



Johnstown Common Council
Business Meeting - Council Chambers, City Hall
Tuesday, January 21, 2025 @ 6:00 p.m.

REPORTS FROM CITY LIAISONS

Gloversville Johnstown Joint Sewer Board

Planning Board

Assessor

**GLOVERSVILLE-JOHNSTOWN JOINT SEWER BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
December 11, 2024**

The Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board held a meeting in the Boardroom of the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment Facility (GJJWTF) on Wednesday, December 11, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 6:15 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Christopher Vose	Chairman
Eric Parker	Secretary
Michael W. Stover	Member
Bobbi Trudel	Member
Harry Brand	Manager-Wastewater Programs
Mark Levendusky	Laboratory Director
Ian Colvin Marincic	WWTP Engineering Technician
Darleen Gaugler	Principal Account Clerk
Hilary Ruzycky	Administrative Aide

ABSENT

Donald Schwartz	Vice Chairman
John Rizzo	Member

NOVEMBER 13, 2024, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The Board approved the November 13, 2024, regular meeting minutes on a motion made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was discussed: No. 5

PLANT OPERATIONS

NYS DEC Annual SPDES Permit Inspection

Manager Brand reported NYS DEC conducted an announced comprehensive State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (SPDES) compliance inspection on November 14, 2024. Manager Brand and Chief Operator Yaggle accompanied DEC inspectors throughout the inspection. Per DEC Inspection Report dated November 20, 2024, the facility is well operated, maintained, and produced clear effluent at the time of the inspection. The facility was assigned an overall rating of Satisfactory.

High Yard Recovery Update

Manager Brand reported \$137,000 remains encumbered for the new RTU expected to arrive in February 2025. A new Verizon communication circuit for connection with National Grid will be billed on a monthly basis.

Manager Brand reported Milton Cat is working on an issue with the local control panel of Cogen #1. A new panel was ordered but arrived incorrectly. The control panel from Cogen #2 might be used to get Cogen #1 back online. This issue is unrelated to the High Yard recovery.

Slope Stabilization Update

Manager Brand reported the Emergency Slope Repair Project is nearing completion. Extreme rainfall temporarily hindered work by Carver Construction. The bridge became completely submerged, and the bridge mats had to be removed. Work is now complete upstream from the temporary bridge to the pipe bridge. Work continues on the lower portion of the creek. Despite delays the project is expected to be completed by December 31, 2024. GPI will evaluate the slope of the creek upstream beyond the pipe bridge for possible future failure, and potential actions to mitigate future failures.

Award Bid: Sodium Hypochlorite

Manager Brand reported a chemical bid opening was held on December 9, 2024, for the supply and delivery of sodium hypochlorite. Bids were received from Slack Chemical Co., Inc. and Surpass Chemical Company, Inc. Surpass Chemical Company submitted the lowest bid at \$2.565 per gallon. On a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board accepted the bid proposal from Surpass Chemical Company, Inc. at the cost of \$2.565 per gallon, for a one (1) year contract to supply and deliver sodium hypochlorite, effective January 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

Whey Tank Cleaning

Manager Brand reported Precision Industrial Maintenance is scheduled to clean the Whey Tank starting on December 28, 2024, through January 1, 2025. The cleaning project was coordinated with FAGE USA Dairy and Euphrates. Whey flow will be restricted to 75,000 gallons per day or less to facilitate the event. The project will require GJJWTF weekend staffing and overtime. FAGE agrees to cover the associated incremental costs.

CONTRACT RENEWALS:

Fulton County Department of Solid Waste - Leachate/Sludge Disposal

Manager Brand requested Board approval for a two (2) year contract extension to the Leachate/Sludge Agreement between Fulton County and the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board. The GJJSB will charge the County at the same rate of \$0.011 per gallon for leachate transported to the Gloversville-Johnstown Wastewater Treatment Facility by the County, and in return, the County will charge the GJJSB at the same rate of \$34 per ton for sludge hauled to the Sanitary landfill by GJJWTF. On a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Parker, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved the Leachate/Sludge Agreement between Fulton County and the GJJSB, with the same terms and rate of \$0.011 per gallon for leachate transported to the GJJWTF by the County, and rate of \$34 per ton for sludge hauled to the Sanitary landfill by GJJWTF, effective January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2026.

Municipal Sludge Disposal

Manager Brand requested Board approval to renew sludge disposal contracts with Fonda-Fultonville WTF, Mayfield WTF, Montgomery Co. Sanitary District No. 1, St. Johnsville WTF, and Waterford WTF, for two (2) years, with the disposal rate stipulated by the current approved Rate Schedule at the time of disposal. On a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved the request to renew the Fonda-Fultonville WTF, Mayfield WTF, Montgomery Co. Sanitary District No. 1, St. Johnsville WTF, and Waterford WTF sludge disposal contracts, for two (2) years, with the disposal rate stipulated by the current approved Rate Schedule at the time of disposal, effective January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2026.

Precision Industrial Maintenance – Septic/Industrial Strength Waste Disposal

Manager Brand requested Board approval to renew the contract with Precision Industrial Maintenance, Inc. for disposal of septic and industrial strength waste, for two (2) years, with the disposal rates stipulated by the current approved Rate Schedule at the time of disposal. On a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Parker, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved the request to renew the Precision Industrial Maintenance, Inc. contract for disposal of septic and industrial strength waste, for two (2) years, with the disposal rates stipulated by the current approved Rate Schedule at the time of disposal, effective January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2026.

