

GLOVERSVILLE BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

MEETING MINUTES – OCTOBER 10, 2023

The Regular meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners was held and brought to order at their office, 67-73 S Main St., Gloversville, NY October 10, 2023, at 6:00 PM with President Antonucci presiding.

Roll Call

Commissioners-----

Antonucci	PRESENT
Capano	PRESENT
Isabella	PRESENT
White	PRESENT
Chittenden	PRESENT

Others in Attendance: Water Superintendent, Anthony Mendetta; Clerk of the Board, Christine Linart; and Andrew White, Chief Water Treatment Plant Operator; Kent Koptiuch, KSK Geo-Environmental Services Inc; Alvin Hichens, Meter Foreman; and Kolin Hallenbeck, Watershed Foreman.

The audited bills were presented and reviewed:

Adirondack Water Works Conference	-280.00
Fidelis	-557.71
Stephanie Garcia	-216.73
AMI Global LLC	-320.00
Chad Edwards	-200.00
Advanced Cleaning & Rest	-475.00
CDPHP	-21,133.75
Century Linen Service, Inc	-91.00
Christopher R Jablonski	-1,306.49
Empire BlueCross Retiree Sol	-7,055.52
F&W Forestry Services Inc	-13,200.00
Frontier Communications	-789.76
Fulton County Dept of Waste	-21.17
H & M Equipment Co Inc	-65.99
Howell WEBSURANCE	-575.31
JH Consulting Group Inc	-841.00
JM Berry Enterprises Inc	-1,368.00
Kingsboro Lumber Co Inc	-38.36
Metropolitan Industries Inc	-90.00
Mirabito	-910.12
National Grid	-716.93
NBT Credit Services	-625.81
NBT Insurance Agency	-46,561.30
Nethaway Motorcar	-298.52
Spectrum	-107.98
Telecon Wireless	-486.72
Tri-County Fire Extinguishers	-60.00
Twin Bridges Waste	-137.50
UDig NY Inc	-34.00

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WB Mason Co Inc	-1.58
Morgan White	-618.75
Morgan White	-663.57
Morgan White	-698.80
NBT Payroll	-20,457.08
NBT Payroll	-1,494.18
NBT Payroll	-19,520.75
NBT Payroll	-1,422.56
NBT Payroll	-19,373.74
NBT Payroll	<u>1,411.32</u>
	164,227.00

CAPITAL PROJECT AUDIT:

Bobcat of Groversville/Johnstown	330.00
C.T. Male Associates	12,960.00
Cranesville Block Co Inc	491.41
Cushing Stone Company Inc	1,055.28
Gorman Bros Inc.	748.41
Grant Street Construction	84,607.00
Ti-Sales Inc.	24,099.60

A motion was made by Commissioner Capano that the audited bills listed above are ordered paid. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Isabella.

Commissioner	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Antonucci	X			
Isabella	X			
Capano	X			
White	X			
Chittenden	X			

A motion was made by Commissioner Isabella to approve the Minutes of the July 11, 2023, meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Antonucci.

Commissioner	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Antonucci	X			
Isabella	X			
Capano	X			
White	X			
Chittenden	X			

New Business:

1. **Kent Koptiuch - KSK Geo-Environment:**

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Kent has been with Blue Triton over the past year and wanted to update the Board of the spring water opportunities on the Watershed properties. Kent presented a map of the reservoirs and associated properties.

A. Dickson Reservoir:

Dickson would be a good prospect due to it being isolated, we do not use it, and the pipeline is almost complete. The cost to develop production wells, run power, and extend the pipeline to the Filtration Plant to have a load station to tanker water out of isn't cost effective at this time in Blue Triton's opinion. They do not feel they could recoup development costs within the 5-year turnaround period that they base being cost effective. Based on the volume of water, 60-75 gallons per minute, without drying out the spring it would take more than 5 years to recover developmental costs, so they are hesitant to commit at this time.

