BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS ADVISORY MEETING

August 13, 2024

MEMBERS Attending: Chairman - Todd Swanson, Troy Winkleman, Steve Rudnicki, Jim Simpson and Dennis Lutes

 OTHERS: Andrew Thompson, Erin Schuster, Don McCord

 MINUTES: A motion to approve the minutes to the 9 July meeting was made by Steve Rudnicki and seconded by Dennis Lutes. The motion was passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Don McCord attended early in the meeting for the purpose of discussing the renewal of the “special use permit” for the Welch building, prior to action by the Planning Board. Don provided a good summary of the developers plans, focusing on “all electric” as the building is renovated. Andrew provided a number of alternatives for providing power to meet the higher loads anticipated. He outlined estimated cost, noting further development was necessary depending on the decisions made. Some of the cost for any work would be negotiated with the developer, final decisions by the Village Board. Access and parking were also discussed.

OLD BUSINESS: Andrew provided an update of on-going, and past projects, as well as the activities of the Village DPW departments. Regarding the future work at the WPCF, Andrew indicated that the Village would submit the application for the EDA grant by the end of the month. The WQIP grant application has been submitted; decision on awards are expected in Nov/Dec. Andrew advised that MRB was the only firm to submit a proposal for the engineering/design. The proposal is high and based on the full project scope. If additional grants are not awarded, the final scope will be reduced, with an expected reduction in MRB’s proposed cost.

With the replacement of the defective switch at the Finley Rd. interconnect, Andrew indicated the work is considered DONE.

Andrew commented on the other Electric Dept. projects. He indicated the new second feeder to the Portage substation is done and in use. The second new vacuum breaker has been installed for the old feeder and is available as backup for power to the Portage substation. Andrew indicated that they were still waiting for National Grid’s response/review of the Bourne St. Substation station design. The ordering of new transformers was still pending this review.

Regarding the study for a second primary feeder to the Village, Andrew is preparing the grant application for the NYSERDA grant, based on the PSE scope of work. He indicated the scope would look at battery storage, wind and solar alternatives to cover peak loads.

Andrew noted MRB has submitted the EFC grant application for projects on the Water System Master Plan. The project cost would be between $5M and $10M.

Regarding the foundation wall of the pumphouse in the gorge, Erin outlined discussions he has had with H&K to repair the cracking and proposal to repair the deteriorated foundation wall. Erin indicated that the crack repair, using an epoxy rope would be in the range of $15K and total cost to include repair of the exterior foundation wall would be in the range of $40-50K. The discussion emphasized the urgency of this work prior to winter weather.

A motion to recommend proceeding with these repairs as an emergency, on a time/material basis, prior to winter was made by Todd Swanson. Troy Winkleman seconded the motion, and it was approved.

Regarding the manhole replacement project at Growers, Andrew noted that the CSX RR had finally approved their work permit. At this point their delay has resulted in Kingsview rescheduling the work in the ROW until after grape harvest/processing. With a much smaller harvest expected this year the work should start late September or early October.

The CGR report and recommendations is still a topic Andrew wants to address. Todd and Andrew showed up for the 30 July at 6:30 meeting and had a good discussion. This will be addressed at a future meeting.

Regarding the fiber-optic owner/operator issue, Andrew noted that EntryPoint has submitted a proposal to do the study. A grant application has been submitted to do the study.

Regarding the electric rate increase, BST has completed work, the request is moving forward.

*Regarding the 12 August 2024 stakeholder’s meeting with Southern Tier West on drinking water source protection, final maps were reviewed, edits/corrections outlined. Final plan will be sent out for review.*

REVIEW OF DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Public Works – Holt St. water main replacement. Some paving various streets in Village.

Electric Dept. –Start reconductoring on Hawley St., Rte. 5 to Thruway. Water Dept. – Operations, prep work for grape harvest.

Sewer Dept. – Operations, DEC inspection is on Thur. Had fan damage to generator radiator at Oak St. Pump station that is being addressed.

Steve Rudnicki made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Jim Simpson and unanimously passed.

The next Advisory Board meeting was scheduled for 10 September 2024 at 6:30.