

**JOHNSTOWN WATER BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 8, 2021 @ 6:00PM**

The meeting was held at the Johnstown Water Department Office; 27 East Main Street; Johnstown. The meeting was broadcast using Facebook Live on the "Johnstown Water Department" Facebook page.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Board President Capparello called the meeting to order at 6:00pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

BOARD MEMBERS

Michael Capparello, Board President
Brandon Lyon, Board Vice President
Mark Empie, Board Member
Ralph Marotta, Board Member

ATTENDEES

John Denmark, Senior Water Plant Operator
Susan Miller, Water Board Clerk
Bradley Hayner, Common Council Liaison

ABSENT

George DiMarco, Board Member
Michael Poulin, City Attorney

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Andrew Waite, Leader-Herald Reporter
John Swierzowski, Previous Board President
Vernon Jackson, Mayor
Christopher Vose, City Engineer
Eric Parker, Ward 3 Councilman
Amy Praught, Mayor Elect
Scott Jeffers, Councilman-at-Large Elect

NEW BUSINESS

WATER PLANT OPERATOR REPORT

Senior Water Plant Operator John Denmark read a brief Monthly Report that encompassed work done from October 9, 2021 – November 7, 2021 at the reservoirs as well as work done by the distribution crew. A copy of the report is kept with the minutes as permanent record. John Denmark thanked City Engineer Chris Vose, Deputy City Engineer Jeff Putman and DPW employees that assisted with the three recent water main breaks.

PURCHASES

Repairs to Fuel Tank for Vehicle #58 (1997 Ford Dump Truck)

Senior Water Plant Operator Denmark advised that Water Department vehicle #58/1997 Ford Dump Truck is currently out of service due to a fuel tank that needs repair. He noted that he is working with Charlie (the city's mechanic) and North Country Auto Radiator and Auto Air Conditioning Co., Inc. in Queensbury to make this repair which will include: fabricating and welding a new bottom panel and top plates, removing the old bands and patches and coat tank inside and out with renew process along with labor/materials/2 year warranty at a cost estimated at \$1,450-\$1,500. He stated that the truck is still being used when in service and is not scheduled to be replaced. He asked for Board approval to proceed with this repair.

MOTION to approve the repair expense for the 1997 Ford Dump Truck at a cost not to exceed \$1,500 was made by Board President Capparello; seconded by Board Member Empie.

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

Ductile Iron

Senior Water Plant Operator Denmark advised the Board that he would like to replenish the stock of 16" ductile iron (used for water mains) noting its availability is currently scarce. He asked the Board to approve the purchase of two (2) twenty foot lengths of 16" ductile iron from Ferguson Waterworks at a cost of \$1,890 each.

MOTION to approve the emergency purchase of ductile iron not to exceed \$3,800 from Ferguson Waterworks was made by Board President Capparello; seconded by Board Member Empie.

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

Request from Demolition Company

Senior Water Plant Operator Denmark advised the Board he had a request from a representative at the Jackson Demolition Company which is scheduled to tear down a fire damaged house at 106 East Montgomery Street to hook onto a hydrant for demo dust control use. He expressed concern with the recent water main breaks and not wanting to put additional stress on the water system by allowing a contractor to use a hydrant. He noted the water would be unmetered as the water department only has one hydrant meter which is used at the garage.

The Board decided it is the responsibility of the Contractor to utilize a truck/tanker trailer and to purchase water to fill it as needed for construction use.

MOTION to deny the use of a hydrant hook up for water to be used by Jackson Demolition was made by Board Vice President Lyon; seconded by Board Member Empie.

Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1

PUBLIC SESSION

Board President Capparello opened the Public Session at 6:10pm. He asked if anyone wanted to speak regarding anything on the Agenda.

Mayor Elect Amy Praught advised she would not be speaking but would answer any questions anyone had.

Council Liaison Hayner stated that the Common Council recently had a Budget Review meeting and noted that City Engineer Vose and Deputy Engineer Putman have been assisting in the day-to-day operation of the Water Department for many years in an unpaid capacity. He relayed that in his opinion, along with Mr. Vose, Mr. Putman and Senior Water Plant Operator Denmark this has been working out well. He noted that the Water Department has \$70,000 set aside in their 2022 budget for a Superintendent salary. He proposed that instead of paying a Superintendent \$70,000 along with benefits that a stipend of \$15,000 be paid to both Mr. Vose and Mr. Putman to continue their services for a one year trial.

Board President Capparello asked if this is something the City would put in writing so the Board could vote on it at their next meeting.

Mayor Jackson advised that the City budget deadline is December 1, 2021 and the next Water Department meeting is after that date.

Council Liaison Hayner advised that the City would put this in writing for the Water Department's consideration and perhaps a Special Meeting could be held by the Water Department to vote on it.

Mayor Elect Praught stated that Mr. Vose and Mr. Putman would be doing the same duties they are performing now and would provide the Water Board with a weekly report on what work was done. She noted that clerical duties would continue to be done by the Water Department staff, Mr. Vose and Mr. Putman would still be City employees and would report to the Mayor. She conveyed that this was a way the Water Department could save money. She added that she is in favor of working with the County to discuss shared services and noted the Water Department working with the City could be a way for both departments to move forward. Mayor Elect Praught advised that the stipends could be tried for one year to see how this plan would work out and didn't have to be a permanent thing. She concluded that as of January 2, 2022, if the Water Department chose not to proceed with this option, Mr. Vose and Mr. Putman would focus solely on the responsibilities of the DPW Department.

