

**TOWN of WILTON**  
**WATER and SEWER AUTHORITY**  
20 Traver Road  
Gansevoort, New York 12831

January 16, 2024

Present: Dave MacDougall, Chairman; Evan Schneider, Treasurer; Dave Huestis, Secretary; Joe Stadelmeyer, Board Member; Michael Mooney, Director; Dennis Feeney, Attorney at Law; Ryan Riper, Engineer; Carol Green, Comptroller

Absent: Scott Duffy, Vice Chairman

Chairman MacDougall called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

Approve Pending Minutes

Chairman MacDougall asked for a motion to approve the November 21, 2023 meeting minutes. Secretary Huestis offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION: #24-01**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, to approve the minutes of the November 21, 2023 Wilton Water & Sewer Authority meeting as typed, without amendment.

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was seconded by Treasurer Schneider, duly put to a vote and the resolution was declared adopted with all Board members present voting in favor.

Peter Lindner Fluoridation Request

Mr. Lindner is in attendance today and is invited to address the Board regarding fluoridation in the Town of Wilton. Mr. Lindner received a letter from the WWSA Board with the response to Mr. Lindner's request at the November 2023 Board meeting outlining their position regarding fluoridation. Mr. Lindner presented a video and letters from area dentists in support of fluoridation. Mr. Lindner requests that the 2013 fluoride study be posted on the website along with the Board's response letter with personal information redacted, and questions what the legislative process is to follow to have fluoride added. The 2013 fluoride study will be posted on the website. The redacted response letter will be attached to the meeting minutes. There is no legislative process to follow. The responsibility for the decision of whether to add fluoride would solely be the WWSA Board, determined via a Board motion and vote. It would not be a town, county, state, or federal decision. The Board will table the discussion to allow the Board members additional time to research the issue and poll community members.

## COMPTROLLER'S REPORT

### Bills

The December 2023 and January 2024 (#12 & #01) abstracts need to be approved by the Board. The total for the Water & Sewer Fund for December is \$94,467.82 and \$0.00 for the Capital Projects Fund. The total for the Water & Sewer Fund for January is \$116,767.30 and \$22,888.40 for the Capital Projects Fund.

Chairman MacDougall asked for a motion to approve the payment of December 2023 and January 2024 (#12 & #01) abstracts. Board Member Joe Stadelmeyer offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

#### RESOLUTION #24-02

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, to approve the payment of December 2023 and January 2024 (#12 & #01) abstracts. The total for the Water & Sewer Fund for December is \$94,467.82 and \$0.00 for the Capital Projects Fund. The total for the Water & Sewer Fund for January is \$116,767.30 and \$22,888.40 for the Capital Projects Fund.

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was seconded by Secretary Huestis, duly put to a vote and the resolution was declared adopted with all Board members present voting in favor.

### Billing Adjustments

Billing adjustments in the amount of a positive \$646.16 for November and positive \$340.10 for December need to be approved by the Board.

Chairman MacDougall asked for a motion to approve the billing adjustments in the amount of a positive \$646.16 for November and positive \$340.10 for December. Secretary Huestis offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

#### RESOLUTION #24-03

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, to approve the billing adjustments in the amount of a positive \$646.16 for November and positive \$340.10 for December.

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was seconded by Treasurer Schneider, duly put to a vote and the resolution was declared adopted with all Board members present voting in favor.

### Budget

The Board needs to approve the following budget transfers:

- a. From Contingency (a/c# 01-1990-5.00400) to Repairs and Maintenance (a/c# 01-8320-5.00413) for \$25,000 for water main breaks
- b. From Contingency (a/c# 01-1990-5.00400) to OPEB Expense (a/c# 01-9000-5.00889) for \$80,000. A draft of the OPEB Actuary report has an additional expense of \$79,938, plus an additional cushion as the report still needs to go through the company's review process so there may be some minor changes.

