

## FINANCE

Tuesday, November 2, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.

Council Chambers – Olean Municipal Building

Present: Members: Chairman Witte, Vice Chairman Crawford, Alderman Panus, Alderman Gonzalez, Alderman Robinson, and Alderman Anastasia. Others: Mayor William Aiello; Fred Saradin, City Auditor; Bob Ring, Director of Public Works; Brad Camp, Water and Sewer Superintendent; Tim Richardson, Fire Chief, and Tiffany Taylor, Managerial Confidential Administrative Secretary.

### 1. Roll Call

Alderman Witte called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and asked that the record show that all committee members were present except Alderman Barnard, who was excused.

### 2. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Committee Meeting (Tuesday, June 15, 2021)

A motion to approve the minutes of the previous committee meeting was made by Alderman Witte, seconded by Alderman Crawford. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

### 3. Unfinished Business

None

### 4. New Referrals for Consideration

#### a. Airport Funding / Project Updates

Mr. Ring explained that this was discussed briefly last week, and that perhaps in a month or so he can give a full project update. He explained that we are still picking up the pieces on a very busy construction season and there is still some budget work to do, as well as some projects that are still in construction.

Mr. Ring explained that the good news is that we essentially balanced the budget at the airport with revenue from unexpected grants, the increase in funding from the County, and reduced expenses. He explained that this all helps very much with this year. He explained that the FAA also funded 100% of the capital projects at the airport, including a \$2.5 million runway replacement. He explained that in the long term airport, as the County seems to have increased their contribution from \$17,000 to \$85,000 on a recurring basis, he would like to have a meaningful discussion at budget time to talk about having a full time staff position at the airport. He explained that this position could work on FAA projects and also work on gaining additional interest in the airport.

Mr. Ring explained that the new T-Hangers were built roughly 10 years ago, and the old ones need some work done like painting, paving, and door replacement. He explained that this is the project that he would really like to tackle if there is additional revenue there.

Alderman Crawford explained that he thinks that Alderman Witte has a great idea. He explained that it was around six months ago that we had the last capital projects update. He explained that maybe the Mayor and Mr. Ring can give the Council some dates in December after the construction winds down to give a full report on capital projects. Mr. Ring and Mayor Aiello explained that they will work on this.

b. WIIA Grant Application – Filtration Plant Wall

Mr. Camp explained that we are seeing this again to apply for a grant for the filter plant wall. He explained that everyone is aware of the deterioration of the wall. He explained that the wall has separated about 10 inches and we want to make sure that this is fixed correctly. He explained that we are looking at a cost of \$1.2 million, and the WIIA Grant would cover 60% of the cost. He explained that we are seeking a Council resolution to apply, and we may need a bond resolution to pay for the project down the road.

Alderman Crawford asked about the timeline for the WIIA Grant application. Mr. Camp explained that the application is due by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> and as far as the timeline on the results of the application, he is not sure. Alderman Crawford asked if this is something that we would typically hear about in six months or a year, and Mr. Camp explained that he would say we would probably know within six months. Alderman Crawford asked if we receive the grant if we would then have a discussion regarding funding our portion, and Mr. Camp explained that we would. He explained that assuming that assuming the Council approves, he will check with EFC to see if we can just submit a regular resolution and not a bond resolution. He explained that the SEQR was done in April 2020 and SHPO is done. He explained that everything has been allocated in terms of funding for the engineering report, so we will be ready to submit the application by the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Alderman Crawford asked if we know ultimately what the cause of the issue is. Mr. Camp explained that we were in a rush to put the plant online when it was initially built so the concrete curing time was shortened. He explained that he does not believe the rebar was coated like it should have been during the initial construction. Alderman Gonzalez explained that he thought that the concrete sat in the truck too long, and Mr. Camp explained that this could also have been a contributing factor. He explained that the plant was also constructed during multiple seasons.

Alderman Witte asked if the company that provided the concrete had to pay for the issues that we had. Mr. Camp explained that the plant is 21 years old so if there is any claim he is unsure.

