

City of Oronoco

Water & Sewer Committee Meeting

Oronoco WWTP Administration Conference Room

Thursday, February 6, 2025, 6:30PM

Agenda

Members present:

Absent:

Others present:

The meeting started at xxxxxx PM.

Agenda - Motion by xxxxxxx and 2nd xxxxxxx to accept agenda as Amended. Approved.

- I. Approval of January 14, 2025, minutes. Motion by xxxxx and 2nd by xxxxxx. Approved.

- II. Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF)
 - A. WWTF Contract #1 – Construction Status Update
 1. Staab – No Pay request this month.
 2. Outstanding punch list items for contractor to address:
 - a. Electric switch gear partially delivered. Installation schedule pending.
 - b. Kilmer said in an email on 1-24-25 that Eaton has the missing equipment in and are in production. They have committed to getting [switch gear] shipped out no later than the end of February. Note that Kilmer is planning to wait for warmer weather to install the switchgear in mid to late March 2025.
 - c. Valor HVAC items: Valor Mechanical sent a technician to the WWTF on January 13 to address outstanding HVAC (Unit heater issues). All punchlist items were completed except for an electric heater fan identified in the tertiary building that needs to be replaced, and a thermostat needs to be wired in the Pre-treatment building. Valor will order a new fan and replace ASAP and have their electrician wire the thermostat.

- III. PeopleService Operation of Wastewater System. Update
 - A. Operations Status Update – Nitrogen limit of 10 mg/L calendar month average is not consistently being met, especially during recent cold weather months. Operator has been working with Xylem to get the SBR working as intended and has been working with the City of Rochester to truck in seed sludge to recover nitrifying bacteria and to restart the process. See email update from PeopleService and Xylem – attached.
 - A. PeopleService monthly Report.

- IV. Phase 1A Wastewater, Sanitary Sewer, and Watermain Improvements
 - A. Fitzgerald Excavating – No pay request this month
 - B. Contracts #2 and #3 – Construction Status
 1. Turf restoration – Both Ellingson and Fitzgerald have overseeding and fine grading issues to correct along with minor punchlist items. Turf restoration items will be addressed next spring.

2. Air / vacuum release manhole training and leakage issue.
 - a. The contractor has provided and installed 3 new valve seats and has promised 2 additional valve seats for the 14" forcemain. The additional valve seats have been shipped and are in City's possession. Fitzgerald to install the valve seats.
- V. Review Utility – Sewer and Water Rates for 2025.
 - A. Update on recommend to Council for 10% increase for the water and sewer rates in 2025.
- VI. Discussion regarding preliminary Engineering and funding for Phase 1b Sewer and Water Improvements.
 - A. PFA recently sent an email stating that "The city may use funds from the appropriation awarded in 2024 (SPAP03) for the design of Phase 1b. Be careful not to spend funds on Phase 1b if the funds are still needed to pay for the current project. Running out of funds could be very problematic.
The city needs to send a request to MPCA to have the Phase 1B project be added to the PPL. In addition, a 2026 IUP request should be submitted to me.
Corey at MPCA will need a revised Facility Plan. Contact him for more details."
 - B. Next steps - Discussion
- VII. Commercial Development ERU assumptions
 - A. Discussion on minimum number of ERU's to be charged to new proposed commercial development which impacts PIF and SAC payments.
 - B. Consider minimum ERU / commercial lot policy.
- VIII. Review committee members terms of service on the committee.
 - A. Length of service for current committee members start date.
 - i. Ross Parker – 1997
 - ii. Dylan Christopherson – May 2018
 - iii. Joe Kimmes – February 2020
 - iv. Ryland Eichhorst – February 2015
 - v. John Stolp – March 2024
 - vi. Open position
 - vii. Open position
 - B. The committee will discuss terms of serving, officers, and bylaws.
- IX. Next meeting March 11, 2025.
- X. Motion by xxxxxxxx and 2nd xxxxxxxx to close the meeting xxxxxx PM. Approved.

Respectively submitted by Ryland Eichhorst