- c. From Contingency (a/c# 02-1990-5.00400) to Retirement (a/c# 02-9000-5.00810) for \$1900
- d. From Contingency (a/c# 01-1990-5.00400) to Postage (a/c# 01-8310-5.00401) for \$300
- e. From Contingency (a/c# 01-1990-5.00400) to Engineer Review Fees (a/c# 01-8310-5.00417) for \$550
- f. From Contingency (a/c# 01-1990-5.00400) to Saratoga County Water (a/c# 01-8320-5.00419) for \$2,300
- g. From Contingency (a/c# 01-1990-5.00400) to SPP Repairs and Maintenance (a/c# 01-8230-5.00413) for \$10,300
- h. From Personal Services (a/c# 01-8320-5.00100) to Personal Services (a/c# 01-8310-5.00100) for \$4,900
- i. From Personal Services (a/c# 02-8122-5.00100) to Personal Services (a/c# 02-8110-5.00100) for \$2,900

Chairman MacDougall asked for a motion to approve the budget transfers per the Comptroller's Report. Secretary Huestis offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION #24-04**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** to approve the following budget transfers:

- a. From Contingency (a/c# 01-1990-5.00400) to Repairs and Maintenance (a/c# 01-8320-5.00413) for \$25,000
- b. From Contingency (a/c# 01-1990-5.00400) to OPEB Expense (a/c# 01-9000-5.00889) for \$80,000.
- c. From Contingency (a/c# 02-1990-5.00400) to Retirement (a/c# 02-9000-5.00810) for \$1900
- d. From Contingency (a/c# 01-1990-5.00400) to Postage (a/c# 01-8310-5.00401) for \$300
- e. From Contingency (a/c# 01-1990-5.00400) to Engineer Review Fees (a/c# 01-8310-5.00417) for \$550
- f. From Contingency (a/c# 01-1990-5.00400) to Saratoga County Water (a/c# 01-8320-5.00419) for \$2,300
- g. From Contingency (a/c# 01-1990-5.00400) to SPP Repairs and Maintenance (a/c# 01-8230-5.00413) for \$10,300
- h. From Personal Services (a/c# 01-8320-5.00100) to Personal Services (a/c# 01-8310-5.00100) for \$4,900
- i. From Personal Services (a/c# 02-8122-5.00100) to Personal Services (a/c# 02-8110-5.00100) for \$2,900

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was seconded by Board Member Joe Stadelmeyer, duly put to a vote and the resolution was declared adopted with all Board members present voting in favor.

### Section 41J of the NYS Retirement System

This section of the NYS Retirement Law provides additional service credit for unused, unpaid sick leave at retirement. We had always thought we were included in this benefit. It recently came to our attention that although provision for 41J was included in our Personnel Policy, the paperwork was never forwarded to the state retirement system. Director Mooney has a resolution that needs to be passed by the Board. The Board also needs to authorize Treasurer Schneider to sign the attached affidavit. The annual cost is \$363.

Chairman MacDougall asked for a motion to approve the attached resolution and authorize Treasurer Schneider to sign the affidavit to adopt the Section 41J plan with NYS and Local Retirement System. Treasurer Schneider offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

#### **RESOLUTION #24-05**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, to approve the attached resolution and to authorize Treasurer Schneider to sign the attached affidavit in order to adopt the Section 41J plan with NYS and Local Retirement System.

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was seconded by Board Member Joe Stadelmeyer, duly put to a vote and the resolution was declared adopted with all Board members present voting in favor.

### Transfer of Sewer Assets to the County Sewer District

As the transfer of sewer operations is now estimated for Summer/Fall 2024, discussion regarding the transfer of sewer assets has been tabled to the next meeting.

### Budget to Actual Expenditure Reports

The report as of 1/12/24 is available.

### Internal Financial Statements

December financial statements will be emailed to the Board in February as December invoices are still currently arriving.

### Pending Comptroller Retirement

The Comptroller is anticipating retirement from WWSA after the sewer operations have transferred to Saratoga County. Discussion regarding staffing needs for replacement.

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### 2024 Fee Schedule Change

Based on increasing engineering costs for water district extensions, it is proposed to increase the DEC Review Fees from \$1850 to \$2800.

Chairman MacDougall asked for a motion to approve the increase of DEC Review Fees to \$2800. Secretary Huestis offered the following resolution and moved its adoption:

### **RESOLUTION #24-06**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, to approve the increase of DEC Review Fees to \$2800.

