

Regular Board Meeting
Suffolk County Water Authority
October 19, 2023 at 3:00 p.m.
4060 Sunrise Highway, Oakdale
and Virtually via Zoom

Attendance

Present:

Members: Charles Lefkowitz, Chairman
Tim Bishop, Secretary
Elizabeth Mercado, Member
Jacqueline Gordon, Member
John M. Porchia, Member
Jeffrey W. Szabo, Chief Executive Officer

The meeting was attended by Counsels B. Malik and J. Milazzo; and was also attended by Messrs. Blevins, Bova, Brady, Cecchetto, Derenze, Dubois, Fuller, Galante, Given, Huber, Kleinman, Kilcommons, Litka, Niebling, O'Connell, Pokorny, Rae, Schneider, SeEVERS, Wahl and Warner; and Mmes. Berberich, Bonilla, Cameron, Cetta, Hannan, Mancuso, Pfeuffer, and Spaulding.

Chairman Lefkowitz called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. At 3:01 p.m, on a motion by Ms. Mercado, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop, and unanimously carried, it was

(435-10-2023) RESOLVED, That the Members go into executive session to discuss litigation and personnel matters, and reenter

At 5:08 p.m Chairman Lefkowitz called the meeting back into public session.

(436-10-2023) Mr. Lefkowitz presented the minutes of the regular board meeting of September 28, 2023, and on motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Ms. Mercado the minutes of the regular board meeting on September 28, 2023 were unanimously approved.

Mr. Szabo presented the contracts to be considered for extensions. Items 2a through 2j were approved on consent with a resolution motioned by Mr. Porchia, duly seconded by Ms. Gordon, and unanimously carried.

(437-10-2023) RESOLVED, To extend for a one-year period beginning March 1, 2024, Contract 7737B to furnish and deliver complete hydrants, hydrant tops and parts with Mueller Co.

RESOLVED, To extend for a one-year period beginning March 1, 2024, Contract 7820 for drilling of wells and test borings (Zone A) with Delta Well & Pump Co, Inc.

RESOLVED, To extend for a one-year period beginning March 1, 2024, Contract 7829 for establishment of turf at various Authority-owned properties with Ironwood Industries.

RESOLVED, To extend for a one-year period beginning February 1, 2024, Contract 7905 to furnish and deliver meter box covers with General Foundries.

RESOLVED, To extend for a one-year period beginning February 1, 2024, Contract 7909A for general construction of water mains, large services and appurtenances (Group I) with Roadwork Construction Corp.

RESOLVED, To extend for a one-year period beginning March 1, 2024, Contract 7910C for replacement of asphalt and bituminous shoulders on state, county, town highways (Group III) with LLL Industries Inc.

RESOLVED, To extend for a one-year period beginning March 1, 2024, Contract 7911A for replacement of concrete and bituminous patches, concrete curb and concrete sidewalk restoration on state, county, town highways (Group I) with Rosemar Contracting Inc.

RESOLVED, To extend for a one-year period beginning March 1, 2024, Contract 7919 for cleaning services for SCWA buildings with Professional Cleaning People, Inc.

RESOLVED, To extend for a one-year period beginning March 1, 2024, Contract 7926 to furnish and deliver service boxes with General Foundries Inc.

RESOLVED, To extend for a one-year period beginning March 1, 2024, Contract 7931 for furnishing, delivery and erection of new chain link fence and miscellaneous work with Residential Fences Corp., Inc.

Mr. Szabo then referred to Contracts 7988 and 8003, he recommended that they be awarded or rejected in accordance with the letters of recommendation.

On motion made by Ms. Gordon, duly seconded by Ms. Mercado, and unanimously carried, it was

(438-10-2023) RESOLVED, That the bid under Contract 7988 for for painting, maintenance, and minor repair of elevated tanks, standpipes, reservoirs, and pressure vessels for a period of one-year beginning September 1, 2023 submitted by Alpine Painting and Sandblasting of Paterson, NJ be rejected as not meeting contract specifications; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, That the bid under Contract 7988 submitted by JPI Painting, Inc of Lowellville, OH, on a unit price basis as stipulated in the bidder's proposal and calculated on estimated quantities indicated in the contract documents, at an estimated total cost of Four Hundred and Twenty-one Thousand and Five Hundred Dollars (\$421,500), be and hereby is accepted; and that any Member and/or the Chief Executive Officer be and hereby is authorized to execute this contract on behalf of the Authority.