John Swierzowski, previous Water Board President, thanked the Board for volunteering and being elected officials. He urged the Board to stay the course of pursuing a Superintendent. He noted that in his opinion the Water Department would be best served by a Superintendent to pursue grants and support the unpaid Board. He noted a Superintendent would represent the Department in a professional capacity.

No one else chose to speak and Board President Capparello closed the Public Session at 6:18pm.

FINANCIAL: DEPOSITS/EXPENSES/ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLES

Deposits: October 9, 2021 – October 27, 2021

\$311,544.84 (Includes Residential and Industrial Customers)

Expenses: October 9, 2021 – November 4, 2021

\$25,046.71 (Excludes payroll: office/source/distribution)

Accounts Receivable as of November 1, 2021

\$945,367.93 (Includes Residential and Industrial Customers)

MOTION to approve the Deposits/Expenses/Receivables for 10/09/21 – 11/04/21 was made by Board President Capparello; seconded by Board Vice President Lyon. **Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1**

FINANCIAL: SEPTEMBER 2021 – INDUSTRIAL LEVY

Water	\$87,503.98	Sewer	\$194,063.26	Maintenance	\$6,570.79	10 Customers billed
						Total \$288,138.03

MOTION to approve the **September 2021 Industrial Billing Levy** was made by Board President Capparello; seconded by Board Vice President Lyon. **Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION to approve the meeting minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 12th, 2021 and Budget Meeting of October 25th, 2021 was made by Board President Capparello; seconded by Board Member Marotta. (Board Vice President Lyon abstained as he was not at the 10/25/21 meeting)

Ayes: 3 Nays: 0 Abstain: 1 Absent: 1

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board President Capparello thanked Senior Water Plant Operator Denmark for the work he along with the water and public works department crews accomplished during last week's water main breaks. He advised that he appreciated the 24/7 work that Mr. Denmark performs for the City residents. John Denmark advised that two million gallons of water was being lost per day and he was able to remedy the situation as quickly as possible.

The next Regular Water Board meeting will be held on Monday, **December 13th, 2021 at 6:00pm** at the Water Department Office.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION to adjourn the meeting at 6:25pm was made by Board President Capparello; seconded by Board Vice President Lyon. **Ayes: 4 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 1**

Respectfully submitted by:
Susan Miller, Water Board Clerk

DEPOSITS: OCTOBER 9, 2021 - OCTOBER 27, 2021

*INCLUDES RESIDENTIAL AND INDUSTRIAL CUSTOMERS	\$311,544.84
WATER PORTION	104,289.97
SEWER PORTION	199,509.48
CITY PORTION	7,745.39

ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLES: AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 2021	\$945,367.93
RESIDENTIAL/PASSED DUE (198 ACCOUNTS)	75,997.51
RESIDENTIAL/BILLED NOVEMBER 1, 2021 NORTH SIDE (1,893 ACCOUNTS)	550,266.66
INDUSTRIAL (10 ACCOUNTS)	319,103.76

ACCOUNTS PAYABLES: OCTOBER 9, 2021 - NOVEMBER 4, 2021	\$25,046.71
*DOES NOT INCLUDE PAYROLL EXPENSES	
AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION-MEMBERSHIP DUES 2022	389.00
BLUE FLAME GAS CO.	2,811.74
CRANESVILLE BLOCK CO., INC.	393.83
CUSHING STONE COMPANY, INC.	769.90
FASTENAL	70.31
FERGUSON	4,622.59
FRONTIER	345.06
GLOVERSVILLE WATER DEPT - LAB SERVICES/SEPT 2021	360.00
HACH/RESERVOIR CHEMICALS	941.33
JH CONSULTANTS	1,277.00
NAPA - OCTOBER INVOICES	547.46
NATIONAL GRID	3,227.56
NOBLE ACE HARDWARE	592.46
QUILL OFFICE SUPPLIES	285.42
RH CROWN	223.66
SLACK CHEMICAL COMPANY	4,058.80
UPSTATE LEAK DETECTION, LLC	2,400.00
USA BLUEBOOK	1,730.59

JOHNSTOWN

SEPTEMBER 2021 CONSUMPTION SUMMARY

INDUSTRY	INVOICE #	WATER	SEWER	MAINTENANCE	TOTAL BILLED
ADIRONDAC LEATHER	2626	\$92.95	\$114.91	\$6.15	\$214.01
BENJAMIN MOORE	2627	\$6,680.38	\$1,277.19	\$278.12	\$8,235.69
CENTURY LINEN (J)	2628	\$4,471.39	\$5,291.75	\$366.51	\$10,129.65
EUPHRATES	2629	\$5,211.84	\$28,702.49	\$528.10	\$34,442.43
FAGE	2630	\$62,232.81	\$146,128.10	\$4,732.97	\$213,093.88
PAN AMERICAN	2631	\$707.92	\$184.42	\$46.82	\$939.16
PEARL	2632	\$1,291.10	\$1,808.84	\$85.39	\$3,185.33
SIMCO	2633	\$1,313.32	\$3,202.87	\$86.86	\$4,603.05
TOWNSEND	2634	\$4,798.47	\$5,959.54	\$393.32	\$11,151.33
WEST MEADOW DAIRY	2635	\$703.80	\$1,393.15	\$46.55	\$2,143.50
TOTALS:		\$87,503.98	\$194,063.26	\$6,570.79	\$288,138.03