

FINAL COPY

MINUTES OF A PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING OF THE BINGHAMTON - JOHNSON CITY JOINT SEWAGE BOARD

Tuesday, July 13, 2021

Plant Administration Building

Members Present: George Kolba, Chairman
Chris Papastrat, Vice Chairman
Edward Crumb
Bruce T. King
Stephen Andrew
Ronald Lake

Also Present: Elliott Wagner, Acting Superintendent
Charles Pearsall, Business Manager
Alfred Paniccia, Jr., Esq., Co-Counsel
Chuck Shager, Fiscal Officer/City of Binghamton Comptroller (Exited at 5:15PM)
Ronald Warwick, Acting Assistant Superintendent
Howard Reeve, Facility Engineer (Entered at 4:15PM)
Larry Travis, Electrical Engineer - WWTPP
Adam Afify, Acting Head Operator
Janet Smith, Transcriptionist

Guests Tina Chronopoulos, Resident, City of Binghamton Audio/Visual (Exited at 5:03PM)
Angela Riley, City of Binghamton Council Member, 3rd District Audio/Visual
(Exited at 5:07PM)
Vaughn Golden, Reporter, WSKG

Chairman George Kolba called the meeting to order at 3:30PM. Sign in sheet was passed and Chairman Kolba confirmed all present signed in. All six (6) Board Members were present. Fire exits were identified, and Chairman Kolba requested cell phones be turned off or silenced during the meeting.

Public Hearing

Chairman Kolba opened the Public Hearing regarding amendment of the Rules & Regulations portion of the Regular Meeting. No one wished to speak. Chairman Kolba closed the Public Hearing.

Privilege of the Floor

No one wished to speak.

June 8, 2021 Regular Meeting Minutes Approval

Edward Crumb made a motion to approve the submitted June 8, 2021 Draft Minutes with the suggested changes as contained in the Board Folders.

Motion seconded by Steve Andrew.

Motion carried. 6/0

Superintendent's Report

Elliott Wagner presented the Superintendent's Report and the Weekly Plant Status as of 7/13/21 (which appears below) both of which were distributed in the Board Folders along with the charts and graphs. Starting with an overview of the Weekly Plant Status 7/13/21 pointing out that during the recent power outage all went according to plan with regard to the generator and the employees present seemed to have only a slight struggle getting all of the equipment running quickly in that the process takes time to manually start each piece since they do not auto-start.

He spoke briefly on vacant staffing positions and current training of Operator positions.

He presented pictures (below) of the Iron Sponge removal, rinsing, neutralization, and drying which is working as proposed.

GHD is working on the Binghamton University (BU) permit requirements. Edward Crumb brought up the particulars of the permit/agreement and the financial portion and will provide GHD further information (historical documents) for their continued review of any issues.

Superintendent Wagner reports that WWTP Electrical Engineer, Larry Travis, is continuing to customize the Plant SCADA system, currently focusing on *after a power-outage-event* to expeditiously get the equipment up and running.

Superintendent Wagner continued with the Superintendent Report stating that the Plant is continuing to meet the SPDES permit and has done so for the past 15 months. He further brought to the attention of all present that Mechanics and Operators are vigilant daily in keeping eyes on anything out of place or for any type of maintenance which is not part of the CMMS. They also encourage and respond to anything any other staff member may spot.

Superintendent Wagner received a list of questions from NYSDEC on 7/6/2021 regarding the CSO BMP Report and had a concern about one of the responses. After a brief Board discussion to include Co-Counsel Paniccia, Superintendent Wagner will pursue his responses to the remaining questions

(Facility Engineer Howard Reeve entered the meeting)

There was a brief exchange on various types of information regarding the process after this type of event. Superintendent Wagner explained that the steps in the process work pretty much as designed and he and his staff are on top of any issues that need to be addressed and with whom the issues need to be addressed. He has confidence in the system.

Weekly Plant Status 7/13/2021

Main Pumps:

Auto. Electrical and Instrumentation Dept. verifying Main Pump Magmeter flow with Doppler flow meters. We are getting an estimate to have Endress Hauser come out and do the same. We are looking for Siemens to do the same at TPS.

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Headworks:

Auto. Compactor Being Manufactured.

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Aerated Grit System:

Auto.

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Primaries:

Auto. Tank 10 down for annual maintenance and inspection. Weir measurements. Tanks 1-9 complete.

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Sludge Handling Building:

Auto. Operations inspecting blended sludge tanks.

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Thickeners:

Auto.

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Digesters:

Auto.

