



CLIFTON PARK WATER AUTHORITY

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 19, 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; and Mr. James Trainor, Attorney.

Mr. Gerstenberger called the meeting to order at 3:03pm.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

OLD BUSINESS

PROJECT TO INCREASE CAPACITY FROM SCWA – RESOLUTION TO AWARD BID

Bids were received on August 14, 2020. The low bidder, Wm. J. Keller & Sons, Inc. came in at \$1,000,000.00. Mr. Austin pointed out that there was only a \$50,000.00 difference between the lowest bidder and the third lowest bidder. C.T. Male Associates prepared an estimate of project cost in May 2018 of \$725,000.00, when the CPWA originally applied for the grant. Mr. Kortz explained to Mr. Austin that material costs were lower in 2018 than they are currently. The grant will cover approximately \$674,000.00. Mr. Austin spoke with the Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) on Monday and they are preparing the grant agreement.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Gerstenberger to award the contract for SCWA Interconnect Upgrade; seconded by Mr. Ryan.

RESOLUTION #17, 2020 – AMENDING RESOLUTION #25, 2019 AWARD CONTRACT FOR SCWA INTERCONNECT UPGRADE

WHEREAS, the Clifton Park Water Authority (CPWA) has received bids for work to upgrade the interconnect with the Saratoga County Water Authority, and

WHEREAS, the CPWA has received sealed bids for the work, as well as a recommendation of award from CT Male Associates, and

WHEREAS, the low bidder was William J. Keller & Sons, Inc., whose bid was \$1,000,000.00, and

WHEREAS, the Clifton Park Water Authority Board of Directors passed Resolution #25, 2019 adopting the Capital Budget for 2020, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Clifton Park Water Authority hereby awards the bid for the SCWA Interconnect Upgrade, in the amount of \$1,000,000.00, and amends the 2020 Capital Budget to include a line item of the same amount for the work and authorizes the CPWA Administrator to execute all necessary documents to implement this contract.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Gerstenberger - Aye
Mr. Ryan - Aye
Mr. Peterson - Aye
Mr. Taubkin - Aye
Mr. Butler - Aye

COMMUNITY SOLAR PROJECT – AMENDED PROPOSAL FROM NEXAMP

Mr. Austin sent out the revised agreement to the board and Mr. Trainor to review. The new agreement reduced the discount on Net Metering Credits from 15% to 12%, but reduced the commitment from 20 years to a three-year term, which will automatically renew unless written notice of cancellation is provided at least 120 days prior to the end of the current term. The original savings at 15% was estimated at \$30,000.00 annually. Mr. Austin will get a final agreement and prepare a resolution to enter into the agreement for next month's board meeting.

KNOLLTOP WATER STORAGE TANK REFURBISHMENT

A pre-construction meeting is scheduled for Friday. This project should begin in September.

SCWA PURCHASE AGREEMENT RENEWAL

Mr. Trainor has not spoken with the Town of Wilton's attorney to discuss the contract changes yet.

PROJECT TO INVESTIGATE CAPACITY IMPROVEMENTS IN PRESERVE – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ENGINEERING SERVICES

A **motion** was made by Mr. Taubkin to authorize engineering work for the Preserve water supply investigation; seconded by Mr. Peterson.

**RESOLUTION #18, 2020 – AMENDING RESOLUTION #25, 2019
AUTHORIZING ENGINEERING WORK FOR PRESERVE WATER SUPPLY
INVESTIGATION**

WHEREAS, the Clifton Park Water Authority (CPWA) wishes to move forward with a project to investigate additional water supply capacity at the existing Vischer Ferry Preserve Well Site, and

WHEREAS, CT Male has provided the CPWA with a proposal for engineering services related to this project in the amount of \$33,900 for the installation of two (2) test wells, data collection, data review and reporting, and

WHEREAS, the CPWA will provide test pumps and absorb all costs of laboratory testing of water from the test wells at an estimated cost of \$6,500.00, and

WHEREAS, the Clifton Park Water Authority Board of Directors passed Resolution #25, 2019 adopting the Capital Budget for 2020, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the CPWA Board of Directors hereby amends Resolution #25, 2019 to include an additional \$40,400 item in the 2020 CPWA Capital Budget for engineering services, pumping equipment and laboratory testing related to the investigation into additional water supply capacity at the Vischer Ferry Preserve Well Site.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Gerstenberger - Aye
Mr. Ryan - Aye
Mr. Peterson - Aye
Mr. Taubkin - Aye
Mr. Butler - Aye

NEW BUSINESS

**VERIZON REQUEST FOR INSTALLATION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS TOWER
AT BOYACK WTP**

Mr. Ryan recused himself from the discussion.

Mr. Austin explained that AT& T already exists on the water tank at the Boyack WTP, but due to the way the tank is constructed there is no room for anyone else to colocate on the tank. Verizon is proposing to erect a tower on the property on top of the hill. Mr. Austin believes it is a good location because it is difficult to see that location from any houses in the area. The initial terms suggested were: 1) 25 year total term. Initial term of five (5) years with four (4) renewal options, each for five (5) years; 2) \$1,000.00 a month rent; and 3) 1% rent escalation per year. Mr. Austin asked the Board if they are in favor of entertaining the idea of putting a tower at this location and negotiating the terms of the lease. Mr. Trainor believes that the applicant would have go through the Town of Clifton Park Zoning before they can move forward.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Mr. Austin has not heard anything from the Town of Clifton Park regarding the Plank Road main replacement project.
- Mr. Gerstenberger asked about the anode replacement project. Mr. Austin explained that the field crew is struggling to keep up with the summer work load. He explained that there is hardly a day that all crew members are present. Mr. Austin estimates there are approximately 50 anodes in inventory, with about 100 left to be installed in Rexford.
- Mr. Austin received a letter from Zappone Motors on Route 9 regarding a bill that they had received for sprinklers that were installed in their store a number of years ago without a permit. The CPWA was unaware of the system and never inspected the installation. We recently became aware that they had an irrigation system on the property and got inside the building to inspect the connection. We found that the irrigation system had been connected to the line coming into the building before the main meter. They had a separate meter on the irrigation system, but the CPWA had never read it (the main meter was read by radio , so no one has been inside the facility to see the additional meter). Once we found the irrigation meter and read it, we found that there had been 2,265,600 gallons of usage that was never billed or paid for.
We have required them to correct the connection point of the irrigation system to a point after the main meter (they have indicated in an email yesterday that the work has been completed). We have also billed them for the usage through the irrigation meter. The bill was calculated at the flat rate, rather than the inclining commercial rate, and totaled \$8,949.12. They are asking for further relief. The Board has agreed to offer a deferred payment agreement where the amount due can be paid over a six-month period.

APPROVE MINUTES OF JULY 15, 2020 MEETING

A **motion** was made by Mr. Gerstenberger to approve the minutes of July 15, 2020; seconded by Mr. Ryan. The **motion** carried 5-0.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Gerstenberger to adjourn the meeting at 3:53pm; seconded by Mr. Ryan. The **motion** carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Sheri Collins
Recording Secretary

Cc: CPWA Board of Directors
Trainor Law PLLC