

**Village of Hamilton
Municipal Utilities Commission
4:30pm
Regular Meeting of August 14, 2012**

APPROVED MINUTES

PRESENT: President John Basher; Commissioners: Larry Baker and Bob Holcomb, Village Administrator Sean Graham; Treasurer Mary Ann Henderson; Line Foreman David Rhyde; WWTP Dave Jordan; Trustee Russ Lura.

PUBLIC: Jim Oberst, Bill Davis, and Brian Roemiker of MRB Group

President Basher called meeting to order at 4:30p.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A **motion** was made by Commissioner Baker to approve the agenda as presented. The **motion** was seconded by Commissioner Holcomb and carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Regular Meeting of July 3, 2012: The following spelling corrections were requested: Cordaro to Cordiero and Swazo to Souzzo. A **motion** was made by Commissioner Holcomb to approve the July 5, 2012, minutes as amended. The **motion** was seconded by Commissioner Baker and carried.

PERSONNEL: Line Foreman Rhyde reported that Jeff Schindler will undergo surgery on August 20, 2012, on his shoulder and will be out on worker's compensation. Administrator Graham reported he was approached by the local union rep who reported that the members had an issue with Mr. Schindler attending the training school. He is recommending that Mr. Schindler not be allowed to attend training in September due to potential liability to the Village and conflicts with the union. A **motion** was made by Commissioner Holcomb rescinding the motion allowing Mr. Schindler to attend the training at an earlier meeting and stated that Mr. Schindler no longer has permission by the Village to attend training school. The **motion** was seconded by Commissioner Baker and carried.

ELECTRIC

New Business

Line Foreman's Report: Line Foreman Rhyde reported that the new owners of the old Morris home on Bonney Hill Road are requesting an upgrade for an apartment. Line Foreman Rhyde would like to go underground with the wire. He reported he would need four transformers and \$8,000.00 for wire. Commissioner Holcomb stated there should be a service connection fee and wondered what the policy stated. The tariff was referenced. Trustee Lura asked if there was a policy against going underground and it was reported that there is not. Line Foreman Rhyde stated that all the work can be done in house and will not compromise his operating budget. Administrator Graham asked what ROW this would involve and the telephone company would have to give permission. There is still an issue with the fire alarm lines with Time Warner Cable. We can get a line designated to just the fire alarm for \$17.59 per month per building. Administrator Graham would like to see everything broken down on a spreadsheet. ION is back in the area. Line Foreman Rhyde met with Bob from ION who informed Rhyde that ION will only be in three poles. Colgate will be on pole 12 on College Street going into the Parker Complex. Poles 34-54 they will not be on.

Status of Delinquent Accounts: The Commissioners had no concerns at this time with the list provided.

Transformer Bid Results: Administrator Graham reported there were several transformers that went out to bid. A 50 KVA pad mount, 50 KVA pole top, 25 KVA pole top. A spreadsheet was distributed with the bids received and a printout summary. Delta Wye was the lowest bidder. A **motion** was made by Commissioner Holcomb to authorize Line Foreman David Rhyde to issue a purchase order request for the three transformers. The **motion** was seconded by Commissioner Baker and carried.

Bucket Truck Bid Results: Line Foreman Rhyde reported that Altec came in at \$177,106.00 and Dueco at \$180,645.00

Digger Derrick Bid Results: Line Foreman Rhyde reported Dueco came in at \$198,629.00 and Altec at \$195,217.00, with a \$1,000.00 discount per vehicle if we purchase both from the same company. A **motion** was

made by Commissioner Holcomb to accept the Altec bids for both vehicles. The **motion** was seconded by Commissioner Baker and carried.

Street Light Bid Result: Administrator Graham reported that no bids were received and recommends extending the deadline. He would like to send bid to Irby and Utica Valley Electric. A **motion** was made by Trustee Lura to extend the deadline to the 16th. The **motion** was seconded by Commissioner Holcomb and carried.

EV NYSERDA Proposal: After contacting Bill Berry and Mike Lyons, Administrator Graham was told unless the Village is going to have 100+ electric cars, there is no sense in continuing.

Old Business

Natural Gas Update: Administrator Graham reported that this will be discussed at the August 16, 2012, meeting. Two consultants were interviewed for a part-time position, a Mr. LePage and Mr. Larkin. Administrator Graham is recommending to contract with Mr. LePage, as a consultant, part-time, at \$45.00 per hour. Attorney Jim Stokes will be asked to draft a contract. A **motion** was made by Commissioner Baker to hire Mr. LePage as a gas consultant. The **motion** was seconded by Trustee Lura and carried.