The gallons per minute estimate is calculated at 90-100 gallons of water per minute, but they only want to use about 65. To get it permitted the springs that are too close to the property line cannot be included. So, any Springs too close to the Adirondack Park must be eliminated.

B. Rice/Port Reservoirs:

In the Rice/Port reservoir areas Blue Triton's focus is now on the springs that feed into our reservoirs that originate from outside the Adirondack Park property. With looking to develop springs outside the Adirondack Park this alleviates any additional regulatory issues. Many of the springs that Kent found are small springs that are 1 to 3, 5, and 15 to 25 gallons per minute. Kent would like to do some more research in these areas. The pond across from the Filtration Plant is excess water not being used which eventually feeds into the Sacandaga. Kent estimated 4 to 5 million gallons daily of spring water we don't use in this area. He would like to monitor the actual amount to see what the difference is between what they propose to take, and what the actual daily excess capacity is. Blue Triton is looking at possibly extracting 100 gallons per minute maximum compared to the 5 million gallons a day we are not using, which is only a fraction of how little Blue Triton wants. The next step with approval from the Board would be physical investigation, test monitoring wells, test piezometers, and geo-physical testing to evaluate soil layers. Kent hopes to get in this Fall to do some of that work. The long-term plan would be to pipe water down to the Plant to a Load Station. Our current water shed lands access agreement is also due to be renewed with Blue Triton. Kent will work on getting the renewal agreement to Anthony.

A motion was made by Commissioner Isabella to continue investigation of potential sources of Spring Water development on our Water Shed Lands by Blue Triton. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Antonucci.

Commissioner	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Antonucci	X			
Isabella	X			
Capano	X			
Chittenden	X			
White	X			

2. Budget Items:

- A. Watershed - Kolin Hallenbeck, Foreman of the Watershed spoke to the Board regarding items that will be needed in the Watershed for budget consideration: weed wackers, sander repair, broadcaster, and wiring for the dump truck.

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- B. Meter Department – Alvin Hichens, Meter Department Foreman, stated he did not need to add to the budget this year due to the meter project. His purchases will be for meter parts: chambers/washers/meter fittings.
- C. Transmission & Distribution – Jesse Dutcher, Foreman, spoke to the Board regarding the purchase of locators, a road plate, backhoe tires, pipe saw, and a new backhoe.
- D. Filtration Plant – Andrew White, Chief Water Treatment Plant Operator, told the Board he is waiting on the grant for his new valves and didn't have any additional items to request.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Mendetta discussed the following Project Updates with the Board:

1. Lead Line Project

The Lead Line Replacement Project by the contractor is 100% complete. All of Third Street was completed within the budgeted amount. In-house lead service replacements will continue weather permitting. We will be finishing up the last few lead line replacements customers had previously requested and there are 3 or 4 lead line replacements that need to be done due to lead samples. Homes over the MCL must have their lead services replaced.

2. Meter Project

District #1 & #3 meters are complete. District #2 shut offs are on hold while In-house lead line replacements are finished up for the season. Hydro Utilities currently have appointments up until 10/19. Once the lead line replacements are finished, District #2 shut offs will continue for non-compliance with the meter project. The project should be completed in November with only a few hundred meters left to do.

3. Jackson Project

The Jackson Project is 100% complete. We are currently closing out grant paperwork. The wing wall was fixed. Payment app #4 hasn't been submitted by Keller yet for review by CT Male, but it doesn't appear to be over budget at this point. We also won't have any money left over for other work, despite the change order for the wrong valve size.

4. Filtration Plant Project

The Filtration Plant Project is at a standstill for construction. We are waiting for our EFC grant approval before we can move forward, other than for Design, but all paperwork has been submitted and is under review. Construction needs the grant approval first. Design for Phase #1 of the project is on its way.

5. Solar Project

Since the Water Department will own the solar panels and not rent them, we would be responsible for the future removal and disposal of the panels. Rented solar systems generally put money in escrow. We could set up a line item for future removal. The panels generally last 20-25 years. We need to investigate the warranty on the panels in case of any type of panel failure. The Superintendent will find out information on panel warranty.

