings, processed O&M resubmittals and other shop drawings.
- Responded to Contractor questions regarding alternate coating material.
- Assisted staff in troubleshooting operational issues with regard to digester cover controls/faults, air pressure reducing valves, and gas pressure relief valves.
- Worked with staff to identify possible options for repairs to HEX #2.
- Performed site inspections for the month covering following aspects of work – sludge pumping and final cleaning of Digester #2, demolition of piping in Digester #2, rehab work on HEX #2, and start demolition of cover #2.

E. Riverwalk Siphon Rehabilitation

No activity during the period.

Report of General Counsel

Dennis Estis, General Counsel, from the firm Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith, submitted the following report for the period November 8, 2018 through December 6, 2018:

1. General
 - A. Flow Rights

Hearings are scheduled for Rahway and Clark on January 10, 2019. Jim Meehan reported on the Springfield meter.
 - B. Local Contracts Law/Open Public Meetings Act

There were discussions regarding the sludge contract and whether it was required to be publicly bid or not. After reviewing the report prepared by my colleague, I have determined that the Authority can negotiate a contract at the end of our current contract based on the Public Contracts Law.
 - C. ODI Monitoring

A resolution is on the agenda for next week to authorize a new contract with our environmental consultant. We finally received a response from Quala's consultant and I am awaiting comments from our consultant.
2. Contract #105F Cogeneration Facility

I am waiting to hear from Mr. Cipolla's counsel.
3. Contract #182 - Siphon - Rahway – Union County Park

Jim Meehan gave an update regarding the status.
4. RVSA v. New Jersey, et al.

The State's motion to dismiss has not yet been decided by the Court. We are making some minor revisions to the Complaint.
5. Occidental Chemical

No change.

Adjournment

As there was no further business, on motion of Mr. Greet, second by Mr. Furci, the meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m. The motion was approved by those present. Mr. LaCosta and Mr. Mazzarella were absent.

Chairman

Joanne Grimes
Joanne Grimes, Board Secretary

jg