The adoption of the foregoing resolution was seconded by Joe Stadelmeyer, duly put to a vote and the resolution was declared adopted with all Board members present voting in favor.

### Recent Water Main Breaks

There have been some recent breaks in the Lake Elizabeth neighborhood. National Grid's contractor hit a line going underneath Nicklaus Drive. The comptroller will have some budget transfers as a result of the associated costs of this repair. Repairs have been made and the road has been repaved. At the intersection of Nicklaus Drive and Northern Pines Road, there is also a valve that may be slightly leaking, water surfaced when the line was closed for the repair. There may need to be a scheduled shutdown to replace this valve. This was not caused by the break. There was a time where manufacturers changed the coatings on the carbon steel bolts in these valves. Those bolts rot out faster and the industry has since corrected the defect, however there are some valves from that time period that are still in use.

### New Scada Computer and Software to Replace Broken XP Computer update

The Scada computer has been replaced and is up and running. The bill for it has not arrived yet.

### Saratoga County Sewer District #1 Take Over of Sewer Operation

The agreement is in place with Saratoga County Sewer District. The County's attorneys office is in flux with recent staffing changes. The date for the transfer of the sewer operations is estimated to take place Summer/Fall 2024.

### Rt. 9 Maple Ave Water to Firehouse and Potentially to Middle School

The plans are approved and ready to go to extend water to the firehouse. The construction schedule has not been received yet. Once that is received, we will get a separate quote for the small additional section that WWSA is contemplating.

### Ace Pump Station County Contract Update

Delivery of the control panel has been slow. The contract has been extended through April. They were originally scheduled to be done mid-December.

### Agreement for Past Due Water Payment

The property owner paid in full today without proceeding with an agreement for a payment plan.

Edie Road Water Line Loop Progress

We have just received a bill for work that the contractor has completed to date. The balance of the work to be done is the section with the railroad crossing. The railroad has approved the plans and location for the crossing of the water line. When the contractor is ready to come back to complete, we will have to exchange insurances with the contractor for compliance to the railroad's insurance needs.

Dish Network Cell Tower

Dish Network has been in place on the Ballard Rd water tower for a couple of months. They have been paying monthly rent for the location.

Jones Road Cell Site

No new information to report.

Internet Meter Reading System Update

No new information to report.

Online and Auto Bill Pay Update

No major issues with online and Auto Bill Pay.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business brought before the Authority's Board, at 5:52 p.m. on a motion by Secretary Huestis and seconded by Joe Stadelmeyer, Chairman MacDougall adjourned the meeting with all in favor.

**TOWN of WILTON**  
**WATER and SEWER AUTHORITY**  
20 TRAVER ROAD  
GANSEVOORT, NEW YORK 12831  
(518)581-8626  
[Http://water.townofwilton.com](http://water.townofwilton.com)

December 20, 2023

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Re: WWSA Board Position on Fluoridation

Dear [REDACTED]

Based on your request at the WWSA November meeting, I asked our Board members to independently research and consider the addition of fluoride to our drinking water and relay their thoughts to me. All Board members agree that we should not add fluoride to our drinking water. After discussions with our Board members, I have summarized some of the reasons and statements given to me, which form the basis of the Board's position.

- The New York State Department of Health does not require or recommend the addition of Fluoride to any water supplier.
- The WWSA Board would never approve the addition of any non-required chemicals to the drinking water supply without the majority of the population served wanting the addition of this chemical.
- In over 30 years this is the first formal request we have received to consider adding fluoride. Your request is singular and does not represent the majority served.
- It is not the responsibility of any water supplier to deliver medical treatment.
- WWSA customers should have the right to have a personal choice in the medication they ingest.
- Fluoride is readily available at a low cost to anyone who chooses to consume it.
- The addition of fluoride to the water makes it very difficult or impossible for people to regulate the amount of fluoride they receive.
- Most of the water the WWSA delivers is used for irrigation and bathing. It doesn't make sense to add fluoride to our water when most of our water is not used for drinking.

Sincerely,

  
David MacDungall  
Chairman