On motion made by Ms. Mercado, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop, and unanimously carried, it was

(439-10-2023) RESOLVED, That the bid under Contract 8003 for the installation of new private water service lines and service taps (Groups I & II) in designated areas of Manorville within the Town of Brookhaven during the one-year period beginning December 1, 2023, submitted by Bancker Construction Corp. of Islip, NY, on a unit price basis as stipulated in the bidder's proposal

and calculated on estimated quantities indicated in the contract documents, at an estimated total cost of One Million Two Hundred and Forty-eight Thousand Nine Hundred and Twenty Dollars (\$1,248,920), be and hereby is accepted; and that any Member and/or the Chief Executive Officer be and hereby is authorized to execute this contract on behalf of the Authority.

Mr. Szabo then referenced a memo from the Chief Financial Officer regarding an Authority bank account. On motion made by Ms. Mercado, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop, and unanimously carried, it was

(440-10-2023) RESOLVED, To authorize Christopher Cecchetto (CFO) and Stephanie Hannan (Accounting Manager) as authorized signors for all bank accounts at First National Bank of Long Island ("FNBLI"), and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, to authorize closing all accounts at FNBLI.

Mr. Szabo then referenced a memo from Chief Engineer Timothy Kilcommons regarding upgrading two existing wells. On motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Mr. Porchia, the following resolution was unanimously carried,

(441-10-2023) RESOLVED, To increase the authorized capacity of Wells Nos. 1 and 2 each from 650-GPM to 1,000-GPM at the Deerfield Road Well Field, 2.45-acre site located E/S/O Deerfield Road, approximately 100 feet south of Deerwood Path, Noyac, Town of Southampton; to equip each well with one (1) electrically-driven, deep well turbine pump, motor, piping, electrical controls and miscellaneous appurtenances; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that application be made to the Department of Environmental Conservation of the State of New York and that said application may be executed by any Member of the Authority, its Chief Executive Officer, or its Engineer.

Mr. Szabo then discussed a memo seeking the purchase of nine fuel level transmitters. On motion made by Mr. Porchia, duly seconded by Ms. Gordon, and unanimously carried, it was

(442-10-2023) RESOLVED, To accept the quote of Walters West End Supply of Lindenhurst, NY to furnish and deliver nine (9) fuel level transmitters for remote monitoring of diesel fuel tank levels at pump station generators at a price of \$2,450 per unit.

Mr. Szabo then moved onto a discussion of special services. On motion made by Ms. Gordon, duly seconded by Ms. Mercado, and unanimously carried, it was

(443-10-2023) RESOLVED, To accept proposal under RFP 1613 of IntelliShift of Commack, NY to enter into an agreement to provide an automated vehicle location and monitoring system (AVLM) during the 3-year period beginning January 1, 2024 at a cost of Two Hundred Fifty-six Thousand Two Hundred and Thirty Dollars (\$256,230); and that any Member and/or the Chief Executive Officer be and hereby is authorized to execute this agreement on behalf of the Authority.

On motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Mr. Porchia and unanimously carried, it was

(444-10-2023) RESOLVED, To authorize payment of change order #5 with EIPUSE America Inc. covering extension of the SAP Success Factors project and services rendered through October 31, 2023, in the amount of Four Hundred and Twenty-three thousand Three Hundred and Fifty-one Dollars (\$423,351).

On a motion made by Mr. Porchia, duly seconded by Ms. Gordon, and unanimously carried, it was

(445-10-2023) RESOLVED, To authorize extension of RFP 1507 under Amendment No. 3 for printing imaging mailing and electronic bill presentment and payment of billing statements with KUBRA Data Transfer Ltd. for a 3-year period beginning December 1, 2023, in the estimated annual amount of One Million Fifty-one Thousand Two Hundred and Sixty-four Dollars (\$1,051,264) (holding current service rates - this cost includes postage and credit card fees); and that any Member and/or the Chief Executive Officer be and hereby is authorized to execute this agreement on behalf of the Authority.

