

A meeting of the Board of Public Works was held on Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 10:04 a.m. via videoconference call and at the City Building, 82 Main St., Hornell, NY.

PRESENT: Mayor John Buckley, Commissioner Jared Zigenfus (videoconference), Commissioner Joseph Liberto, Waste Water Treatment Plant Chief Operator Richard Dunning, Public Works Superintendent Mitch Cornish and City Clerk Melissa Logan.

ALSO PRESENT:

ABSENT: Water Filtration Plant Chief Operator Leonard Fucci.

By: Liberto/Zigenfus

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the last meeting, held December 17, 2020 be approved as read. Carried-Ayes all (X)

By: Liberto/Zigenfus

RESOLVED, that the Reports of Department Heads be approved and ordered filed. Carried-Ayes all (X)

By: Liberto/Zigenfus

RESOLVED, that claims in the amount of \$1,551,302.52 be approved and paid as audited. Carried-Ayes all (X)

MISCELLANEOUS:

Rich Dunning – The Belt Press project finished up on January 14, 2021 and they took the last loads to the landfill. It had a total cost of \$26,616 in tipping fees, an estimate of \$8,250 in polymer use for the press, \$35,000 rental fee for 30 days. They processed 870,000 gallons of sludge from December 15 to January 10. The project was a strain for them and had help from Andy Doran, Tyler Cornish, Rob Guy and Mitch Cornish. Work was done in frigid temperatures from early mornings to late nights to get it done and could not have been done without their help. They had hoped to do 660,000 gallons, but were able to do 870,000 gallons which should help to get through the new permit. There was a lot of overtime and they worked all weekends except Christmas and New Year's weekends. The second issue is the ongoing problem with Crowley Dairy. A sample was sent from our facility to a microbiologist in Pennsylvania who identified the issue as a filamentous bacteria problem called nocardia. It's a dairy waste problem because of the high concentration of fats in their waste. Crowley's admitted that they had a

problem with their caustic cleaner that caused issues and created a toxic situation. These filaments insert themselves between the food and the bacteria, keeping them physically apart so that the settling process doesn't occur as it normally would. To reduce these filaments, they have to be treated with chlorine making them less prevalent in the system. There are two products we use that we will recommend to Crowley's to use to get this under control. So far this year Crowley's has been fined \$31,000 in overages to our plant. The Maintenance supervisor at Crowley's is Arlie May and we got in touch with him in the autumn, to straighten out their PH problem, when the sludge holding tanks started filling up. After that they go to the General manager, Donald Rudder, and he received this report and is aware of the situation. We have been keeping the DEC apprised of the situation. The City has the responsibility to control waste water from all the industries in town and report it to the DEC. The facilities do testing as well as the City does testing on these facilities and all are reported to the DEC. We are currently in the process of upping our permit to 500 tons of sludge as opposed to our current permit of 150 tons to be land applied. Another thing is there is a grant for \$30,000 from the EFC to improve something in your facility. This would be good to beef up our industrial monitoring system to test waste water going into our plant and test at each industry to see what is coming from where. By monitoring this, we can construct a flow chart of what is coming from each industry. Once we determine the total usage from the industries, we can determine a fee for the privilege of our operating costs. The contracts we would have with these industries would have a set amount of waste and if they go over that, we would charge a fee on top of that. This would give us a snapshot in time for what each industry contributes to our facility.

We will set up a Special Common Council Zoom meeting for Monday, January 25, 2021 at 7:00pm. Include Rich Dunning, Matt Higgins, Mitch Cornish. Have Matt Higgins get the resolution together for the meeting.

Mitch Cornish – Lenny has been bust at the Water Treatment Plant working on SCADA (The electronic portion of his plant). They are trying to get the #1 clarifier back online and working on some other issues. The two tanks are online. The garage is working on picking up Christmas trees, working on cold patching and cleaning up down behind the yards. The DPW is losing one employee in March and one in April, putting them down five people at the garage. Hiring will be needed. There are a bunch of capitol needs such as the Public Safety building roof needs replacing as it is leaking, the arcade needs work, five buildings at the WPCP need work, transmission lines from the resevoirs need attention, the 40 year old heaters on City Hall that need to be replaced, as well as heaters on Art Center

that need to be replaced, the City garage is in poor shape, as well as an aging fleet and trucks that need repairs. Also, municipal waste was 300 tons more this year than last year.

By: Liberto/Zigenfus

RESOLVED, that there being no further business, this meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

Carried – Ayes all(X)

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Logan
City Clerk