

RAHWAY VALLEY SEWERAGE AUTHORITY

Engineering Committee Meeting

Minutes

September 14, 2017

Commissioner Louis Lambe, Engineering Committee Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Lambe read the statement on “Open Public Meetings Law”.

“In accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act, State of New Jersey, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by the inclusion of the date, time and place in a Notice forwarded to the Star Ledger, the Home News Tribune and the Clerk of each of the eleven member municipalities on February 14, 2017.

If any member of this body believes that this meeting is being held in violation of the provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, please state your objection and the reasons for same at this time.”

.... Hearing no objections, we shall proceed with our regularly scheduled meeting.

The Chairman asked everyone to stand for a salute to the flag and a moment of silence.

Roll Call

The following members were present:

Michael Furci	for the Township of Springfield (via conference call)
Louis C. Lambe	for the Township of Cranford
Michael J. Gelin	for the Township of Woodbridge
Stephen D. Greet	for the Borough of Garwood
Loren Harms	for the Borough of Roselle Park
Richard J. LoForte	for the Borough of Kenilworth
Frank G. Mazzarella	for the Township of Clark
Robert Rachlin	for the City of Rahway
John J. Tomaine	for the Borough of Mountainside

The following members were absent:

Robert B. LaCosta	for the Township of Scotch Plains
No representative	for the Town of Westfield

The following were also present:

James J. Meehan	Executive Director
Robert J. Materna	Secretary-Treasurer
Joanne Grimes	Board Secretary/Office Manager/QPA
Dennis Estis, Esq.	General Counsel, Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith
Howard Matteson, P.E.	Consulting Engineer, CDM Smith, Inc.
Dan Ward	Superintendent
John Buonocore	Chief Engineer/Assistant Superintendent
Anthony Gencarelli	Manager of Regulatory Compliance
Sam Mardini	Township of Springfield - Engineer
John Johnson, Esq.	Township of Springfield Attorney
Frank Rotonda, PE	Township of Springfield - Consulting Eng.

New Business**Springfield**

At the request of the Board, representatives from the Township of Springfield are present this evening to discuss their flow rights / flow utilization matter.

Mr. Estis stated that the Authority held a meeting in February 2016 for the previous year's flow exceedances. Mr. Estis stated that the most recent letter received from Springfield was dated August 16, 2017 and based on that letter, Springfield was requested to attend this evening's meeting.

Mr. John Johnson, the Attorney for the Township of Springfield, addressed the Board. He stated that Springfield is very aware of its Inflow/Infiltration (I/I) issues. He stated that their engineers would explain to the Board what steps were taken to correct the I/I since the last time Springfield came before the Board. Mr. Johnson introduced the Township's Engineer, Mr. Sam Mardini and their Consulting Engineer, Frank Rotonda from Pennoni Associates.

Mr. Rotonda stated that he has done research for the Township of Springfield on the sewer matters and added that the Board was aware that they previously submitted an I/I study. That I/I study was based on trying to remove sources of water that Springfield felt were related to improper connections into the system. That data was from one (1) year ago. He understood that Springfield had exceedances from one year ago more so than this year. In reviewing the recommendations from the I/I study, we feel that we fairly conclusively uncovered no new major sources of direct inflow. He said that smoke testing machines were utilized in the inspection process. He continued on to say that he looked at the sewer maps data from Keller & Kirkpatrick (the former consulting engineer for Springfield). He indicated on the map (diagram of township) where there are clay sewer pipes which are submerged in ground water, which is a large percentage of the town. He noted that the department of agriculture provided data indicating the ground water levels throughout the town. In some places ground water is 18" below the surface and in other areas it is 18"-36" below the surface.

Mr. Rotonda continued on to say that what they would like to do now, is remove the infiltration from ground water that's in the system; this theory is proven in the data provided by RVSA. This year there have been very few exceedances. This year coincidentally we had drought condition. The previous year when there were larger exceedances, there were significant amounts of rain. He stated that by taking the flow data from last year, supplementing it with data from the proposed metering, and then TV-ing the lines, they can remove a significant amount of infiltration from their system. We are going to go look for infiltration because we feel it's improper to send groundwater to the treatment plant to be treated. It's not environmentally responsible. When we find broken pipes, we can line them, reline them, or do spot repairs to get a significant reduction in flow and exceedances. He added that he feels this action will take several months because they will have to study the lines, fix things that they don't know are broken and cut out tree roots. He added that the Township of Springfield has taken appropriate steps in that they purchased smoke testing machines, a tv-ing machine with a trailer, and computer equipment for doing this work. We are going to aim to remove groundwater from the system as we don't believe our discharge represents our population.