PURCHASE/AUDIT

Accept Bid: Bobcat Forklift

Manager Brand reported four (4) bids were received through Sourcewell Cooperative Purchasing for a Bobcat diesel forklift. Doosan Bobcat submitted the lowest bid at \$35,260.15. On a motion made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board accepted the bid proposal from Doosan Bobcat at \$35,260.15 for a Bobcat D30S-9 diesel forklift .

INDUSTRIAL COMPLIANCE

Sewer Bill Protest: 545 North Perry Street, Johnstown

Principal Account Clerk Gaugler reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 545 North Perry Street in Johnstown. Engineer Technician Marincic conducted an inspection of the premises. On a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved a credit of \$898.82 since the water did not enter the sewer system to be treated.

Sewer Bill Protest: 41 South Perry Street, Johnstown

Principal Account Clerk Gaugler reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 41 South Perry Street in Johnstown. Engineer Technician Marincic conducted an inspection of the premises. On a motion made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board denied credit since the request for relief was submitted beyond the deadline, and upon inspection it appeared partial excess water entered the sewer system and had to be treated.

Sewer Bill Protest: 18 Lexington Avenue, Gloversville

Principal Account Clerk Gaugler reviewed a request for sewer bill adjustment for excess water usage for property located at 18 Lexington Avenue in Gloversville. Engineer Technician Marincic conducted an inspection of the premises. On a motion made by Mr. Stover, seconded by Mr. Parker, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved a credit of \$979.51 since the water did not enter the sewer system to be treated.

Potential New Industrial User: Vireo Health of New York

Laboratory Director Levendusky reported Vireo Health of New York plans to install wastewater metering and sampling equipment upon completion of renovation of their facility located at 234 County Route 117 in Johnstown, the former Tryon campus. The majority of estimated effluent flow will be purged water from reverse osmosis (RO) water creation. Remaining discharged water will be used for normal sanitary purposes. Levendusky will continue to monitor progress as Vireo Health may become an Industrial User requiring a discharge permit.

2025 Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permit Renewals

Manager Brand reported that nineteen (19) Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permit Renewal Applications were submitted for 2025. Renewal data was entered into a spreadsheet to confirm allocated capacity for Flow, TSS, BOD and TKN. FAGE USA Dairy requested a 25% increase for solids. After reviewing all permit requests, Manager Brand and Lab Director Levendusky recommend authorizing permits as submitted including increases.

New language was added to all permits on Page 3, Section 9, under Right of Entry, to read "Permittee shall provide SAFE and UNOBSTRUCTED access to a monitoring station at all times." Permits will now be signed by both the Manager and Laboratory Director.

On a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved all nineteen (19) Industrial Wastewater Discharge Permit Renewal Applications for 2025 permit allocations, including a change in language on Page 3 and the cosigning of permits.

ATTACHMENTS

Wastewater Programs Report, Annual Trends/Comparison Report, and 2024 O&M Expenditure Reports were reviewed per Attachments No. 2, 3, & 4

O&M purchase orders and disbursement sheets totaling \$555,569.08 were approved for payment on a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Parker, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed.

Capital disbursement sheet totaling \$478,651.66 was approved for payment on a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Parker, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed.

OLD BUSINESS

Manager Brand reported Monitoring Technician VanAuken returned to work on December 3, 2024, at full duty with no restrictions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion made by Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed, all Board members present went into executive session at 7:27 P.M. to discuss NY Public Officers Law §105:1 – (e) collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of Civil Service Law. Manager Brand was later invited to the Executive session.

On a motion made by Mr. Stover, seconded by Ms. Trudel, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board came out of executive session at 8:16 P.M. No action was taken.

Resolution No. 2024-22

On a motion made Mr. Parker, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved Resolution No. 2024-22. *Authorizing 2025 Salary Schedule for Non-Union Employees.*

BUDGET

Resolution No. 2024-21

On a motion made Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board approved Resolution No. 2024-21. *Adoption of 2025 O&M General Fund Budget Totaling \$6,185,338.00.*

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:19 P.M. on a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed.

The next regular meeting will be held on **Wednesday, January 8, 2025, at 6:00 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher Vose, Chairman
Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board



City of Johnstown

Assessor's Office

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ASSESSOR REPORT January 21, 2025

- All exemptions that are filed with the Assessor are due March 1, 2025. For questions regarding ANY exemption, please call or email the Assessor's Office at 518-736-4015 or assessor@cityofjohnstown.ny.gov.
- Renewal applications for the Partial Tax Exemption for Senior Citizens were mailed November 6th and are due by March 1, 2025. **Please submit income from the tax year 2023.**
- A reminder, anyone turning 65 this calendar year may be eligible for the Enhanced STAR and/or the Partial Tax Exemption for Senior Citizens. If you believe you may qualify, please contact the Assessor's office for an application.
- New homeowners need to register for the STAR Credit at www.tax.ny.gov/star or [call 518-457-2036](tel:5184572036).
- The Assessor's Office continues to work on the 2025 roll.