

The Seneca Falls Town Board held a Special Meeting on Monday, November 23, 2020 at the Seneca Falls Community Center, 35 Water Street.

Present were Supervisor Michael Ferrara; Councilpersons Dawn Dyson, Douglas Avery, David DeLelys and Steven Churchill. Also present was Patrick Morrell, Attorney for the Town and Peter Baker, Town Engineer.

Supervisor Ferrara called the Special Meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. A roll call of Board Members was taken and all were present; the Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Mr. Ferrara stated this Meeting was called so that the Town Engineers Barton & Loguidice could give the Board an overview about the Kingdom Road force main which is the main sewer line that would connect the western district of Seneca Falls (the commercial district) and also would tie into the 318-414 sewer line which is basically controlled by the County at this point. He said Mr. Baker will be presenting different things and different proposals and hopefully, in 2021, the Board can figure out exactly in what direction they want to go.

Carbon Dioxide Feed System: A motion was made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dave DeLelys to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, at the Town of Seneca Falls regular monthly Town Board Meeting on Tuesday, July 7, 2020, the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board conditionally awarded, via resolution, the purchase of a Carbon Dioxide Feed System for use at the Water Treatment Plant; and

WHEREAS, the price for the carbon dioxide treatment process was \$219,000, as provided in a bid submitted by Koester Associates that was publicly opened on June 26, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the award was conditional upon the New York State Department of Health approving the use of the Carbon Dioxide Feed System at the Water Treatment Plant; and

WHEREAS, on November 19, 2020 the New York State Department of Health approved the plans for the Town of Seneca Falls Carbon Dioxide Feed System at the Water Treatment Plant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board hereby awards the Carbon Dioxide Feed System to Koester Associates for a value of \$219,000.

Mr. Churchill asked if this was budgeted; Mr. Ferrara replied this has been budgeted.

The above motion made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Dave DeLelys to adopt the above resolution awarding the Carbon Dioxide Feed System to Koester Associates was carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

SCADA Support/Systems Integration Services: A motion was made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Doug Avery to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Town of Seneca Falls has solicited proposals to provide the Town with SCADA support and systems integration services and assistance in support of projects for the Town Water and Sewer Departments; and

WHEREAS, Integration services are considered Professional Services and as such, are subject to Article IV of the Town Procurement Policy; and

WHEREAS, the policy requires evaluation of quality, cost and efficiency to responsive proposals; and

WHEREAS, the Town desires to enter into a Term Services Agreement with the selected firm for a period of two years; and

WHEREAS, advertisements for these proposals were made in the Finger Lakes Times; and

WHEREAS, the Town Water and Sewer Committee has reviewed all submitted proposals and qualifications packages; and

WHEREAS, the Water and Sewer Committee have recommended the selection of Colacino Industries of Newark, NY to serve as the Town's System Integrator in support of the Water and Sewer Departments.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Seneca Falls Town Board intends to retain the services of Colacino Industries to provide the required Systems Integration Services; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of Seneca Falls seeks to enter into a Term Services Agreement with Colacino Industries for a two-year period contingent upon the successful execution of an agreement between the Town and Colacino.

Mr. Ferrara stated that he and Mr. Avery met through a Zoom Meeting with Mr. Tullo and Mr. Baker with four different vendors and agreed this would be the best choice. He added they have been instructed to provide the Town with a service agreement; when it arrives, he will have Mr. Morrell review it.

Mr. Churchill asked what the dollar amount was; Mr. Baker responded Colacino and another vendor's proposals were the same – about \$100.00 an hour. He added Colacino has been doing this work for about six years, so it maintains consistency - they provide as needed services. Brief discussion followed.

The above motion made by Michael Ferrara and seconded by Doug Avery to adopt the above resolution to enter into a Term Services Agreement with Colacino Industries for a two-year period was carried 5 ayes, 0 nays.

Kingdom Road Sewer Line Project: Mr. Baker stated they have been working on the Kingdom Road project since the mid 2000s – this is the fourth time we talked about the project over the years. He will be talking about the project needs and benefits, where we are right now, the options and costs.