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Clerk of the Board's Report

Water Board President Gary Antonucci sponsored the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-18

RESOLUTION ADOPTING A POLICY TO BE USED IN THE EVENT OF COMPLAINTS/ DISPUTES OF BILLS FOR WATER CONSUMPTION.

WHEREAS, the Board of Water Commissioners wishes to create a formal written policy in the event that any person aggrieved by a Water Bill may file a complaint with the Water Board.

WHEREAS, the Board of Water Commissioners wishes to set a policy for City Water customers for filing complaints or disputes for their Water consumption.

NOW THEREFORE, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the Board of Water Commissioner's adopts the following policy to be used in the event that a customer/resident wishes to file a complaint or dispute for the Water Portion of their Water Bill. With said policy to become effective January 1, 2024.

- 1) Complaints with respect to the Water Portion of Water Bills must be filed with the Clerk of the Water Board within 30 days of the date of the bill.
- 2) Complaints with respect to the Sewer Portion of Water Bills must be filed with the Clerk of the Water Board within 30 days of the date of the bill pursuant to rules issued by the Gloversville/Johnstown Joint Sewer Board.
- 3) Anyone wishing to file a complaint must complete and sign the Gloversville Water Department's official written complaint form, attach a copy of the Water Bill being disputed, and attach any supporting statements, records or other relevant information to support their dispute or complaint.
- 4) Completed and signed complaint forms shall be mailed or personally delivered to the Clerk of the Water Board at the Gloversville Water Works office located at 67-73 South Main Street, Gloversville, NY
- 5) On the designated Board Meeting date, the Gloversville Board of Water Commissioner's will consider disputes/complaints where customer's or their representatives may appear personally before the Board to support the statements contained in the complaint and attachments.
- 6) The final disposition of all Water Bill review cases rests with the Gloversville Board of Water Commissioners, which will notify customer's of the disposition of their complaints.

A motion was made by Commissioner Capano seconded by Commissioner White , that the above resolution be adopted

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Votes Taken:

	Yes	No
Commissioner Antonucci	X	
Commissioner Capano	X	
Commissioner Isabella	X	
Commissioner White	X	
Commissioner Chittenden	X	

Adopted : October 10, 2023

The Clerk of the Board has requested adjustments to the following bills:

1. 8 Beech St., adjustment per Sewer Board for piping failure, Credit **\$601.88 to Sewer**.

A motion was made by Commissioner Chittenden to approve the adjustment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Capano.

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Antonucci	X			
Isabella	X			
Capano	X			
Chittenden	X			
White	X			

2. 65 W Pine St. had a major piping failure while they were out-of-town due to caring for a relative. The Sewer Board has not approved any relief due to the request being past the 30-day consideration rule. The homeowner is requesting a payment plan and to get the water turned on while they are paying off the water bill. Christine, per our criteria for relief came up with a credit to the Water portion of the bill in the amount of \$397.98.

A motion to issue a Credit to the Water portion of the bill for 65 W. Pine Street in the amount of \$397.98. Along with a motion to reject a request for a payment plan with the water dept. to turn the water on immediately at 65 W. Pine Street was made by Commissioner Capano and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Antonucci.

<u>Commissioner</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Antonucci	X			
Isabella	X			
Capano	X			
Chittenden	X			
White	X			

A motion was made by Commissioner Capano to go into Executive Session to discuss Possible litigation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Chittenden.

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Antonucci	X			
Isabella	X			
Capano	X			
Chittenden	X			
White	X			

A motion was made by Commissioner Capano to leave Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Antonucci.

Commissioner	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Antonucci	X			
Isabella	X			
Capano	X			
Chittenden	X			
White	X			

Commissioner Capano made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Antonucci.

Commissioner	Yes	No	Absent	Abstain
Antonucci	X			
Isabella	X			
Capano	X			
Chittenden	X			
White	X			

The next meeting will be held on November 8, 2023.