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Micro-Turbines:

Auto. RSP completed their maintenance and bled off the micro-turbines. Turbines have been producing electricity since Thursday 7/1/2021. Iron sponge continues to be raked. We are starting the drying process.

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Centrifuges:

Auto.

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Scum system:

Auto.

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Actiflo:

Auto. Still running well with no significant sand loss.

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SIPS:

Auto.

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BioStyr, CN Cells:

Auto, CN 4 offline. Waiting for valve resolution. Rocky from Kruger/Veolia said he has ordered a new valve actuator, to replace this one.

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Methanol:

Auto.

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D/N Cells:

Auto.

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UV system:

Auto.

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Plant Water System:

Auto.

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Storm Water pump stations:

Stand-By.

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Chemical Storage system:

Auto.

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Scrubber system:

Auto.

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HVAC Systems:

Auto.

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Generator system:

Auto. Started-up last Wednesday night on power failure, no issues with generators.

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Electrical System:

Working out bugs throughout facility after power failure.

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Laboratory:

CMMS:

61 PMs scheduled this week. 78 PMs Closed last week. Qty of 76 open, non-critical work orders carried over. Monday was a holiday. Power failure Wednesday night.

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Staffing:

Looking for an Electrician. \$24.48-\$28.48

Looking for an Industrial Hygienist. \$56,000-\$60,000 Salary

Looking for an Account Clerk Typist. \$13.80-\$17.80

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Landfill:

9 digested trucks this week.

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Training:

1 operator at Grade 3 supervisory course.

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Construction:

Still waiting for Electrical O&Ms, Coordination study, Arc-flash hazard analysis, third party test reports for equipment and breakers, As-Built drawings. Received filters from Matco for the Cummins generators.

Still waiting for Cover installation on Primary 1-6.

Still waiting for 30 day performance test on Actiflo system.

Still waiting for DEC final sign-off and removal of Consent Order.

Still waiting for resolution of Guardrail issue.

Still waiting for repair of SIPS roof leak.

Still waiting for repair of Admin. Building Roof Leak.

The following page shows the Iron Sponge being spread out and neutralized.

The first picture was taken 6/30/2021. The last was taken 7/13/2021.





Fiscal Officer's Report

Fiscal Officer Chuck Shager overviewed his submitted report stating that IWPP revenue is down but believes it will catch up and that all expenses are pretty much under budget. He stated there is funding in the budget for the currently unfilled staffing positions. Senior Plant Operator Adam Affify explained that because of the pandemic training was difficult and that schools are now opening up and certification classes are being offered. This prompted a discussion to offer training and certification opportunities to employees interested in being considered for an intermediate or mid-level or senior level promotion for a respective newly vacant or unfilled position; to hire internally before advertising for those positions and if successful to then post the vacant entry level position. The Board will discuss this further and take the discussion to the Owners

Mr. Crumb then presented the Lead Agency Capital Project Chart Report and Graph Report which were distributed in the Board Folders. He explained how to review the Chart Report, as well as the color-coding system and the scaling of the graphs in the Graph Report detailing the various lines in the financials

Business Manager's Report

Mr. Pearsall stated that the Superintendent Proposd Budget for 2022 has been completed and is being presented to the Board. He also stated that he is in the process of interviews for the Account Clerk/Typist position. He is requesting permission to advertise chemicals.

Edward Crumb made a motion for the Board to authorize and direct the Business Manager or his designee to advertise for supply of the following chemicals:

- **Ferric Chloride 38%**
- **Sodium Hypochlorite 15%**
- **Sodium Thiosulfate 32%**
- **Methanol 99.85%**

Motion seconded by Bruce King

Motion carried. 6/0

Mr. Pearsall continued by referring to the 6/25/2021 letter from Taylor Garbage referencing a “Fuel Recovery Fee” which states would be on the plant’s next invoice. A copy of the letter was distributed in the Board’s folders. A discussion determined that the language in the executed contract would not allow that charge.

Edward Crumb made a motion for the Board to direct Co-Counsel Al Paniccia compose a letter stating the position of the Board regarding additional fees to Taylor Garbage.

Motion seconded by Bruce King.

Motion carried. 6/0

Mr. Pearsall then wanted to proceed to discuss the outstanding Vestal water-sewer bill issue stating to date he has not paid the bill. To date a resolution has not yet been reached. Vice Chairman Chris Papastrat has the lead on this matter and advised that it is his understanding that the City of Binghamton is “working on it.” Chairman Kolba asked if the Board should respond to Vestal at this time and Mr. Crumb stated that he would first check with the City of Binghamton to look into the meters readings and the city’s billing . Mr. Crumb had a concern delaying this issue as it could cause an auditing problem. Any further discussion should be held in Executive Session. Al Paniccia will send a letter to City Attorney, Ken Frank.