Commissioner Gelin asked if they are looking for “hot spots” or township wide. Mr. Rotonda responded they will be looking township wide. They will use the data they already have, rent additional flow meters to measure velocity, flow and depth of flow in various locations of the system and have the sewer department begin to televise lines. We plan to start this program within a month.

Commissioner Mazzarella asked if their review will be solely on the service area or on the service connections. Mr. Rotonda stated that he is looking at the collection system. Mr. Mazzarella stated that inflow is a different component than infiltration. Mr. Rotonda stated that they went around town and did smoke testing to see if they saw smoke coming out of roof drains or yard drains and that’s not what we found. Mr. Mardini, Director of Engineering, stated that we purchased a smoke machine which we received in July of 2017. As soon as we received the machine, we sent out notices to all affected residents and businesses to let them know we were going to be doing smoke testing. We performed smoke testing from July 27th to August 10th and found nothing. Mr. Mardini said he submitted a report to Mr. Johnson, Esq. who forwarded the report to the Authority regarding these results.

Commissioner Greet asked if you’re doing this process and you’re checking for breaks, are you planning on mapping that out and at a later date going back to do the repairs or are you going to make repairs immediately? Mr. Mardini responded that he has emergency funds for sewer repairs and will make them immediately.

Commissioner Lambe stated that when you do smoke testing and your water table is above the pipes, 90% of the defects that you would normally identify will never be seen because the smoke is saturated. The smoke has nowhere to go because of ground saturation other than the proper sewer vents.

Commissioner LoForte asked if one of the easiest ways to correct your problem is to purchase sewer rights from one of the neighboring towns so you have more flow rights. Mr. Rotonda asked how is that better? Mr. LoForte stated if you have more flow rights, you won’t have flow exceedances. Mr. LoForte stated that the steps you are taking are good; however, Springfield should obtain more flow rights as the town has grown. He added that there are towns that have additional flow rights to see to Springfield which will help to keep Springfield from exceeding in the future. This will also help a lot faster and will give Springfield the time to concentrate on fixing their sewer issues.

Commissioner Gelin stated that you should be doing CCTV not just smoke testing. He added that this could take a couple of years in order to do the whole town. Mr. Rotonda stated that we want to start with the areas that have the highest likelihood of infiltration. Mr. Mardini said the sewer department does the Tv-ing and they have contractors on standby to do repairs.

Commissioner Harms said that the area you are doing, time wise, is based on the map you have here, I can’t tell how big that area is. Here is my thought, if you run a camera and you find a break, you will have that repaired immediately. Mr. Harms then asked what area you are talking about starting with. Mr. Rotonda stated that’s the problem. The Town owns the TV truck; however, they don’t own flow meters. They will rent flow meters so they can determine the measurements of flow. Wherever we find that the flow exceeds by a significant amount the

predicted flow, we will televise that section of pipe. We think that's how we will find the sources of flow.

Dennis Estis, Counsel to the Authority asked how much they have appropriated for emergency work. Mr. Mardini stated that he has \$100,000 appropriated. Mr. Mazzarella stated that for your rehabilitation efforts, you have \$100,000 dedicated. Mr. Mazzarella continued on and asked if after your investigation are you willing to go back and dedicate the necessary amount needed to abate your I/I by introducing a Bond Ordinance, which could be in an amount of \$1 to \$1.5 million. Mr. Mardini said he was. Mr. Mardini stated that his community is ready to do whatever it takes to repair any problems with the sewer system.

Mr. Rotonda stated that he meant that he needs a few months to lay out a capital plan.

Mr. Lambe stated that in 2016 K&K testified that they had narrowed down three hot areas that they were going to investigate. Mr. Lambe asked if this investigation ever took place. Mr. Rotonda said they did this. He then noted it also took them time to find the right Engineer and they finally found me. I advised them that they have a ground water problem. We have to look at this and the aging infrastructure. Mr. Lambe asked what Phase II cost? Mr. Mardini said he thinks it was about \$25,000 to \$30,000 just for the metering. Mr. Mardini stated that they spent about \$65,000 for TV equipment which was installed in one of their existing trailers and we are currently looking into a new truck with everything already mounted which costs about \$135,000.

