

**CLIFTON PARK WATER AUTHORITY**

**BOARD MEETING NOTICE**

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2023**

**7:00PM**

**661 CLIFTON PARK CENTER ROAD**

**CLIFTON PARK, NY 12065**

**CLIFTON PARK WATER AUTHORITY  
BOARD MEETING**

**Tuesday, December 12, 2023  
7:00 PM**

**AGENDA**

- Approve Minutes of November 14, 2023 Meeting

**Privilege of the Floor**

**Old Business**

- Peacock Glen Property

**New Business**

- Water Tank Inspection Report
- Sprint Equipment Removal- Knoll Top
- Resolution Commending Don Austin for Thirty-One years of Service

**Other Business**

## **CLIFTON PARK WATER AUTHORITY**

### **BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**DECEMBER 12, 2023**

Those present were: Mr. Helmut Gerstenberger, Chairman; Mr. John Ryan, Vice Chairman; Mr. William Butler, Treasurer; Mr. Peter Taubkin, Board Member; Ms. Julia Haig, Board Member; Mr. Donald Austin Jr., Administrator; Mr. Chris Wheland, Deputy Administrator; Mr. Ronald Marshall, Superintendent; Mr. James Trainor, Attorney; and Mr. Brock Juusola, Engineer.

Mr. Gerstenberger called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

Mr. Gerstenberger welcomed Julia Haig to the Board. He also acknowledged that this is Mr. Austin's final board meeting since he will be retiring December 29, 2023. The Board congratulated both of them and wished Mr. Austin well.

#### **APPROVE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 14, 2023 MEETING**

Mr. Gerstenberger made a **motion** to approve the minutes of November 14, 2023; seconded by Mr. Butler. The **motion** carried 4-0, 1 abstain.

#### **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR**

Mr. Trainor introduced Shenendehowa Senior, Cassandra who is doing an internship at his office. She is interested in pursuing a career in law.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **PEACOCK GLEN PROPERTY**

The Town of Clifton Park has expressed interest in purchasing this property. Mr. Wheland reported that they have had conversations with the Town of Clifton Park and are waiting to hear back from them.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **WATER TANK INSPECTION REPORT**

Earlier this year, Pittsburg Tank & Tower Group (PTTG) completed an inspection of the Miller Road Tank, the Blue Spruce Tank, the Barney Road Tank and the Boyack Clearwell. The inspection included a physical inspection of the tank exterior and accessible dry interior areas. The interior wet areas were inspected utilizing Remote Operated Vehicle survey equipment. PTTG provided a very detailed written report which documented the structural, sanitary, safety and coating conditions for both the interior and exterior of each tank. Delaware Engineering was asked to review the report and make recommendations on items in the report that should be addressed to maintain each tanks structural integrity. Mr. Juusola presented the Board with a tank inspection report summary and his recommendations. He stated the Barney Road Tank needs the most work. The tank was constructed in the 1960s. There is no record of the tank being recoated since it was constructed. Mr. Austin has been thinking about potentially getting rid of the Barney Road Tank. He estimated cost of demolition to be around \$100,000.00 versus refurbishing the tank at an estimated cost of \$1,000,000.00. The Barney Road Tank is a pump storage

facility which means the top elevation of the tank sits below the top elevation of what the CPWA operates its system at. Water flows into the tank but has to be pumped out. He feels it's an inefficient way to operate. It is a million-gallon storage tank. The Miller Road Tank is a 1.5 million tank, Blue Spruce Tank is a 2-million-gallon storage tank, the Boyack Clearwell is a 600,000-gallon storage tank, and the Knolltop Tower is a 330,000-gallon storage tank. The system also has interconnections with the Saratoga County Water Authority and the Town of Glenville. He questioned if it would be a good idea to get rid of it and if the NYS Department of Health would allow it. Mr. Juusola explained the standard states you should have your average day volume in storage. The standard also states you don't have to have an average day of storage if you have back up power and redundancy in other places. He would have to look at the system as a whole and see if the system can carry a peak day without the Barney Road Tank. NYSDOH will require some level of proof that the Barney Road Tank is not needed. Mr. Wheland and Mr. Juusola will work together on getting all the necessary information so Mr. Wheland can create a five-year capital improvement plan to prioritize the recommended repairs.

