

APPROVED

AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES
June 20, 2016

Board Members Present: Chairman Neil Angell, Treasurer Harry Hertline, Vincent Bono, James D’Onofrio, James Franco, Barbara Freeman, Nancy Novak and Jim Williams

Board Members Absent: Vice Chairman Ken Long and Robert Roberts

Authority Staff Present: William Rabbia, Jodi Tuttle, Emily Albright, Joe Artessa, Jim Biamonte, Patrick Donovan, Andrew Opperman, William Schrader and Jamie Tuttle

Others Present: Authority Counsel Kevin Martin

Chairman Angell called the June 20, 2016 Authority Board meeting to order at 4:28 PM, and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Mr. D’Onofrio, seconded by Mr. Williams and passed to approve the May 9, 2016 Authority Minutes.

There were no speakers for public comment period.

Comptroller Pat Donovan provided an overview of the City of Utica Solid Waste Agreed Upon Procedures Report which highlights the amount of revenue collected through user fees and the sale of City blue bags and expenses associated with the Utica Fund for the period April 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016, performed by SAXBST. Total revenues for the 12-month period were \$3,611,027 in comparison to \$3,554,396 for the prior year. Mr. Donovan stated that solid waste service charge revenues increased by about \$27,000 resulting from better collections and the sale of bags increased by about \$25,000. Expenses were \$3,652,780, in comparison to \$3,616,903 during the same period. Salaries and benefits went down from approximately \$412,000 in 2014-2015 to \$301,000 through March 31, 2016, the majority related to GASB 45 [post-retirement health insurance costs]. Expenses for tipping fees grew by about \$55,000 from additional tonnage and the collection contract increased by about \$80,000. The overall deficit for the period April 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016 was \$41,753, compared to \$62,507 for the prior year. Mr. Donovan said that there is sufficient money in the solid waste fund to withstand the \$41,000 deficit. The Authority does an annual projection for the City of Utica that the Executive Director presents to the Mayor and believes that the current rates the City is charging for both blue bags and user fees should be adequate through March 31, 2018.

Mr. Donovan said that Resolution No. 11 would authorize a \$750,000 budget amendment for expenses related to the Community Compensation Agreements with the Village of Boonville/Erwin Library for work that is being done by the Authority, in lieu of the bypass road.

Introductory No. 11 was introduced by Ms. Freeman, seconded by Mr. Williams and passed approving a budget amendment in the amount of \$750,000 for expenses related to the Village of Boonville/Erwin Library Community Compensation Agreement.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Neil C. Angell
Chairman

Harry A. Hertline
Treasurer

James M. D’Onofrio
James A. Franco

Nancy A. Novak
Robert J. Roberts, III

William A. Rabbia
Executive Director

Kenneth A. Long
Vice Chairman

Vincent J. Bono

Barbara Freeman

James M. Williams

Jodi M. Tuttle
Authority Board Secretary

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Executive Director William Rabbia reported that all contracts with Central Paving related to the improvements to the intersection of NYS Routes 294/46 and Erwin Library site in the Village of Boonville have been completed. Once the school year ends, right-of-way work will begin. Mr. Rabbia said that the majority of the utility work has been completed. Curbing, drainage and paving work should be completed toward the end of July. Interior work and paving of the parking lot are slated for mid-July with an overall completion date of August 26th.

Mr. Donovan said that Resolution No. 12 would authorize budget transfers for temporary labor required at the Recycling Center.

Resolution No. 12 was introduced by Mr. Bono, seconded by Mr. Williams and passed approving budget transfers to cover temporary labor at the Recycling Center.

Mr. Rabbia said that Resolution No. 13 would authorize the Executive Director to file a negative declaration on the Route 294/46 improvement project. Mr. Rabbia stated that Environmental Coordinator Jim Biamonte has reviewed the project from the SEQRA standpoint and the Authority has determined there is no environmental impact related to this project.

Resolution No. 13 was introduced by Mr. Bono, seconded by Mr. Franco and passed establishing the Authority Board as the SEQRA lead agency; determining that the proposed improvement project is a Type 1 Action and that the project will not have a significant adverse impact on the environment; and authorizing the Executive Director to publish notice and file a copy of the Negative Declaration for the project.

Mr. Rabbia reported that the Authority continues working with the New York State Association for Solid Waste Management (NYSASWM) and NYS Association of Counties (NYSAC) on draft comments on the newly proposed NYSDEC Part 360 regulations. Mr. Rabbia attended a meeting on June 17th with the DEC, NYSASWM and NYSAC, and the DEC relayed that it plans on extending the comment period by 60 days from July 15th to September 15th. The meeting also included discussion related to active landfill gas collection and carbon credit markets. Mr. Rabbia said that the Authority has been anticipating changes in regulations over the years (i.e. design changes related to electro-resistivity testing on the primary landfill liner, radiation detection at landfills) and has tried to plan and budget accordingly. Mr. Rabbia and Mr. Biamonte are working on draft comments to submit on behalf of the Authority and will continue to keep the Board apprised.

Chairman Angell commented on the letter from the NYS Association of Counties to Mr. Rabbia, thanking him for his dedication in managing a comprehensive and impressive solid waste management system.

In response to questions raised by Mr. Duane Ulrich at the last meeting of the Authority related to community compensation to the Town of Ava, Chairman Angell requested that Mr. Rabbia correspond with Mr. Ulrich and Town of Ava Councilman Tom Tkachuk, who was also present at the meeting, by providing them with additional information.

Mr. Rabbia noted that June 21st marks the last day for comments on the draft RFP for transportation of solid waste to the Authority Regional Landfill. Nine companies had requested copies of the draft RFP but no comments were received. A final RFP will be issued on July 6th with comments due July 20th.

At 4:55 PM a motion was made by Mr. Hertline, seconded by Mr. Bono and passed to go into executive session to discuss pending litigation.

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At 4:58 PM a motion was made by Mr. D'Onofrio, seconded by Mr. Williams and passed to come out of executive session.

With no further business, a motion was made by Mr. Bono, seconded by Mr. Franco and passed to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Jodi M. Tuttle
Authority Secretary