Mr. Saradin explained that we did get some money but it was not a great deal. He explained that it was maybe \$25,000 and nothing close to what we recognized in damages. Alderman Crawford asked if this means that we filed a claim on the company's insurance, and Mr. Saradin explained that we did.

Alderman Crawford asked when the Stardust Pump Station would be finished. Mr. Camp explained that work will be done on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> of the month and if there is any residual work to finish, it will be on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Alderman Witte explained that when the road had closed a few weeks ago, neighbors had called because the sign that said the road was closed was by Skyview and people from above Satellite Circle started down that way and had to turn around so she would appreciate if the sign could be moved father up. Mayor Aiello explained that we can also send notice to residents.

Alderman Robinson asked if the COVID stimulus funds could be used for the replacement of the wall instead of bonding. Mayor Aiello explained that he believes that it can be, since this is infrastructure. Alderman Robinson explained that it looks like we could already have passed the next budget before we hear back, so then we would need to be looking for this funding. He just wonders if the stimulus would qualify. Mayor Aiello explained that based on everything he has read, it would. Mr. Camp explained that the restoration would make this building useful for 50 or more years.

Mr. Ring explained that a formal bond resolution would not be needed for next week, but there will have to be a commitment to the matching funds. He explained that this would strengthen the application. He explained that this would be in addition to the resolution authorizing to apply for the funding. He explained that we have a really strong application, and he hopes that we get this funding. He noted that we will have to consider funding the project ourselves if we are not awarded the grant funding.

#### c. East State Street Waterline

Mr. Camp explained that what we are looking at doing under the East State Street Bridge with the waterline is to basically have a resin-infused felt sock pulled through the line, which is then pressurized, steamed, and cured. He explained that we can be in and out in a day and have everything back up and running the next day. He explained that we have one quote from a company that is doing the sewer line, and it is a similar process that we are doing with the sewer lines to help with the I and I issues in the City. He explained that the quote is for \$62,250.

Alderman Panus asked if there is any type of guarantee or warranty for the work, and Mr. Camp explained that we do not have any. Alderman Panus explained that he would try to get this. Alderman Witte asked if this could be funded through the stimulus, and Mayor Aiello explained that it can be. Alderman Crawford explained that this is a lot less than we initially thought it

would be. He asked if this is a long-standing fix, or if this is just a band aid. Mr. Camp explained that this line will be good for a number of years after this, and his professional estimate is that it would be good for 20 years or more.

Alderman Witte asked if there will be a resolution next week to use the money from the stimulus, and Mayor Aiello explained that there can be one if this is where the Council would like to see the money come from. Alderman Crawford asked if we can also use contingency funding, and Mr. Saradin explained that we have not used any funding from Water Fund Contingency yet. Alderman Crawford explained that he would like to keep this larger pot of money for larger projects.

Alderman Panus asked if we still have the South Olean Syphon to deal with, and Mr. Camp explained that this will be a different grant application. He explained that he has not spoken to the consulting firm in six weeks or so, and so we have to get together with them to find out what the efforts are for that. Mr. Ring explained that we have applied through the Consolidated Funding Application and also for the Water Quality Improvement Program for this, and we are waiting to hear if it is funded. He explained that this is the third time that we have tried applying for funding. He explained that we have a Master Plan that the DEC expects us to follow, and we are falling a little behind. He explained that COVID threw a lot of things off project-wise, and funding-wise with the state.

Alderman Panus asked if we have a better chance this time. Mr. Ring explained that one time before we were very close in the scoring process. He explained that it is tough because WQIP funding typically goes towards water projects, and they are prioritized over sewer projects. He explained that we are trying to sell that this is preservation of the water in the river.

Alderman Robinson explained that he was curious to see if we figured out what caused the issues with the East State Street line. Mr. Camp explained that the bursting of the line was caused because it was originally put in place in the 1950's. He explained that there are areas that are just really thin. He explained that when we were successful patching the first leak, another spot burst under pressure.

## 5. Committee Reports

None

## 6. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Gonzalez, seconded by Alderman Crawford. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:30 p.m.