Mr. Lambe asked if there was a work product, a deliverable from K&K on the Phase II study that you can share with us. Mr. Mardini stated that there wasn't a report because there was a change in guard and we hired a new consulting firm.

Mr. Meehan asked what is the percentage of the 18" saturated zone that you are going to go after first. Mr. Rotonda stated that's a good question, noting that's nearly half the town. We are going to first narrow it down further by doing visual tests and some metering. Mr. Rotonda stated that he has concluded that most of the problem is leaks in the system because of the water level and the age of the structure.

Dennis Estis asked when they anticipate their investigation to be completed. Mr. Rotonda stated that we can do this in a few months. Mr. Rotonda stated that a few months, maybe until spring, no maybe 9 months. Mr. Estis said at that point you will know how much it will cost to correct. Mr. Rotonda stated they would be able to come back with a capital plan for the work and what has been done so far.

Commissioner Tomaine stated that there seemed to be an agreement at the time of the last hearing as per the transcript, that the issue was groundwater and Springfield believed this was only a problem during heavy rain. Mr. Rotonda stated that he believes it is only caused by groundwater.

Mr. Meehan asked if the Township ever adopted the recommended Ordinance. Mr. Mardini said no they haven't, because they have a sump pump ordinance on their books. Mr. Estis stated that the Authority provided a form ordinance to Springfield and requested to discuss what should be adopted. Mr. Mardini asked if Mr. Estis had reviewed Springfield's Ordinance. Mr. Estis stated

it was never provided to him. Mr. Mardini said he would forward it. Mr. Estis stated that when a home is sold, part of the Code Enforcement Inspection should include removal of any sump pump that is tied into the sanitary sewer. Mr. Mardini said that they did that, however, how do you know that they are not tying it back in after you leave. Residents should be made aware that sewage bills will go down if you stop putting rain water into the sewer.

Mr. Estis said the one major concern that the Authority has, is that we have corresponded with the Township numerous times over the past year and we don't get any response at all. He added that he would appreciate a response.

Mr. Rotonda stated that we can work with the Authority's engineer and send him data. Mr. Lambe asked if Mr. Rotonda will be willing to summarize those findings and then tell us what the plan is from there. Mr. Rotonda said yes. He said that was easy, he would summarize it for Springfield and send RVSA a report by the end of September. Mr. Rotonda said we met with a metering specialist to rent meters which will help to narrow down areas of concern.

Mr. Greet stated that the problem with this is, it's going to be a long term process. Mr. Greet asked if they expect that after repairs are done that they aren't going to continue to exceed their flow rights. Mr. Greet also asked if you can't come in line with your exceedances, will Springfield buy flow rights and what is your time line. Is it five years? Mr. Mardini said no, much less.

Mr. Estis asked how much has been allocated for Pennoni for this work. Mr. Rotonda stated that Pennoni has not given the township a price yet. Mr. Rotonda stated that we gave them a price for the smoke testing work but that he came to the meeting tonight to make sure we are all in agreement before they move forward with more work. Mr. Rotonda stated we were retained in January. We charged \$4,500 to do the smoke testing analysis.

Mr. Estis stated that by December 15th Pennoni issue an interim report so the Authority knows what is going on and that you provide our engineer monthly data.

Mr. Meehan asked who Springfield's C Licensed Operator is. Mr. Mardini stated his name is Matty Calderon, he is a Union resident. Mr. Meehan stated that Capacity Assurance requires you to submit a monthly report which we have not been receiving.

Mr. Meehan also requested a copy of the Phase II report dated October 2016. Mr. Mardini said he has it on CD and will send it over.

Mr. Mardini and Mr. Rotonda stated they would forward the requested information.

As there was no further discussion, the Chairman thanked them for attending and the representatives from Springfield including Mr. Furci left the meeting at this time, 8:00 p.m.

Contract #173 – Codigestion/Liquid Waste Receiving Station

Mr. Meehan provided the Commissioners with an update on this contract, specifically related to the SED requirements and loan. He noted that the State was not satisfied that the contract documents require the contractor to comply with the SED Program and therefore, John

Buonocore, RVSA’s Chief Engineer had to draft a plan for the Authority, which was submitted to the NJDEP in order to obtain the loan.