Committee Reports

Construction: George Kolba and Steve Andrew – Mr. Andrew had nothing to report. Mr. Kolba mentioned that he noticed work starting on the repairs to the steps to the Administration Building. Mr. Kolba also wanted to mention that going forward with future budgets and for the future of the Plant that all considerations should be made to bring the Plant current with any and all upgrades and automations available for control of flows and valves. There was a brief discussion.

Finance: Edward Crumb – Mr. Crumb pointed out he is prepared for the budget meeting scheduled for this Thursday at 4:00PM. He overviewed a comparative 3-year/1-year graph regarding inflation over the past three years (ending May 31, 2021, the most recent data available). He also wanted to bring to the Board’s attention that he met with the Auditor, Tom Smith, CPA, and that the 2020 annual audit is underway.

Flow Management: Edward Crumb – Mr. Crumb noted that the Public Hearing was duly advertised and held relative to the proposed amendments to the Plant Use Rules and Regulations and said documents are ready for motion.

**Edward Crumb made a motion that the Board approve the proposed amendments to the Rules and Regulations Relating to Use of the Binghamton-Johnson City Sewage Treatment Plant in accordance with the formal Resolution which appears below.
Seconded by Bruce King.
Motion carried. 6/0**

RESOLUTION AMENDING THE *RULES AND REGULATIONS RELATING TO USE OF THE BINGHAMTON-JOHNSON CITY JOINT SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT*

Motion by Board Member Edward Crumb, seconded by Board Member Bruce King, to amend the *Rules and Regulations Relating to Use of the Binghamton-Johnson City Joint Sewage Treatment Plant* as set forth below and in the attachments hereto.

WHEREAS, pursuant to *Binghamton-Johnson City Joint Sewage Treatment Plant Law* (“Plant Law”) §3.03, the Binghamton-Johnson City Joint Sewage Board (“Sewage Board”) has the authority to adopt, amend or cancel administrative rules and regulations governing the use of the Binghamton-Johnson City Joint Sewage Treatment Plant (“Plant”); and

WHEREAS, in accordance with such authority, the Sewage Board has heretofore adopted, and has from time to time amended, *Rules and Regulations Relating to Use of the Binghamton-Johnson City Joint Sewage Treatment Plant* (“*Rules and Regulations*”); and

WHEREAS, the Sewage Board now proposes to amend the *Rules and Regulations* in the manner described herein, and in the manner described in Plant Law §4.05; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with Plant Law §4.05, a public hearing was conducted after notice thereof was duly published at least ten (10) days prior to the adoption of this resolution; and

WHEREAS, at said public hearing, all interested parties were afforded a reasonable opportunity to be heard and to submit data with regard to the proposed amendment, but no persons wishing to comment were in attendance and no written comments/data were offered to the Sewage Board; and

WHEREAS, the amendment herein identified as Amendment 1 corrects superseded parameter limits in the current *Rules and Regulations*; and

WHEREAS, the amendment herein identified as Amendment 2 updates the *Rules and Regulations* with respect to hydraulic flows and pollutant loadings presently treatable by the Plant in accordance with required standards and its upgraded design,

NOW, THEREFORE, the Rules and Regulations are amended as follows:

Amendment 1: Section 5.07 of the *Rules and Regulations* is amended to read as follows:

§5.07 RESTRICTED DISCHARGES

No person shall discharge directly or indirectly into the POTW wastewater containing any of the following substances in concentrations exceeding those specified below. Concentration limits are applicable to wastewater effluent at a point just prior to discharge into the POTW.

<u>SUBSTANCE¹</u>	<u>ALLOWABLE DAILY AVERAGE EFFLUENT CONCENTRATION LIMIT² (mg/L)</u>
Cadmium	0.3
Chromium (total)	4.0
Copper	1.0
Lead	1.5
Mercury	0.001
Nickel	2.5
Zinc	8.0

¹ - All concentrations listed for metallic substances shall be as "total metal" which shall be defined as the value measured in a sample acidified to a pH value of less than 2 without prior filtration.

² - As determined by a composite sample taken of the User's daily discharge over the operational and/or production period. Composite samples must consist of grab samples collected at intervals of at least one per hour.

(Section amended May 8, 2007, effective May 18, 2007, and further amended _____, 2021, effective September 1, 2021).

