

May 15, 2016

Meeting: Minutes from Committee on Sustainable Utility Management-Wastewater system

Date: May 9, 2016

Members in attendance: Steve Grimm - NYRWA Technician; Jim Swartout-DPW Supt. ;Mayor Kevin Neary; Clerk-Treasurer Joe Pizzo; Citizens- Phil Butler

Mayor Neary called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Mr. Grimm asked for any feedback on the Rating Achievement Report that he had prepared for the meeting. DPW Superintendent Swartout had objections on the system being near its useful life. Mr. Grimm said the equipment is getting older and now is the time to do something about it. Mr. Swartout responded by saying that it's not an indication of the Village being in a state of failure, but instead being in a state of mental preparedness to make things better. Mayor Neary said the Village has made some updates. Mr. Grimm mentioned that engineering grants are necessary for further improvements and that the first step is to get evaluations from the engineers. Mr. Swartout mentioned that the DEC would give the Village a grant. Mr. Grimm said that according to Village records the plant is 23 years old. He pointed out that when the DEC looks at the grant application, they will want to see an engineering study. Mr. Swartout mentioned that Lamont Engineering will help the Village submit the application. Mayor Neary said that it is a high priority to keep the Village at a high achievement level according to the Rating Achievement Report. Mayor Neary told Mr. Grimm that the report should say that the treatment plant is at or approaching its design life, and instead of saying that the Village is striving to maintain compliance records, it should say that the Village wants to work hard to continue to maintain compliance records.

The next area covered on the report was infrastructure stability. Mr. Swartout and Phil Butler agreed that the Village does not have an inventory system or a formal Capital Improvement Plan in place. The Village does not have a dedicated reserve fund set aside for this purpose. Mr. Swartout mentioned that the Village tries to replace lower ticket items when it is possible. The Village wants to develop a proper Asset Management Plan (AMP) to be able to move from low to high achievement. Mr. Grimm is looking for engineers to develop a Comprehensive Performance Evaluation, which may not contain an O & M. Time must also be dedicated to develop an Inventory Cost Condition Analysis.

In tracking performance progress, Phil Butler mentioned that the Village must set goals. Mayor Neary agreed and added that the Village must outline the tasks involved and set timelines. Mr. Swartout pointed out that the biggest challenges to wanting to achieve these goal is time, money and staffing. Mayor Neary, Clerk-Treasurer Pizzo and Mr. Butler all agreed.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Pizzo, Clerk-Treasurer