Contract #181 – Synchronization of Cogeneration Engines and Standby Diesel Generator

A Notice to Bidders was published in the Star Ledger and Bid Documents were posted to the Authority’s website for download by registering bidders. Thirty-four companies downloaded Bid Documents. Two bids were received as follows:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Optimum Controls Corp. (OCC) Reading, PA	\$128,461.00
Philadelphia Electrical Equipment Co. Aston, PA	\$398,000.00

Joanne Grimes, QPA, reviewed the bids and found the low bid to be in order. Recommendation is to award the contract to OCC in an amount of \$128,461.00. The Commissioners concurred with the recommendation.

Contract #182E – Engineering Services for Rahway Riverwalk Siphon Chamber Rehabilitation

As discussed at the August meeting, an RFP was prepared and posted to the Authority’s website. On August 10, 2017 five proposals were received as follows:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Total Amount</u>	<u>Sr. Eng.</u>	<u>Jr. Eng.</u>	<u>Proj. Mgr</u>
Suburban Consulting Wall, NJ	\$39,920	\$145	\$130	\$155
Langan Engineering Parsippany, NJ	\$51,500	\$229	\$135	\$243
CDM Smith Edison, NJ	\$64,400	\$207	\$102	\$175
CME Parlin, NJ	\$89,218	\$167	\$155	\$169
LAN Assoc. Midland Park, NJ	\$125,000	\$150	\$98	\$150

Joanne Grimes, QPA and John Buonocore, Chief Engineer/Asst. Superintendent reviewed the proposals. Ms. Grimes found the low bid to be non-conforming and therefore disqualified. The other proposals were found to be in order. Counsel stated that a letter was sent to the County Manager and we are awaiting their response. He added that the Board could take action at the regular meeting to award the contract to CDM as recommended by the Staff.

Contract #1726 – Stack Testing / Air Emissions Testing Services

A Notice to Bidders was published in the Star Ledger and Bid Documents were posted to the

Authority’s website for download by registering bidders. Nineteen companies downloaded Bid Documents. Two bids were received as follows:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Peregrine Technical Services Quakertown, PA	\$19,264.00
Mostardi Platt Elmhurst, IL	\$23,119.00

Joanne Grimes, QPA, reviewed the bids and found the low bid to be in order. Recommendation is to award the contract to Peregrine Technical Services in an amount of \$19,264.00. If the Commissioners concur, action will be on the Regular meeting agenda.

Contract #1730 – Rebid #1, Progressive Cavity Pumps – Moyno or Equivalent

A Notice to Bidders was published in the Star Ledger and Bid Documents were posted to the Authority’s website for download by registering bidders. Eleven companies downloaded Bid Documents. Two bids were received as follows:

<u>Company</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Valley Tech Inc. Whitehouse Station, NJ	Based on per unit pricing for pumps and tool, estimated amount of \$84,054.00
Hisco Pump Bloomfield, CT	Based on per unit pricing for gear boxes only, estimated amount of \$18,670.00

Joanne Grimes, QPA, reviewed the bids and found both bids to be in order. The Bid Documents allow the Authority to award the contract to more than one bidder if it is to the Authority’s advantage. Based on the bids received, recommendation is to award the pump and stator removal device tool portion of the bid to Valley Tech Inc. based on per unit price, total estimated amount of \$84,054.00, and to award the gear box portion of the contract to Hisco Pump based on per unit amount, total estimate amount of \$18,670.00. If the Commissioners concur, action will be on the Regular meeting agenda.

Rules and Regulations Update

Janet Thevenin, Supervisor of Industrial Compliance, submitted a memo regarding the 9th Revision to the Authority’s Rules and Regulations. The memo has been distributed to the Commissioners along with a “redlined” version of the Regs. The Revision requires two readings for final approval. If the Board concurs, action will be on the September agenda for the first reading.

Mr. Meehan stated that although Janet Thevenin is not present, he wished to commend her for doing a great job on this.

Annual Professional Service Contracts

Joanne Grimes, QPA, submitted a memo to the Commissioners regarding the annual RFP process for Professional Services. The Board concurred with the recommendation of the QPA,

and action will be on the agenda to authorize the 2018 RFP process.

