



Established

1996

SPRINGFIELD WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION

POST OFFICE BOX 995
SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS 01101-0995
413-452-1300

Minutes of Meeting

June 8, 2023

The Springfield Water and Sewer Commission held a virtual meeting on June 8, 2023, in accordance with Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023.

Chairman Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. and announced the Commissioners that are participating. Secretary for the Commission Jaimye Bartak called the attendance roll:

Daniel Rodriguez, Participating Remotely
Vanessa Otero, Participating Remotely
Matthew Donnellan, Not Present

Also Participating Remotely
Joshua Schimmel, Executive Director
Norman J. Guz, Commission Counsel
Anthony Basile, Comptroller
Domenic Pellegrino, Director of Finance
Theo Theocles, Director of Legal Services
Jaimye Bartak, Communications Manager/Secretary to the Commission
Katie Shea, Educational Outreach Manager
Darleen Buttrick, Director of Engineering
Steven Frederick, Director of Wastewater Operations

Business Matters

1. Approve the minutes of the meeting held on May 18, 2023, without reading, because copies were furnished to each member of the Commission for their review.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE BY COMMISSIONER OTERO AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ

**VOTED YES –
COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ
COMMISSIONER OTERO:**

to approve the minutes of the meeting held on May 18, 2023.

New Business

2. Consideration of FY2023 O&M Transfer of Funds – Amendment #2: Report by Comptroller.

Comptroller Tony Basile reported on a transfer request for \$130,000 to cover increases in insurance premiums for FY23 and into FY24. This transfer would also cover the cost of phosphoric acid chemicals until the end of June.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE BY COMMISSIONER OTERO AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ

VOTED YES –

COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ

COMMISSIONER OTERO:

to approve FY23 O&M Transfer of Funds Amendment #2.

3. Consideration of FY2023 O&M Transfer of Funds – Amendment #3: Report by Comptroller.

Mr. Basile reported that this transfer request is to move funds from the Personal Service account to the OPEB trust account. The balance of the OPEB trust account is \$6 million.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE BY COMMISSIONER OTERO AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ

VOTED YES –

COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ

COMMISSIONER OTERO:

to approve FY23 O&M Transfer of Funds Amendment #3.

4. Consideration of SWSC Contract No. 20230056 Solutia Eastman Water Agreement: Report by Director of Finance.

Director of Finance Domenic Pellegrino reported on a proposed contract with Solutia Eastman. Mr. Pellegrino identified changes to the contract, including a reduction in the maximum annual withdrawal to 2,200 million gallons from 2,700 million gallons, with the average daily flow likewise reduced. The contract is now a 10-year contract instead of 5-year and is set at 98% of the annual industrial rate.

Commissioner Rodriguez asked if the contract indexed with residential rate increases. Mr. Pellegrino responded yes. Mr. Pellegrino continued that the contract allows Solutia to assign the contract to another entity with Commission approval.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE BY COMMISSIONER OTERO AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ

VOTED YES –

COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ

COMMISSIONER OTERO:

to approve the contract with Solutia Eastman substantially in the form as presented and to authorize the Executive Director to sign.

5. Consideration of SWSC Contract #20230060 SRWTF Grit Removal Upgrade: Report by

Director of Wastewater Operations.

Director of Wastewater Operations Steve Frederick reported on the contract for upgrades to grit removal at the wastewater treatment plant. The Board previously appropriated \$26 million for the project, but the SRF loan is for \$28 million to allow for contingencies. There were 6 bidders for the project and DOC was the lowest responsible bidder at \$17,740,000. All bids came under the estimate.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE BY COMMISSIONER OTERO AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ

VOTED YES –

COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ

COMMISSIONER OTERO:

to approve the contract with DOC for the grit removal upgrade project as presented and to authorize the Executive Director to execute the contract on behalf of the Board.

6. Consideration of SWSC ASA #SPR_ASA_006 Engineering Services During Construction ISO SRWTF Grit Removal Upgrade: Report by Director of Wastewater Operations.

Director of Wastewater Operations Steve Frederick reported that it is critical to have Veolia involved in the grit removal project, since Veolia will have to operate and maintain the influent channels and the primary clarifiers during construction. This contract is for \$3.4 million, which makes the total project just under \$22 million. The project received a BABA waiver.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE BY COMMISSIONER OTERO AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ

VOTED YES –

COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ

COMMISSIONER OTERO:

to approve the ASA contract as presented to the Board and to authorize Steve Frederick to execute the contract as the Veolia contract administrator.

7. Consideration of Kleinfelder Task Order No. 35 for Cobble Mountain Hydropower Station Additional Field Investigations and Conceptual Design: Report by Director of Engineering.

Director of Engineering Darleen Buttrick reported on a task order with Kleinfelder that involves additional field investigations and underwater inspections for the development of conceptual design memorandum for the hydropower station. The draft conceptual memorandum is expected by October 2023.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE BY COMMISSIONER OTERO AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ

VOTED YES –

COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ

COMMISSIONER OTERO:

to approve and authorize the Executive Director to execute Kleinfelder Task Order No. 35.

8. Consideration of Change Order No. 7 to Contract CA-21-06 West Parish Filters Clearwell and Backwash Pump Station Project: Report by Director of Engineering.

Ms. Buttrick reported on a change order to increase the contract time and associated costs due to the fabrication and delivery of valves for the backwash pump station project. The change order will add 67 additional days to the contract, to conclude on October 27, 2023. The total contract cost is \$23,726,946.87.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE BY COMMISSIONER OTERO AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ

**VOTED YES –
COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ
COMMISSIONER OTERO:**

to approve and authorize the Executive Director to sign Change Order No. 7.

9. Consideration of Change Order No. 1 to SWSC Contract No. 20230024 FY 23 Sewer Infrastructure Improvements: Report by Director of Engineering.

Ms. Buttrick reported that current sewer rehabilitation work found that existing services were unexpectedly connected to a 10” asbestos-lined pipe that is to be abandoned. To remediate this issue, the change would increase the contract amount to \$3,800,586.71, with no change in the contract time or completion date.

UPON MOTION DULY MADE BY COMMISSIONER OTERO AND SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ

**VOTED YES –
COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ
COMMISSIONER OTERO:**

to approve and authorize the Executive Director to sign Change Order No. 1.

10. Consideration and/or action on any other matters that may come before the Commission at this meeting.

None considered.

Adjourned by unanimous vote at 9:27 AM.

Submitted By:



Jaimye Bartak, Secretary

Exhibits considered:

SWSC Contract #20230060 SRWTF Grit Removal Upgrade
SWSC ASA #SPR_ASA_006 Engineering Services During Construction ISO SRWTF Grit
Removal Upgrade
FY2023 O&M Transfer of Funds – Amendment #2
FY2023 O&M Transfer of Funds – Amendment #3
SWSC Contract No. 20230056 Solutia Eastman Water Agreement
Kleinfelder Task Order No. 35 for Cobble Mountain Hydropower Station Additional Field
Investigations and Conceptual Design
Change Order No. 7 to Contract CA-21-06 West Parish Filters Clearwell and Backwash Pump Station
Project
Change Order No. 1 to SWSC Contract No. 20230024 FY 23 Sewer Infrastructure Improvements
Award for Bid No. 23-47 - Springfield Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility Grit Removal
Upgrade