

AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES
November 21, 2016

APPROVED

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

Board Members Absent: James Franco

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

Chairman Angell called the November 21, 2016 Authority Board meeting to order at 4:30 PM and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

A motion was made by Mr. Bono, seconded by Mr. Williams and passed to approve the September 19, 2016 Authority Minutes.

At 4:31 PM Chairman Angell called the public hearing on the proposed 2017 budget to order.

Executive Director Bill Rabbia and Comptroller Pat Donovan presented an overview of the proposed 2017 Authority budget through a PowerPoint presentation. The draft budget was released to the public on October 28, 2016. Mr. Rabbia said that the proposed budget includes a \$2 per ton reduction in tipping fees for municipal solid waste (msw), local solid waste [Ava-Boonville] and sludge; and a \$10 per ton reduction in tipping fees for asbestos. The Authority will maintain rates charged in 2016 for all other categories of waste. It was noted that the proposed 2017 tipping fees remain lower than tipping fees charged in 1992. For the 26th consecutive year, recyclables will continue to be accepted at no charge. Graphs illustrating historical msw tipping fees for the period 1990 – 2017 (projected) and historical msw tipping fees versus the rate of inflation for the period 1990 - 2016 were reviewed. A chart outlining neighboring County tip fees was provided. An analysis of 2015 actual and 2016 and 2017 projected tonnage by waste class was reviewed. An overview of system revenues outlining 2015 actual, 2016 (6-month data), and 2017 projected was reviewed. A historical review of recycling revenues and budget projections for 2017 was presented. The Authority is proposing a small increase in projected revenue to \$2,050,000 for 2017. Mr. Rabbia outlined proposed 2017 revenue assumptions for solid waste, recyclables, landfill gas, recyclable processing fees, carbon credits and miscellaneous revenues. Mr. Donovan reviewed system expenditures by cost center outlining 2015 actual, 2016 (6-month data), and 2017 proposed. He stated that 2017 proposed expenditure assumptions include an 8% to 15% increase in health insurance expenses over 2016 projected expenses; fuel costs budgeted at \$2.50 per gallon; \$455,000 of contracted host community payments; and public education expenses budgeted at \$70,000. The 2017 proposed landfill reserves total \$2,050,000 [\$450,000 for equipment replacement and \$1,600,000 for landfill liner extension]. As part of the Authority’s five-year financial plan, Mr. Donovan stated that the Authority has been working with Bond Counsel on the defeasance of the Authority’s 2011 and 2007 bonds. A resolution will be presented to the Board in December with the adoption of the budget for the defeasance of approximately \$6,000,000 of bonds. Mr. Rabbia said that the 2017 proposed capital plan funded through tipping fees will be \$714,500 which is a decrease of \$375,500 from the 2016 budget. Several charts that indicated revenues and expenses by category and cost centers projected for 2017 were reviewed.

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Harry A. Hertline
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James A. Franco

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Robert J. Roberts, III

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Executive Director

Kenneth A. Long
Vice Chairman

Vincent J. Bono

Barbara Freeman

James M. Williams

Jodi M. Tuttle
Authority Board Secretary

AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES

November 21, 2016

Page 2

The proposed 2017 budget for the six municipalities in which the Authority administers the respective municipal programs was presented. The City of Utica and the Villages will not require an increase in fees for 2017. Discussion ensued.

There was no one present from the public at the public hearing on the proposed 2017 budget. A motion was made by Mr. D'Onofrio, seconded by Ms. Freeman and passed to close the public hearing.

The regular meeting of the Authority resumed.

There were no speakers for regular public comment period.