Sewer Connection

1400 Rahway Urban Renewal LLC submitted a Treatment Works Sewer Connection application for the connection of a Transport Commerce Center located on Rahway Avenue in Woodbridge. The connection is for 242,126 sq. ft. of warehouse with internal office space for 60 employees, with a projected flow of 3,475 gpd. The application was reviewed by John Buonocore and found to be in order. Action to approve the application will be on the regular meeting agenda.

Surplus Items

A resolution will be on the September agenda for the disposal of Authority property that is no longer needed, including misc. pipe fittings, manhole covers and frames, Hobas pipe, etc., and will be put up for auction on Govdeals.com. Board approval for the disposition of items is required prior to auction and will be on the regular meeting agenda.

Monthly Reports

The Operations, Engineering Bills & Claims, and IPP reports have been received and were distributed to the Commissioners.

Report of Consulting Engineer

Howard Matteson, Consulting Engineer, from the firm of CDM Smith submitted his report for the month of August 2017, which was distributed to the Commissioner.

A. Retainer Services

During the period, CDM Smith prepared the monthly report for August 2017 and attended the August 2017 Board Meeting.

During the period, CDM Smith continued work on the Annual Inspection Report.

B. Miscellaneous Engineering Services

During the period, CDM Smith performed the following:

- Assisted staff with bidding of Cogeneration Engines – Emergency Diesel Generators Synchronization (“Black Start”) Project. Assistance included fielding questions from bidders.

Mr. Meehan stated that he thought CDM did a very good job on the specifications for this contract.

- Reviewed a pump selection for the Service Water Pumping Station.

C. Biosolids Hauling and Reuse Contract Assistance

No activity during the period.

D. Digester Gas Treatment System Design – Construction Services

No activity during the period.

E. Digester Covers and Waste Gas Burner Replacement – Design, Bidding, and Construction

During the period, CDM Smith performed the following:

- Participated in Pre-Construction Meeting with RVSA, the Contractor, and DEP.
- Reviewed initial shop drawings.

Report of General Counsel

Dennis Estis, General Counsel, from the firm Greenbaum, Rowe, Smith & Davis submitted his report which was distributed to the Commissioners.

The following report covers from August 17, 2017 through September 14, 2017:

1. General.

A. Flow Rights

We met with Springfield's representatives earlier in this meeting. Based on that meeting, I will be sending a letter to the Township of Springfield outlining the timing of what was discussed.

B. Local Contracts Law/Open Public Meetings Act

I have provided advice to Ms. Grimes regarding the sufficiency of various bids received over the past month.

C. QDI Monitoring and Pride Solvents Monitoring

As I reported last month, Quala claims that it submitted its report to the NJDEP over a year ago. Supposedly NJDEP had no records of such a submission. We have requested that Quala produce a copy of the NJDEP Acknowledgment.

D. Regulatory

As part of our regulatory counseling, David Roth of my office provided certain advice to Ms. Thevenin regarding the update of the RVSA Rules and Regulations.

2. Cogeneration Facility

I sent a letter to Mr. Cipolla last month and I have heard nothing in response. I sent another letter this week, requesting that he respond to my last letter with the requested information. Brian Hak is sending me whatever documentation he has regarding Cipolla's work and bills.

3. Rahway – Union County Park

We prepared a letter to go to the County Manager under Jim Meehan's signature. We are waiting for a response from Mr. Faella.

Closed Session

Mr. Tomaine made a motion to go into closed session at 8:15 p.m. for discussion of pending

and/or anticipated legal matters, specifically personnel matters. The motion was seconded by Mr. Harms and approved by those present. Mr. Furci and Mr. LaCosta were absent.

Regular Order of Business

Mr. Harms made a motion, seconded by Mr. Tomaine, to return to the Regular Order of Business at 8:21 p.m. The motion was approved by those present. Mr. Furci and Mr. LaCosta were absent.

Adjournment

As there was no further business, on motion of Mr. Harms, seconded by Mr. Tomaine, the meeting adjourned at 8:21 p.m. The motion was approved by those present. Mr. Furci and Mr. LaCosta were absent.

Chairman
/jg

Robert J. Materna
Robert J. Materna, Secretary-Treasurer