On a motion made by Mr. Porchia, duly seconded by Ms. Mercado and unanimously carried, it was

(446-10-2023) RESOLVED, To accept lowest quote received from ASCO Power Services Inc of Florham Park, NJ to perform repairs of Automatic Transfer Switches (ATS) at Country Club Drive and Woodchuck Hollow Road, in the amount of Eleven Thousand Two Hundred and Ninety Dollars and Twenty-six Cents (\$11,290.26).

Ms. Mancuso explained to the Members the decision to change dental insurance providers. After further discussion of the benefits, on motion made by Ms. Mercado, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop, and unanimously carried, it was

(447-10-2023) RESOLVED, To authorize entering into an agreement with MetLife to provide dental insurance to employees and retirees for a one-year period beginning January 1, 2024 with an option to extend for a second year, at an estimated annual cost of Nine Hundred Fifty-eight Thousand Seven Hundred and Twenty-eight Dollars and Seventy-two Cents (\$958,728.72), and that any Member and/or the Chief Executive Officer be and hereby is authorized to execute this agreement on behalf of the Authority.

Mr. Szabo presented several items for consideration relating to meetings, training and seminar attendance. On motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Mr. Porchia, and unanimously carried, it was

(448-10-2023) RESOLVED, To authorize the attendance of Jeffrey Szabo at the AMWA Executive Management Conference in San Diego, CA from October 20 through October 24, 2023 at an estimated total cost of Two Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty-one Dollars and Forty Cents (\$2,881.40).

Member Gordon inquired into whether those employees that attend certain trainings can then use the knowledge learned to train their fellow employees as a cost savings measure. Mr. Szabo responded that employees are required to complete a report after attending a conference and a question regarding how the employee will share the information learned is included .

On a motion made by Mr. Porchia, duly seconded by Ms. Gordon, and unanimously carried, it was

(449-10-2023) RESOLVED, To authorize Patrick Fields and Keath Otis to attend virtual training on SAP BC401-ABAP Objects from November 27, 2023 through December 1, 2023 at a total cost for two (2) of Eight Thousand Six Hundred and Seventy Dollars (\$8,670).

On a motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Mr. Porchia, and unanimously carried, it was;

(450-09-2023) RESOLVED, To authorize Ron Kulman and Alex Behrhof to attend virtual training on SAP BC401-ABAP Objects from January 29, 2024 through February 2, 2024 at a total cost for two (2) of Eight Thousand Six Hundred and Seventy Dollars (\$8,670).

Mr. Szabo discussed the South River Road Water Main extension. On motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Mr. Porchia, and unanimously carried, it was

(451-10-2023) WHEREAS, the Suffolk County Department of Health Services has designated certain areas of Calverton as a priority area due to the groundwater contamination, and

WHEREAS, approximately 98 premises in the area consume water produced by groundwater wells, and

WHEREAS, SCWA has been awarded a \$1.85 million grant by the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to offset the cost of an extension of SCWA's public water treatment and distribution system to provide access to approximately 98 premises in the Calverton community to SCWA's system, and

WHEREAS, SCWA has reviewed the project under the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act and its implementing regulations and determines that the project is a Type II activity because it is the extension of utility distribution facilities, including gas, electric, telephone, cable, water and sewer connections to render service in approved subdivisions or in connection with any action on this list, and

WHEREAS, SCWA has submitted the project for review to the New York State Office of Historic Preservation for a determination whether the project would adversely impact any state or national listed historic or pre-historic resources and SHPO by letter dated 10/16/2023 has determined that the project will not impact such resources, and

WHEREAS, SCWA is committed to funding the construction of the project using existing funds or bond funds as deemed most fiscally appropriate by SCWA's CFO, and

WHEREAS, SCWA wishes to delegate to its CEO authorization to sign and execute any document or instrument required by the EFC to apply for or effect the grant, now therefore be it

RESOLVED, SCWA declares the extension of its system to provide access to public water to 98 premises in the Suffolk County Department of Health Services priority area in the Calverton community is a Type II action because it is the extension of utility distribution facilities, including gas, electric, telephone, cable, water and sewer connections to render service in approved subdivisions or in connection with any action on the Type II list, and be it further

RESOLVED, SCWA, declares that existing funds or bond proceeds will be used to pay for the extension, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Authority’s Chief Executive Officer is authorized to execute EFC Grant Agreements associated with the SCWA EFC Grant for the extension of its public water treatment and distribution system to provide access to public water to 98 premises in the Suffolk County Department of Health Services priority area in the Calverton community and all other contracts, documents, and instruments necessary to effect the SCWA EFC South River Road Water Main Extension Grant Project and to fulfill Suffolk County Water Authority’s obligations under the grant agreements associated with the SCWA EFC South River Road Water Main Extension Grant Project.