The Kingdom Road Pump Station was installed in the late 1960s. There is a force main that runs up Fall Street – this is the original force main that was installed in the late 1960s, and has failed periodically. Mr. Churchill asked if the force main goes from Balsley Road to Rumsey Street. Mr. Baker replied yes – the force main crosses Route 5 & 20 and pumps across to the Canal side, pumps back across to the north side of 5 & 20, runs down Fall Street, and discharges at the manhole at the corner of Rumsey Street, then feeds gravity from Fall Street; everything from there feeds into a 12” gravity pipe that runs down Fall Street to the Ovid Street Bridge. Discussion followed.

Mr. Baker stated when del Lago came on board, there was some discussions regarding sewer capacity. Del Lago provided sewer upgrades along Route 414, plus they provided some capital contributions to the County to help with some of that. The Town has an outside user agreement with dell Lago, as well as with the Town of Tyre, Town of Junius and Seneca County. Mr. Baker pointed out the route of the force main on the map presented in the handout.

Mr. Baker discussed in detail the contributing service area which has twelve out of district users representing 8% of WWTP flow; outside users are billed at 150%. The West Seneca Falls Sewer District has 140 users representing 10% of WWTP flow; estimated Sewer Department revenue is \$836,000 – 33% of Sewer Budget Revenue for 2021.

Mr. Baker stated this is not a project about the outside users. The reality is – this is the heart of Seneca Falls, the commercial district. Most of that area is serviced by the Kingdom Road Pump Station. The West Seneca Falls Sewer District basically goes to the former Village line. There are about 140 parcels that average about 170,000 gallons per day. Mr. Baker explained the current usage chart and the estimated annual revenue chart.

Mr. Baker said the pump station handles a lot of flow – it’s a critical pump station. The project consists of replacing the existing pump station (1960s) with a new pre-packaged self-priming station, and installing 9,500 feet of force main. He said they looked at several force main options; the four alternatives that are being pursued are:

Alternative 1 – Fall Street: The force main would go east down Route 5 & 20 and down the main business district of the Town, cross over the Canal at some point to get to the Wastewater Treatment Plant. This option is most disruptive because of the heavy traffic and the impacts to the commercial district, and is the most costly option.

Alternative 2 – Ludovico Trail: The Ludovico Trail would have a short-term impact. Once it was done, it would include improvement of the whole Trail. The Landowner resisted that, and would not give the Town an easement. The Town began eminent domain proceedings which were discontinued after the owner won a Court ruling. Mr. Baker said early in 2020 when the Board decided not to pursue eminent domain, one of the alternatives was to re-visit the Bayard Street options.

Alternative 3 – Bayard Street – North Side: Mr. Baker stated the north side of Bayard Street was problematic. The north side is highly residential with 56 parcels, sewer and gas crossings. There is significant disruption, and a lot of trees would be impacted – landscape trees would be taken down, and there are more property owners.

Alternative 4 – Bayard Street – South Side: Once they hit the developed area on the south side, HDD installation will be installed 10”-12” below adjacent gravity. The difference is on the south side of Bayard Street, the parcels are generally larger and more accessible. This configuration seems to be less disruptive than the north side.

Lengthy discussion followed relative to the possibility of putting the pipe in the Canal and the risks involved.

Mr. Ferrara stated there is no sewer line on California Avenue – there is water. When you go up California Avenue and go east, there is land behind Kids Territory that is owned by the Town. It might be another option – it would hook up California Avenue and provide possible sewer for that part of town (about 10 residences) – it would be more pipe, but it would get it off Bayard Street for the most part. Brief discussion followed.

Mr. Ferrara asked what the timeline would be, start to finish, if the Board chose Option 4. Mr. Baker replied with Option 4, their approach would be to pay a third party to do a utility survey – that’s about \$100,000 to map out each of the utilities to make sure none are missed; that would take a couple of months. He said the project is largely designed; after they get the 3rd party survey, it will probably take a month or two to get the design finished. Once the design is done, it has to be permitted (Wetlands, Corps permits), which is six months to permit; then the bidding process which can’t be done until you have permits in hand. Mr. Ferrara said we are

probably looking at construction in 2022. Brief discussion followed.

