

**GLOVERSVILLE-JOHNSTOWN JOINT SEWER BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 12, 2020**

The Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board (GJJSB) held a meeting in the Boardroom of the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment Facility on Wednesday, February 12, 2020.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 P.M.

PRESENT

John Rizzo	Chairman
Christopher Vose	Secretary
Craig Talarico	Member
Wrandy Siarkowski	Member
Wallace Arnold	Manager-Wastewater Programs
Donna Renda	Fiscal Officer
Hilary Ruzycy	Administrative Aide
Sylvia Marpicati	Arcadis of New York
Michael Lynch	Arcadis of New York
Tucker Wilcox	Biowaste Pyrolysis Solutions
Caleb Gruet	Biowaste Pyrolysis Solutions

ABSENT

Bobbi Trudel	Vice Chairperson
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VACANT

Dale Trumbull	Resigned Member
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ARCADIS PRESENTATION – SLUDGE DRYER FEASIBILITY STUDY

Arcadis staff updated the Board on the NYSERDA FlexTech Study to evaluate the feasibility of installing a thermal sludge dryer to dewater biosolids prior to landfill disposal. A thermal sludge dryer could bring the total solids sludge content from 13% to 90%. Three (3) scenarios were proposed on the installation of a belt dryer or paddle dryer, building modifications, repurposing of biogas, energy consumption, and payback periods. Small scale bench testing of the Plant’s sludge was accomplished with three (3) manufactures. Arcadis recommends large scale bench testing and site visits to facilities that use sludge dryers. Possible grant funding sources were also reviewed.

RESIGNATION

Chairman Rizzo reported that verbal notification of resignation was received on February 7, 2020 from Joint Sewer Board member Dale Trumbull, effective immediately. Sewer Board awaits notification from the City of Gloversville on a new appointment to fill the vacancy. Chairman Rizzo read aloud a letter of appreciation to be forwarded to Mr. Trumbull for his four (4) years of service on the Joint Sewer Board.

REVIEW OF MINUTES APPROVAL

Chairman Rizzo referred to a handout on the approval of meeting minutes when Board members are absent from a meeting, per Robert’s Rules of Order (Edition 11, page 355). *It should be noted that a member’s absence from the meeting for which minutes are being approved does not prevent the member from participating in their correction or approval.*

OCTOBER 9, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

The Board approved the October 9, 2019 meeting minutes on a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried four (4) in favor, one (1) absent, one (1) vacant, and none (0) opposed.

## JANUARY 8, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

The Board approved the January 8, 2020 meeting minutes on a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried four (4) in favor, one (1) absent, one (1) vacant, and none (0) opposed.

## CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was discussed: No. 16 & 18.

## PLANT OPERATIONS

### **Award Bid: HVAC Improvements in Administration Building**

Plant Manager Arnold reported that a bid opening was held on February 10, 2020 for the evaluation, modification and or/installation of Heating, Ventilating, & Air Conditioning (HVAC) equipment in the Administration Building. Two (2) bids were received and the low bidder was Stants Capital Combustion of Latham, N.Y. Both bidding companies were on site to inspect the current HVAC system. Both bid packages were reviewed by the Manager and the Maintenance Supervisor. Manager Arnold recommended the bid submitted by Stants Capital Combustion at \$325,000.00. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Talarico, carried (4) in favor, one (1) absent, one (1) vacant, and none (0) opposed, the Board authorized to accept the bid proposal from Stants Capital Combustion, at \$325,000.00, for the evaluation, modification and or/installation of Heating, Ventilating, & Air Conditioning equipment in the Administration Building, as part of the 2020 Capital Plan.

### **Authorize Bidding: Potassium Permanganate**

Plant Manager Arnold requested Board approval to seek bids for the supply and delivery of potassium permanganate. On a motion made by Mr. Vose, seconded by Mr. Talarico, carried (4) in favor, one (1) absent, one (1) vacant, and none (0) opposed, the Board authorized to advertise bids for a two (2) year contract for the supply and delivery of potassium permanganate.

### **Authorize Sale: 1992 Ford Ranger**

Plant Manager Arnold requested Board approval to seek bids and advertise for sale an obsolete 1992 Ford Ranger that will not pass inspection. On a motion made by Mr. Vose, seconded by Mr. Talarico, carried (4) in favor, one (1) absent, one (1) vacant, and none (0) opposed, the Board authorized to advertise for bids for the sale of an obsolete 1992 Ford Ranger, sold in "as is" condition with no warranties or guarantees.

