



CLIFTON PARK WATER AUTHORITY

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

JUNE 18, 2020

Due to COVID-19 the Clifton Park Water Authority board meeting was closed to the public and was conducted via Zoom.

Those present were: Mr. Helmut Gerstenberger, Chairman; Mr. John Ryan, Vice Chairman; Mr. George Peterson, Treasurer; Mr. Peter Taubkin, Secretary; Mr. William Butler, board member; Mr. Donald Austin Jr., Administrator; Mr. Neil Weiner, Attorney and Mr. Chad Kortz, C.T. Male Associates.

Mr. Gerstenberger called the meeting to order at 3:11pm.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

OLD BUSINESS

PROJECT TO INCREASE CAPACITY FROM SCWA

Mr. Kortz and Mr. Austin had a conference call with Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) earlier this month. They were told that NYS has essentially frozen the signing of grant agreements at this time. EFC indicated that they expect funds to be released and be able to prepare the agreement in the future, but they are uncertain when that will happen. Based on that information, the bid was cancelled. Mr. Kortz reported they had quite a few inquiries from contractors for this project. He explained to the contractors that this project will be re-bid at a later date.

Mr. Kortz reported that the NYS Department of Health had some engineering report questions last week. He is still waiting on approval for the plans and specifications.

COMMUNITY SOLAR PROPOSAL

Mr. Austin reported no updates from last month. The Board requested that Mr. Austin contact Nexamp to see if they are still interested in providing solar service to the CPWA.

KNOLLTOP WATER STORAGE TANK REFURBISHMENT

Mr. Austin reported that we went out to bid on Monday for this project. Bids are due on July 8th and he hopes to award the bid at next month's meeting.

GENERAL LEGAL SERVICES RFP

The Board deferred their selection to Mr. Weiner and Mr. Gerstenberger. Mr. Weiner and Mr. Gerstenberger recommended Jim Trainor, of Trainor Law PLLC. Mr. Butler made a **motion** to hire Jim Trainor of Trainor Law PLLC as the new attorney for the Clifton Park Water Authority; seconded by Mr. Ryan. The **motion** carried 5-0.

SCWA PURCHASE AGREEMENT RENEWAL

Mr. Gerstenberger and Mr. Austin met with Town of Clifton Park Supervisor Phil Barrett to follow up with the Board's concerns with the SCWA's updated agreement.

Mr. Gerstenberger made a **motion** to move into executive session at 3:46pm to discuss contract negotiations; seconded by Mr. Peterson. The **motion** carried 5-0.

Mr. Gerstenberger made a **motion** to move out of executive session at 3:54pm; seconded by Mr. Peterson. The **motion** carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVE INVESTMENT POLICY

Tabled for next month's meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Mr. Austin reported that the water system is having capacity issues because of the high demand due to the hot, dry weather conditions, coupled with the low levels in the Mohawk River because the NYS Canal Corporation suspended all non-essential construction and maintenance activities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The NYS Canal system is scheduled to install boards on the dam on June 26, 2020 which will raise the levels in the Mohawk River. Mr. Austin explained that the river level directly affects the wells in the Preserve. These wells have had to run at a lower rate of flow than they normally would this time of year, which affects the amount of water pumping out of the Boyack Water Treatment Plant. We are buying as much water from the SCWA as we can and are also purchasing water from the Town of Glenville. Glenville is also having issues due to low levels in the river because their wellfield is also located along the Mohawk River. Mr. Austin has contacted the Town of Halfmoon and they are available to supply water to the CPWA if needed.

The Board directed Mr. Austin to have signs made up, similar to the hydrant flushing signs, that can be placed at the entrances of developments that will remind customers of the odd/even watering restrictions.

- Mr. Austin reported that he spoke with Dahn Bull, Town of Clifton Park Highway Superintendent, and they are planning to go out to bid in July to replace the culvert pipe at Plank and Bruno Road. Mr. Kortz is in contact with the Town's engineering firm, Barton and Loguidice, and are preparing all the bid paperwork together. There is no action the board needs to take at this time. The CPWA and the Town are going out to bid together for this project. The board can make

a decision whether to move forward with this project or not once the bids are received.

- Mr. Austin has a meeting scheduled with the NYS Department of Health to talk about exploring the possibility of installing shallow wells or an infiltration gallery closer to the Mohawk River than our existing wells in an effort to improve pumping capacity and water quality.

APPROVE MINUTES OF MAY 20, 2020 MEETING

A **motion** was made by Mr. Gerstenberger to approve the minutes of May 20, 2020; seconded by Mr. Ryan. The **motion** carried 5-0.

The CPWA's next board meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, July 15, 2020 at 3:00pm via Zoom.**

A **motion** was made by Mr. Butler to adjourn the meeting at 4:01pm; seconded by Mr. Ryan. The **motion** carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheri Collins
Recording Secretary

cc: CPWA Board of Directors