Mr. Baker stated the Board talked a little bit about the Ludovico Trail. He talked about the different alternatives for Bayard Street, and he thinks the better option is Option 4, going on the south side of Bayard Street. The south side of Bayard Street has less parcels to deal with and would be less impacted – a lot of impacts can be avoided by going on the south side. Mr. Churchill asked how disruptive is it going with horizontal piping; Mr. Baker replied with Option 3, given the complexity of this, and going through the third party utility survey, the cost would be more significant - \$100,000+ to do that. He added doing it on the south side, there are less utilities.

Mr. Avery stated on the north side of Bayard Street there is a huge amount of trees; if the horizontal drilling is deep enough you can avoid them. Mr. Baker replied yes, you can avoid them, but the issue is in order to try to avoid them, every single line is going to cost money to confirm where that line is – it's 56 times vs. about 3 times on the south side.

Discussion shifted to the Ludovico Trail. Mr. Avery stated he reached out to Liz Rossetti, but hasn't heard back. He said they are very protective of the western end and the wetlands; maybe we can use the Sculpture Trail just for the eastern end of this project – maybe they would accept it. Mr. Ferrara mentioned that his understanding was that the Trail would be enhanced and the Town would maintain it. Mr. Avery said he wishes we could talk to her again and assure her that she would have the Trail that she wanted when we were done. Mr. Ferrara said he could reach out to her again. He doesn't know how many municipalities would completely ignore the best option. He added if you are talking about money and least destruction, the Ludovico Trail is the way to go. He mentioned that the sad part is a lot of money was invested in legal fees to get to that point; if Ludovico Trail was still an option, there would be a Court case. Mr. Ferrara said he can reach out to her again. Further discussion followed relative to the Trail.

Mr. Churchill mentioned going down Bayard Street, and said is there a reason we don't ever look to go across people's back yards where there is less utilities. Mr. Baker replied his sense is it's pretty sparse there – it would be challenging and it would take a long time – you would have to get easements from all the property owners.

Mr. Baker provided a cost estimate for each of the options as of December 2019. He said financing was never discussed; the Town had put those reserves together – he doesn't know where money was allocated for the project. The concept was the Town would fund the project with reserves from the Landfill or reserves from the Sewer Fund. Mr. Baker talked about financing the project, and said there may be potential for hardship financing. He explained the example financing scenarios for the Bayard Street (south side) option if the Board wanted to pursue financing. Lengthy discussion followed.

Mr. Ferrara stated this is a lot to digest. The Board needs to have some discussions and make some decisions. He hates to keep putting this project off; the longer we wait, the more expensive it's going to become – there is obviously a need for it. Mr. Avery said Fall Street was put aside because it's not a viable alternative – we could say the same thing about the north side of Bayard Street; it's more expensive than doing it on the south side.

Mr. Ferrara said he will reach out again to Liz Rossetti; maybe things have changed. Mr. Avery said in talking to Allison Stokes, one of the things she said was she would not be able to enjoy the Trail knowing the sewer line was there. He added they are very passionate about the Trail. Mr. Ferrara stated this will be on the January Agenda for some discussion.

Barbara Reese asked about the Ludovico Trail. She thinks the DEC initially said something about the endangered species. They wanted the Board to look at how the Canal and surface water would be potentially, adversely affected. Mr. Ferrara said that was the SEQR – it was the holdup when the Board was going in that direction. He added that's how it ended up in Court – all that has been rectified. Mr. Baker stated it has been addressed to the point that the next step in the project would be permits – those discussions will be brought up.

Being there was no further business, a motion was made to adjourn the Meeting by Doug Avery and seconded by Dave DeLelys. No questions. Motion carried 5 ayes, 0 naves.

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

NICALETTA J. GREER
Town Clerk