Mr. Szabo led a discussion on the Water Authority of North Shore (WANS). On motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Mr. Porchia, and unanimously carried, it was

(452-10-2023) RESOLVED, To authorize CEO to provide written notice to WANS of intent to terminate cooperative agreement effective upon 90th day after delivery of notice.

Member Gordon asked Mr. Pokorny to explain his request with regard to Shelter Island service line leaks. After answering several questions from Members, a motion was made by Ms. Mercado, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop, and unanimously carried, it was

(453-10-2023) RESOLVED, To authorize a 30-day grace period for customers on Shelter Island with service line leaks to obtain repairs; if repairs are not made within 30-days the customers will be responsible for entire wasted water amount.

The Members then reviewed the invoices for payment. On a motion made by Ms. Mercado, duly seconded by Mr. Porchia and unanimously carried, it was;

(454-10-2023) RESOLVED, To approve the following invoices be paid from the Operating Fund:

Dvirka & Bartilucci	\$37,048.25
Helsin, Rothenberg, Farley & Mesiti	\$301.03
Miller Makris Plousadia & Seiden	\$1,590.00

At 5:37 p.m., on a motion made by Mr. Porchia, duly seconded by Ms. Gordon, and unanimously carried, it was

(455-10-2023) RESOLVED, That the members enter into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. The members will not return to public session.

On motion made by Mr. Porchia, duly seconded by Ms. Gordon, and unanimously carried, it was

(456-10-2023) RESOLVED, To confirm the termination of employment of Philip Malone, General Utility A.

On motion made by Ms. Gordon, duly seconded by Ms. Mercado, and unanimously carried, it was;

(457-10-2023) RESOLVED, To employ Nicholas Calabrese of Sayville, NY in the position of Field Operator at an hourly rate of \$43.41; to be effective upon successful completion of pre-employment physical and background check.

On motion made by Mr. Bishop, duly seconded by Mr. Porchia, and unanimously carried, it was;

(458-10-2023) RESOLVED, To employ Emily Lodono of West Babylon, NY in the position of Bilingual Supervisor- Trainee at an annual salary of \$72,300.; to be effective upon successful completion of pre-employment physical and background check.

On motion made by Ms. Mercado, duly seconded by Mr. Bishop, and unanimously carried, it was;

(459-10-2023) RESOLVED, To transfer Douglas Wadsworth of Medford, NY from Call Center Supervisor to Production Control Administrator with a 40-hour work week at an annual salary of \$82,000.

On motion made by Ms. Gordon, duly seconded by Mr. Porchia, and unanimously carried, it was;

(460-10-2023) WHEREAS, the Authority filed suit arising out of contamination of its water sources with 1,4-dioxane in November, 2017 against five defendant corporations: The Dow Chemical Company, Ferro Corporation, Vulcan Materials Company, and Procter & Gamble Company (P&G) and Shell Oil Company, individually and doing business as Shell Chemical LP (Shell); and

WHEREAS, the Authority, P&G and Shell wish to settle the Authority's claims against P&G and Shell; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Authority elects to settle its claims against P&G and Shell; and be it

RESOLVED, that the Authority authorizes its outside counsel, Sher Edling LLP and Hausfeld LLP, to take all action necessary to effectuate the Authority's settlement with P&G and Shell, and receipt of funds from the settlement with P&G and Shell, on terms recommended by outside counsel and approved by the Authority.

The next meeting of the board members was scheduled for November 16, 2023 at 3:00 p.m. As there was no further business to be considered, on motion made by Mr. Bishop and duly seconded by Mr. Porchia, the meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Timothy Bishop
Secretary