Amendment 2: Effective September 1, 2021, the second and third subsections of Section 2.01 of the *Rules and Regulations* are amended to read as follows:

§2.01 DEFINITIONS

* * * *

Average Pollutant Load Design Values of each unit process at the Treatment Plant are as described and set forth in the right-hand column of Table 2-1 in Chapter 2 (Influent Flows and Loads) of the March 13, 2015 revision to the December 2014 *Engineering Report* of GHD Consulting Services, Inc. for the *Binghamton-Johnson City Joint Sewage Treatment Plant Restoration and Rehabilitation*, certified by Michael E. Tamblin, P.E. (N.Y.S.P.E. License No. 073737), including the following:

- 32,000 pounds per day average daily design influent load of Carbonaceous Biochemical Oxygen Demand (CBOD) to the Treatment Plant;
- 31,000 pounds per day average daily design influent load of Total Suspended Solids (TSS) to the Treatment Plant;
- 4,300 pounds per day average daily design influent load of Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen (TKN) to the Treatment Plant; and
- 4,300 pounds per day average daily design influent load of Total Nitrogen (TN) to the Treatment Plant.

The referenced Chapter 2 may be viewed/downloaded at URL:

www.bjcwwtp.com/sites/default/files/Chapter2_InfluentFlowsAndLoads.pdf.

(As added by amendment approved April 14, 2015, effective June 1, 2015, and further amended _____, 2021, effective September 1, 2021).

Average Wastewater Flow Rate Design Values of each unit process at the Treatment Plant are as described and set forth in the right-hand column of Table 2-1 in Chapter 2 (Influent Flows and Loads) of the March 13, 2015 revision to the December 2014 *Engineering Report* of GHD Consulting Services, Inc. for the *Binghamton-Johnson City Joint Sewage Treatment Plant Restoration and Rehabilitation*, certified by Michael E. Tamblin, P.E. (N.Y.S.P.E. License No. 073737), including the following:

- 24.0 million gallons per day (MGD) average daily influent design flow for the Treatment Plant.

The referenced Chapter 2 may be viewed/downloaded at URL:

www.bjcwwtp.com/sites/default/files/Chapter2_InfluentFlowsAndLoads.pdf.

(As added by amendment approved April 14, 2015, effective June 1, 2015, and further amended _____, 2021, effective September 1, 2021).

(continues on next page)

FURTHERMORE, in accordance with Plant Law §4.05, within fifteen (15) days following adoption of this resolution, a certified copy hereof shall be filed with the Common Council of the City of Binghamton (“City Council”) and Board of Trustees of the Village of Johnson City (“Trustees”) for approval, and in the event no action is taken by the City Council and Trustees within 30 days of such filing, the proposed amendments shall be deemed approved.

Continuing with Committee Reports:

Personnel: Steve Andrew – Mr. Andrew reported he had an appointment scheduled with the Union Representative for a meeting but it was canceled due to a medical emergency. A new meeting will be scheduled shortly.

Ad Hoc: Bruce King – Nothing to report.

Correspondence: Previously discussed.

Old Business;; Nothing to report

New Business;; Mr. Crumb spoke on the Environmental Benefit Project upstream in Fuller Hollow Creek. He had concerns with where the money is coming from. He said he does not support the money coming from a Capital Budget Line because the project is not being undertaken on Plant property, or adjacent to the Plant. Mr. Andrew’s opinion is that the monies should come from the Fines Budget Line; the \$50,000.00 was a *mandated* amount under a Consent Order with the NYS-DEC and, therefore, should be paid from that line rather than Capital.

Edward Crumb makes a motion for the Board to approve and initiate a budget transfer in the amount of \$50,000.00 from 2021 budget line J8130.55000 (Contingency) to 2021 budget line J8130.54802 (Permits, Fees and Fines Line) and that the corresponding Requests for Legislation be submitted to the Owners’ legislative bodies.

Seconded by Steve Andrew

Motion carried 6/0

A motion to adjourn was made by Steve Andrew.

Seconded by Bruce King.

Motion carried 6/0

Meeting adjourned at 5:52PM.

The next meeting is August 10, 2021 at 3:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Smith
Transcriptionist

cc: Board Members
Mayor Rich David, City of Binghamton
Mayor Greg Deemie, Village of Johnson City
City Clerk, City of Binghamton
Village Clerk/Treasurer, Village of Johnson City
Alfred Paniccia, Esq.
Chuck Shager, Fiscal Officer
Elliott Wagner, Acting Superintendent
Brown & Brown Empire State
Haylor Freyer & Coon
Joshua Holland, P.E., Village of Johnson City Engineer
Ronald B. Lake, P.E., City of Binghamton Acting Engineer
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