## PERSONNEL

### **Retirement: WWTP Lead Operator Thomas Ambrosino**

Chairman Rizzo read aloud a notice of retirement received from WWTP Lead Operator Thomas Ambrosino, effective February 28, 2020. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Talarico, carried four (4) in favor, one (1) absent, one (1) vacant, and none (0) opposed, the Board accepted the retirement of WWTP Lead Operator Thomas Ambrosino, effective February 28, 2020, after thirty (30) years of service. A letter of appreciation will be forwarded to Mr. Ambrosino.

### **New Hire: WWTP Operator Trainee**

Plant Manager Arnold reported there are two (2) positions open for WWTP Operator Trainee. Manager Arnold interviewed one (1) candidate and recommended Justin Cotter for appointment. Mr. Cotter meets the minimum qualifications for Civil Service approval. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried four (4) in favor, one (1) absent, one (1) vacant, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved to offer a vacant WWTP Operator Trainee position to Justin Cotter, effective March 2, 2020, at an hourly wage of \$23.30.

## INDUSTRIAL COMPLIANCE

### **Sewer Bill Protest – 357 S. Main Street, Gloversville**

Fiscal Officer Renda reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 357 S. Main Street in Gloversville. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried four (4) in favor, one (1) absent, one (1) vacant, and none (0) opposed, the Board denied credit since the request for adjustment was not submitted within a thirty (30) day time period per provision of the Sewer Use Law.

### **Sewer Bill Protest – 21 John Street, Gloversville**

Fiscal Officer Renda reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 21 John Street in Gloversville. Manager Arnold conducted an inspection of the premises. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried four (4) in favor, one (1) absent, one (1) vacant, and none (0) opposed, the Board denied credit since the water entered the sewer system and had to be treated.

### **Sewer Bill Protest – 200 North Comrie Avenue, Johnstown**

Fiscal Officer Renda reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 200 North Comrie Avenue in Johnstown. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried four (4) in favor, one (1) absent, one (1) vacant, and none (0) opposed, the Board tabled the request until the March meeting to allow for an additional meter read at the location.

### **Sewer Bill Protest – 180 S. Main Street, Gloversville**

Fiscal Officer Renda reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 180 South Main Street in Gloversville. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried four (4) in favor, one (1) absent, one (1) vacant, and none (0) opposed, the Board denied credit since the request for adjustment was not submitted within a thirty (30) day time period per provision of the Sewer Use Law.

### **Sewer Bill Protest – 160 Spring Street, Gloversville**

Fiscal Officer Renda reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 160 Spring Street in Gloversville. On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried four (4) in favor, one (1) absent, one (1) vacant, and none (0) opposed, the Board denied credit since permission to inspect the premises was not granted.

## ATTACHMENTS

Wastewater Programs Report, Annual Trends/Comparison Report and 2020 O&M Expenditure Reports were reviewed per Attachments No. 1, 2, & 3.

O&M purchase orders and disbursement sheets totaling \$208,159.80 were approved for payment on a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried four (4) in favor, one (1) absent, one (1) vacant, and none (0) opposed.

## NEW BUSINESS

Board Member Talarico reported that Johnstown Councilman Spitzer inquired on the possible installation of solar panels at the Facility. It was noted that the Facility currently generates its own power by using excess biogas, and that adequate space is not available.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried four (4) in favor, one (1) absent, one (1) vacant, and none (0) opposed, the full Board, Manager Arnold, and Fiscal Officer Renda went into executive session at 8:37 P.M. to discuss proposed litigation.

On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Talarico, carried four (4) in favor, one (1) absent, one (1) vacant, and none (0) opposed, the Board came out of executive session at 8:44 P.M.

On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Talarico, carried four (4) in favor, one (1) absent, one (1) vacant, and none (0) opposed, the full Board and Manager Arnold went into executive session at 8:45 P.M. to discuss collective negotiations.

On a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Talarico, carried four (4) in favor, one (1) absent, one (1) vacant, and none (0) opposed, the Board came out of executive session at 9:06 P.M.

**2020-2024 Bargaining Agreement**

On a motion made by Mr. Vose, seconded by Mr. Talarico, carried four (4) in favor, one (1) absent, one (1) vacant, and none (0) opposed, the Board ratified the 2020-2024 Bargaining Agreement by and between the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board and Teamsters Local 294.

**Resolution No. 2020-03**

On a motion made Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried four (4) in favor, one (1) absent, one (1) vacant, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved Resolution No. 2020-03. *Authorizing 2020 Salary Schedule for Non-Union Employees.*

**MEETING ADJOURNED**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:09 P.M. on a motion made by Mr. Siarkowski, seconded by Mr. Vose, carried four (4) in favor, one (1) absent, one (1) vacant, and none (0) opposed.

The next regular meeting will be held on **Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 7:00 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Vose, GJJSB Secretary