

TOWN OF RICHLAND WATER DEPARTMENT

1 BRIDGE STREET PULASKI, NY 13142

MINUTES OF THE RICHLAND WATER ADVISORY BOARD

Date: April 5, 2022

Kind of Meeting: Regular monthly water board meeting

Place: H. Douglas Barclay Courthouse Jury Room

Water Board Members Present: Doug Schwalm

Krista Fox, Absent

Rob Goodsell

Absent: Donna Gilson, Chairwoman

Others in Attendance:

Supervisor Ron Novak, Water Department Supervisor

Mary Yerdon, Water Department Clerk

Millie Newcomb, Town Clerk

CALL TO ORDER: Tonight's meeting was called to order at 6:00pm with Doug Schwalm leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Christa Fox made a motion to approve the water board minutes. It was seconded by Rob Goodsell. All were in favor.

Supervisor Novak informed the water board that member Doug Haynes handed in his water board resignation. The water board would like an ad placed in the paper for 2 weeks informing the public there is an opening on the water board.

Next was a discussion regarding the opening of the sealed bids for a Generator at the Schoeller well site. 1 of the 3 bids was hand delivered and the other two came by email. The Town Clerk placed the two that came by email in separate sealed envelopes until the bid opening. The town attorney determined only the one sealed bid that was hand delivered was acceptable; the other two did not follow sealed bid procedure. To accept bids by email the Town Board had to pass a resolution with a specific email for the bid to be sent to prior to posting the bid. The water advisory board can either recommend having the generator rebid or they can open the one sealed bid. To repost and rebid it would add about 3 weeks to the process. The generator will not be in stock before January 2023. Currently there are no state bids available. Caterpillar cannot get one until at least the second quarter of 2023. If the one bid does not meet the posted specifications, it will have to be rebid. The generator the town currently has at the Schoeller site is manual start only. Once the new generator is installed, the old one could be kept and used as a backup for wells #7 and #23 or sold for no more than \$8000. That money could purchase a smaller generator to be used at the CWWF building.

The one bid that was hand delivered on time was opened by the Town Clerk. The bid was from Scriba Electric for \$38,577 for an 80KW Kohler generator. It included a supply line and installation (see attached specification).

Rob Goodsell made a motion to recommend the town board accept the bid from Scriba Electric. It was seconded by Krista Fox. All were in favor.

Supervisor Novak informed the water board that ARPA funds was used to purchase 70 Stortz valves from WD Malone at \$175.00 each (total of \$12,250). We have 700 hydrants and 150 Stortz valves. Stortz are required on hydrants in Water District #5. These new Stortz connectors purchased will be placed in population areas not in empty fields.

150 hydrant flags were authorized by the town board at a cost of \$5000. All have been installed and Ron has requested 150 more. These are pending Town Board approval.

The tree work at the **Richland Well Field** has been looked at. There is trimming needed along the power lines. There are large red pines over our main lines giving us "0" access if a major leak should occur. Trees also need to be cleared where our electrical system would be. Supervisor Fox went with Supervisor Novak to see what the highway workers would be able to do. Over 100-150 trees are in areas that could take out our electrical lines-1 tree that fell during a recent windstorm costing \$16,000 to fix. The bids on this are not in yet.

Kevin Balcom and **Matt** Lapoint from the highway department have been working on our new response trailer. They put in shelves and did some painting. The floor should be painted this week. ARPA money was used to purchase tools and equipment. Some items are just not available currently.

There was discussion about purchasing a new pusher for putting in taps; shared services with Sandy Creek is a possibility for this purchase.

Extensions are being looked at.

A new Town Road at the Richland wellsite is also being looked at. Coffin Excavating has been asked for a bid on a road from the yellow gates to go across the field. Supervisor Novak gave a list of potential projects to Supervisor Dan Krupke. Supervisor Krupke gave it to the county to apply for ARPA funding. The new generator is on that list as well as a cold storage building. The process could take 6-8 weeks before we have an answer.

A 2019 Ford F250 was purchased for \$45,000. There were 4 bids for the snowplow for the truck. The one from Whitesboro was chosen at \$6490. It is scheduled for installation next week; it's a 8 ½ foot stainless "V" plow.

A 10" water gate valve for a 10" main came in today as well as more hydrant flags.

The week of April 4-8 Supervisor Novak will be taking the operator B/C operator course in Courtland. Once he passes the test on Friday, the next step is to document one year of working with an operator (can take up to 2 years to complete). At the end of that Wm. Havener from the Oswego County Board of Health will give Ron an oral exam; once passed he will be classified a certified operator.

As for extra staff in the water department, full time is a "no" for now.

Update on Orwell receiving water from Richland: at the first meeting with Orwell, Orwell stated they would like the pumphouse on the Orwell side of the line on CO RT 2 not the Richland side. Now, due to elevation, the pumphouse must be in Richland. Orwell prefers to own the property where the pumphouse is built. Supervisor Krupke suggested a lease agreement with Orwell for the property, like the Haldane lease between the Town of Richland and the Village of Pulaski. Richland would like a new generator to cover the two wells that will service Orwell. It could be called a connection fee.

Orwell funding or a grant from Orwell could be used to purchase it. If that happens when we get the new 80KW, we could sell it and purchase a small 18KW generator to place at the CWWF building.

Dustin Clark and Supervisor Krupke calculated the cost of producing 1,000 gallons of water at between \$3.80-\$4.00. Revenues need to increase. Schoeller and Brennen Beach both should be re-negotiated.

The solar panels at the CWWF on CO RT 41 are generating enough energy in the summer to cover the year in National Grid bills at that facility. The remainder is put toward paying the energy bill at the Schoeller wellsite.

The shed roof in Fernwood has needs a new roof. This summer that will be fixed.

Water parts for hookups have been on order for two months. Meter pits are expected to increase by \$150.00. We have to order 12 at a time or pay shipping costs.

The next water board meeting is scheduled for May 3 at 6pm in the Jury Room of the H. Douglas Barclay Courthouse.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mary Yerdon
Town of Richland Water Department Clerk