#### **SPRINT EQUIPMENT REMOVAL – KNOLLTOP**

Delaware Engineering conducted an inspection of the Knolltop Tank to document the removal of the Sprint telecommunication equipment. Delaware noted the following components were not restored to pre-installation conditions: the paint does not match the color of the existing tank, antenna mounts on the tank were left in place, holes in the tank exterior cladding were not sealed, conduit penetration and junction box covers were not sealed, miscellaneous support brackets were left in place, the grounding wire was left in place, and blanket material was left behind. Mr. Austin and Mr. Trainor have contacted Sprint/T-Mobile on numerous occasions requesting remediation for the damages with no response. The lease states Sprint has 60 days to repair the damages that were created by their equipment. The lease states that once all obligations under the lease are met, the security deposit shall be returned. The Board asked Mr. Wheland to get an estimate for the repairs. Once an estimate is complete a letter will be sent to Sprint/T-Mobile notifying them of the total cost of remediation. The security deposit will be used to pay for the remediation and anything additional will be invoiced to Sprint/T-Mobile for payment. Mr. Ryan suggested contacting the government affairs contact in Albany and notify them of the lack of response from Sprint/T-Mobile.

#### **RESOLUTION COMMENDING DON AUSTIN FOR THIRTY-ONE YEARS OF SERVICE**

A **motion** was made by Mr. Gerstenberger commending Donald Austin for distinguished service to the Clifton Park Water Authority; seconded by Mr. Ryan.

#### **RESOLUTION #30, 2023 – COMMENDING DONALD AUSTIN FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE CLIFTON PARK WATER AUTHORITY**

**WHEREAS**, Don Austin has been employed by the Clifton Park Water Authority (CPWA) since February 1992, and

**WHEREAS**, Don Austin has served the customers of the CPWA for thirty-one years and ten months, and

**WHEREAS**, Don Austin has held the position of Water Maintenance Technician, Plant Operator, Deputy Administrator and Administrator, now, therefore be it;

**RESOLVED**, that the Clifton Park Water Authority Board of Directors hereby honors and commends Don Austin for over thirty-one years of distinguished service rendered in the best interest of the customers of the Clifton Park Water Authority.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Gerstenberger - Aye  
Mr. Ryan - Aye  
Mr. Taubkin - Aye  
Mr. Butler - Aye  
Ms. Haig - Aye

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

- Mr. Gerstenberger asked how the installation of anodes is coming along. Mr. Marshall stated there are approximately 50 anodes left to be installed.
- Mr. Trainor stated the judge is scheduled to sign the final settlement agreement for the PFAS litigation on Thursday, December 14, 2023. Municipalities will have 60 days to submit their data. He stated distributions should begin in approximately 90 days.
- Mr. Trainor reported no update on the Wood Road DCG matter.
- Mr. Austin stated the Town of Clifton Park plans on moving forward with the Synergy Park Water District regardless of the grant funding. John Scavo from the Town of Clifton Park would like to see the project go out to bid Spring of 2024. Mr. Austin reported that both DCG and Rekucki have buildings that are pretty far along and it will only be a matter of months before they will be looking to connect to the water system. The CPWA will not allow them to turn the water on to any of their buildings until the Town has awarded the bid for the project.
- The Board discussed procedures and protections that are in place for cyber security to prevent attacks to the CPWA system. The Cyber Security and Infrastructure Security Agency (CSISA) completed a vulnerability assessment on the CPWA earlier this year. Mr. Austin will forward the Ransomware Readiness Report to the Board for their review. They also performed a physical security assessment in August. Mr. Austin is waiting for the report.

The CPWA's next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 7pm.

A **motion** was made by Mr. Butler to adjourn the meeting at 8:06pm; seconded by Mr. Taubkin. The **motion** carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Sheri Collins*  
Recording Secretary

cc: CPWA Board of Directors  
Trainor, Pezzullo, & DeSanto PLLC