



WATER RATE COMMITTEE

Rate Committee meeting was held on Tuesday, July 3, 2012.
Meeting was called to order at 7:10PM by Robert Stevens.

Present: Thomas Evans, Merle Prentice, Robert Stevens, and James Tornatore. Kathy McCall committee secretary.

Absent: Wm. Foster

Guest: Tim Steed, HUNT; Tom Canfield, Village Deputy Mayor

Motion to accept minutes from June 5, 2012 meeting made by M. Prentice, second by T. Evans. Carried.

Tim Steed handed out packets regarding the additional work on water system improvements. Packet included: Amendment to Owner-Engineer Agreement; Rural Development Project Budget/Cost Certification; Change Order #4; FP KANE listing of Item/Bid Amount; NYS Dept. of Health Approval of Plans letter; Environmental Report – Amendment No. 1; NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historic Preservation letter; individual street maps of applicable water system improvements. T. Steed reviewed packet section by section. T. Steed summarized packet: unit prices well w/in range of pricing for this type of work, and lower than anticipated; unit estimates are slightly higher to build in protection against need for change orders then USDA re-approval as this would cause delays, KANE will only be paid for what is put in ground; there will be observation hourly of units put in; and clear project time frame set w/KANE.

J. Tornatore stated issue needs to be on agenda for Village Board Meeting July 10, 2012 to approve the engineering amendment and the change order; T. Steed to attend Village meeting to field questions. Complete packet needs to go to USDA for approval, and once that approval received, work can start! T. Steed anticipates process will take 2-3 weeks so work could start by end of July if all goes well. R. Stevens asked if there was coordination w/Village attorney regarding easements needed. J. Tornatore stated he will follow up w/Village attorney.

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Group changed topics to discuss insulated rail cars. M. Prentice had spoken w/Steve May of Owego Harford Railroad; per S. May, NYS is flat now as far as gas drilling activity; there are no tankers w/water in this area; trucks are more economical and used to suck water out of Susquehanna River in Pennsylvania.

R. Stevens stated two lawsuits pending against gas companies in New York State, and that NYS Attorney General handed down writ of 8 charges of improper practice that will be presented as part of the case. R. Stevens also spoke of Tioga County land owners association coalition that has county strong presence; the group's leader, Nick Schoonover, feels association is in a strong position at controlling what gas activity goes on as over 50% of county landowners are involved.

T. Steed stated municipal and surface water two sources for gas companies, with surface water by permit. A predetermined level of 'low flow' is established for surface water, and once at that level source cut off – this means municipal water sources might look like an alternative for gas company. T. Steed advised taking a long view on this issue (of selling water). J. Tornatore stated it is a political and emotional issue for municipalities.

J. Tornatore stated funding request in for Municipal Building improvements that include brick restoration and roof gutters.

R. Stevens asked for motion to adjourn: motion made by M. Prentice; second by T. Evans. Meeting adjourned 8:45 PM.

Kathy McCall
Account Clerk Typist

*****NEXT MEETING TUESDAY AUGUST 7th *****