Mr. Rabbia said that the Authority just passed the 10-year anniversary since the opening of the Regional Landfill in Ava. Mr. Rabbia reviewed the operation time line of the first ten years of the landfill:

- 2006 Opened October 24, 2006 (3 Cells; 23.6 Acres Lined)
- Estimated Facility Life – 62 Years (1,200[#]/cy; 208,000 Tons Per Year)
- Total of 19 Cells Permitted Per 150 Acres
- 2010 Installed Active Gas Collection 2010 (Skid Flare/Gas Header) 73 Wells to Date
- 2010 Constructed 4th Cell (9.3 Acres)
- 2012 Landfill Gas to Electricity
 - 2012 1st Engine Installed
 - 2013 2nd Engine Installed - Powers 3,300 Houses Annually
- 2014 Constructed 5th Cell (8.95 Acres)
- 2015 5th Cell Operational

After operating 10 years and assuming the current tonnage, Mr. Rabbia stated that the landfill now has a future capacity of over 80 years. This is mainly due to higher waste density (1920[#]/cy) as compared to original estimates.

Mr. Donovan said that the Authority is required to annually review and approve its Investment Policy and Guidelines and said that Resolution No. 16 before the Board would approve the Investment Policy and Guidelines without modification. He reported that the Finance Committee reviewed the Investment Policy and is recommending no modifications at this time. Mr. Donovan said that all Authority investments are in compliance with the Investment Policy.

Resolution No. 16 was introduced by Mr. Bono, seconded by Mr. Hertline and passed to approve the Investment Policy and Investment Guidelines without modification.

Mr. Rabbia reported that Fulton County is interested in formulating an intergovernmental agreement with the Authority for the processing and marketing of their recyclable material. Under the agreement, Fulton County would pay a rate of \$68.98 per ton in 2017 with an annual escalator of 2% for each subsequent year of the five-year term. Mr. Rabbia noted that projected revenue under this agreement was not incorporated into the proposed 2017 budget.

Resolution No. 17 was introduced by Ms. Freeman, seconded by Mr. Bono and passed approving an intergovernmental agreement with Fulton County for the processing and marketing of their recyclables.

Mr. Rabbia said that he and Director of Recycling Emily Albright have been working with the Village of Mohawk on a bid spec for the collection and haul of solid waste and recyclables in the Village. The Village recently awarded the bid to Spohn's Disposal for a three-year term, with two one-year extensions.

AUTHORITY MEETING MINUTES

November 21, 2016

Page 3

Spohn's currently provides service to the Village. Mr. Rabbia noted that the new contract will include a provision for a 64-gallon recycling cart for every participating property in the Village.

Mr. Rabbia reported that the Authority continues working with Barton & Loguidice on fine tuning the organics feasibility study and financial analysis associated with installing a source separated organics processing facility adjacent to the Authority's Utica Transfer Station. Mr. Rabbia said the Authority is also studying other communities that have put in similar facilities and is analyzing the differential between the municipal solid waste tip fee and the organics tip fee to determine how much tonnage would be required to feed a facility.

Mr. Rabbia said that he and Ms. Albright attended a ribbon cutting on November 5th in the Village of Boonville to officially open the park located behind the Erwin Library and Institute and the Dodge-Pratt-Northam Art and Community Center, which was part of the transportation improvement project the Authority funded. Mr. Rabbia said that the community has provided positive feedback on the project. He noted that books were collected for recycling and Confidata provided paper shredding at the ribbon cutting.

Mr. Rabbia said that the solar array project is moving forward again, although there is no start-up date yet. National Grid has provided the Authority with a draft easement for review and the Public Service Commission is doing its part.

Resolution No. 18 was introduced by Ms. Freeman, seconded by Mr. Williams and passed commending the service of Authority employee George James. Mr. James served as the first Operations & Landfill Facility Manager and Manager of the former Oneida County Energy Recovery Facility and Supervisor of the Ash Landfill until closure of those facilities. The Authority Secretary read the Resolution aloud.

Board Members extended their appreciation and praised Mr. James for his exceptional hard work and dedication over the years.

At 5:39 PM a motion was made by Mr. Bono, seconded by Mr. Roberts and passed to go into executive session to discuss personnel matters.

At 6:05 PM a motion was made by Mr. Hertline, seconded by Mr. Williams and passed to come out of executive session.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Jodi M. Tuttle
Authority Secretary