Rate Case: Administrator Graham reported that Frank Radigan is moving forward now that we have received some bids.

WATER

New Business

A huge project was completed at the pumping station. A 10 inch and 12 inch valve were replaced. The water was down for six hours during this which is normal. The two tanks were inspected by a robotic submarine and Line Foreman Rhyde reported there was no sediment. The tank on College Hill was built in 1927 by an outfit out of Iliion. The water and sewer were hooked up for the new house on Lebanon Street. A leak was repaired at 81 Lebanon Street and 12 Pine Street.

Old Business

SEWER

New Business

Line Foreman Rhyde reported that 120 lights are being changed to IEEP standards.

Administrator Graham reported that there was a leak at 187 Lebanon St., the home of Robert Holcomb. They are requesting sewer relief of \$18.88. The floor is dirt and the water did not enter the sewer per Chris Carhart. Commissioner Holcomb recused himself from any voting because this involves his parents. A **motion** was made by Commissioner Baker to grant the request for sewer relief of \$18.88 for 187 Lebanon Street. The **motion** was seconded by Trustee Lura and carried.

Old Business

Blue Heron/ Secondary Clarifier Update: No report.

Chesapeake TMDL Update:

MRB: Administrator Graham stated that he, David Jordan, and Matt Saltern had a conference call with the DEC. He stated that they have modified the TMDL from milligrams per liter to average pounds per year for phosphorus removal and total nitrogen. It is estimated, based on the TMDL and the backstop limits that the EPA has suggested, costing over \$8 million to meet these limits with building upgrades. Administrator Graham does not know how this will be funded. He is also concerned that these limits will be detrimental to future economic development of the Village.

Jim Overst, MRB Group, gave a brief recap from the January MUC meeting that he attended. A preliminary engineering report was prepared by MRB and presented to the Commission. The main goals of that report were to look at individual capacities of the existing treatment processes to become compliant with the nitrogen and phosphorous removal goals. At that time what was used was the "draft permit limit based on the negotiated backstop limits between the EPA and DEC." There were short term limits and long term limits. Different options

and technologies were discussed at that time. What was recommended was an SBR process. The total price tag is a little over \$8 million. Administrator Graham reported that the roof system, the wall on the aeration tank, and a couple other minor things will reduce the cost by \$900,000.00. A letter was written, with help from MRB, to the DEC because we have been operating without a permit since May 31, 2011. Percival Miller, from the DEC, confirms they are not going to set permit limits until the DEC knows what the EPA will request. This was done to protect ourselves from violations.

Brian Roemiker reported that since MRB's initial report the limits have changed. The Watershed Implementation Plan (WIP) #2 from the DEC has been submitted to the EPA for approval. Mr. Roemiker discussed with the Commission a packet that was distributed by MRB, dated August 14, 2012, that represents the most recent figures for the Chesapeake Bay TMDL and NYS DEC WIP, Hamilton WWTP Status, MRB Group Project No. 020700. By 2025 the Village will need a new filtration system. Other options to meet limits were discussed. Administrator Graham stated that what is being recommended is as fall approaches, we start the application to get on the IUP (intended use plan) for the EFC. MRB stated that they recommend building to the 2025 limits. They also recommend working on a comprehensive plan. The report will need to be updated to the final limits (when decided) detailing the worst case scenario to the EFC to get on the "list". Trustee Lura wants a two page document that can be distributed to local politicians and to the residents to let them know what we are up against. If we need to build on to the existing plant, Dave Jordan will need to go back to school for a 4A license.

Natural Gas

New Business

No report.

Old Business

No report.

CLAIMS: Commissioner Holcomb reviewed the claims and made a **motion** to pay them. The **motion** was seconded by Trustee Lura and carried.

Financial Statements: Treasurer Henderson distributed financial reports. Electric revenue at 12%, expenses at 13%. Water revenue at 17%, expenses at 14%. Sewer revenue at 18%, expenses at 16%.

The next meeting will be **September 11, 2012** at 4:30pm, at the Village Office.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business to come before the Commission, Commissioner Holcomb made a **motion** to adjourn. The **motion** was seconded by Commissioner Baker and carried. The meeting was adjourned at 6:35pm.

Submitted by,
Kim Taranto