



Johnstown Common Council
Business Meeting - Council Chambers, City Hall
Monday, November 18, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m.

REPORTS FROM CITY LIAISONS

1. Gloversville Johnstown Joint Sewer Board
2. Planning Board
3. Assessor

**GLOVERSVILLE-JOHNSTOWN JOINT SEWER BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
October 9, 2024**

DRAFT

The Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board held a meeting in the Boardroom of the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment Facility (GJJWTF) on Wednesday, October 9, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 6:10 P.M.

ROLL CALL

Christopher Vose	Chairman
Donald Schwartz	Vice Chairman
Michael W. Stover	Member
Bobbi Trudel	Member
Harry Brand	Manager-Wastewater Programs
Mark Levendusky	Laboratory Director
Darleen Gaugler	Principal Account Clerk
Hilary Ruzicky	Administrative Aide

ABSENT

Eric Parker	Secretary
John Rizzo	Member

SEPTEMBER 11, 2024, REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

The Board approved the September 11, 2024, regular meeting minutes on a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was discussed: No. 8

PLANT OPERATIONS

High Yard Recovery Update

Manager Brand reported National Grid will test electrical relays on October 10, 2024. Cogen control tests are scheduled for October 21, 2024. RTU is not available until 2025. To fulfill the RTU communication requirements we will likely need to engage with Verizon in addition to Frontier Communications, who installed all the required fiber communications and hardware.

Manager Brand reported NBT Insurance contractor Sedgwick provided a forensic accountant review of the extra expenses and lost revenue portions of the High Yard loss insurance claim. NBT Insurance issued a \$100,000 advance for an Additional Expense Claim to cover the Electric Supply Service purchased from National Grid while the Cogen units are unavailable to generate power due to the loss of the High Yard Control Building. The total estimated purchase cost of Electric Supply Service from National Grid is estimated at \$167,000.

See Attachment - Resolution No. 2024-18

Slope Stabilization Update

Manager Brand reported Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. (GPI) held a Bid Opening at the facility on October 2, 2024, for the GJJWTF Emergency Slope Repair Project. A total of six (6) bids were submitted. The lowest Responsible Bidder meeting all the bid submission requirements is Carver Construction, Inc. with a bid total of \$1,032,145.00. GPI recommended awarding the contract to Carver Construction, Inc.

See Attachment - Resolution No. 2024-19

Authorize Chemical Bidding - Dry Polymer, Emulsion Polymer, & Sodium Hypochlorite

Manager Brand requested Board approval to seek bids for two (2) year contracts to be awarded at the December meeting for Dry Polymer, Emulsion Polymer, and Sodium Hypochlorite. Water Treatment Chemical (WTC)

Forms must be approved by NYSDEC prior to testing any proposed polymers in the actual process, following bench testing. On a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board authorized advertisement for bids for two (2) year contracts for Dy Polymer, Emulsion Polymer, and Sodium Hypochlorite.

Upcoming Contract Renewals & Current Rate Structure

Manager Brand reviewed current rates and terms of the following contracts coming due at year-end:

- a) Leachate/Sludge Disposal Agreement between Fulton County Department of Solid Waste and GJJWTF, neither side anticipates any increase to current rates.
- b) Municipal Sludge from Fonda-Fultonville, Mayfield, Montgomery County, St. Johnsville, and Waterford,
- c) Septic and Industrial Waste from Precision Industrial Maintenance.

Manager Brand noted the current rate structure will be discussed at an upcoming Budget Committee meeting.

PERSONNEL

New Hire: Robert Yaggle, Chief WWTP Operator

Manager Brand requested Board approval to appoint previous employee and Certified Grade 4A WWTP Operator Robert Yaggle for the newly created position of Chief WWTP Operator. 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 the provisional appointment of Robert Yaggle to the Non-Union position entitled Chief WWTP Operator, at the salary of \$91,000 per year, with an employment start date of October 14, 2024.

Collective Bargaining Agreement

Manager Brand noted the Personnel Committee will meet near the month end with management staff and employee representation to continue negotiations for the proposed Collective Bargaining Agreement.

ATTACHMENTS

Resolution No. 2024-18

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. 2024-18. *Increasing the General Fund Budget to Capture Insurance Recoveries for the High Yard Loss Event.*

Resolution No. 2024-19

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. 2024-19. *Award Emergency Bid to Carver Construction, Inc. for Slope Stabilization Project.*

Resolution No. 2024-20

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. 2024-20. *Transfers within the General Fund Budget.*

Wastewater Programs Report, Annual Trends/Comparison Report, and 2024 O&M Expenditure Reports were reviewed per Attachments No. 4, 5, & 6.

O&M purchase orders and disbursement sheets totaling \$483,719.90 were approved for payment on a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Stover, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed.

OLD BUSINESS

Review Status of GJJWTF Property/Flood Insurance

Chairman Vose reported the City of Johnstown Mayor and City of Gloversville Mayor are both in favor of removing the Flood Insurance rider from the GJJWTF Property Insurance Policy.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed, all Board members present, Manager Brand, and Principal Account Clerk Gaugler went into executive session at 7:03 P.M. to discuss NY Public Officers Law §105:1 – (e) collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of Civil Service Law.

On a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed, the Board came out of executive session at 7:25 P.M. No action was taken.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 P.M. on a motion made by Ms. Trudel, seconded by Mr. Schwartz, carried four (4) in favor, two (2) absent, and none (0) opposed.

The next regular meeting will be held on **Wednesday, November 13, 2024, at 6:00 P.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Parker, Secretary
Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board

GLOVERSVILLE-JOHNSTOWN JOINT SEWER BOARD

RESOLUTION #2024-18

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2024, the Gloversville Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment Facility experienced an Insurable event, resulting in the complete loss of the facility's High Yard Control Building.

WHEREAS, on August 14, 2024, the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board voted to accept NYMIR's Insured Settlement Payment for the Physical Damage Claim (building loss) only, in the amount of \$1,088,621.39, plus the \$400,000 advance payment issued directly to High Voltage Electrical Services (HVES), totaling \$1,488,621.39.

WHEREAS, this event is also covered for Additional Expenses and Loss of Income Claim. NYMIR issued a \$100,000 advance for Additional Expense claim, utilized to cover the Electric Supply Service purchased from National Grid, as the COGEN Units are unavailable to generate due to the loss of the High Yard Control Building. The total estimated cost of Electrical Supply Service is estimated at \$167,000.

WHEREAS, the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board wishes to make changes to the 2024 General Fund Budget effecting the following account to capture the Insurance Recoveries received as follows:

Increase Budget Line Item:

J8130-4400 (J8130-4471)	Maintenance & Repair (Elect Power Supply & Dist) For the High Yard Control Bldg	\$1,488,621.39
J8130-4230	Electrical Service For Electric Energy Purchases	\$167,000.00

RESOLVED, that the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board make the above mentioned changes to the 2024 General Fund Budget.

DATED: October 9, 2024

MOTION: Bobbi Trudel

SECOND: Michael Stover

YES: 4

NO: 0

ABSENT: 2

GLOVERSVILLE-JOHNSTOWN JOINT SEWER BOARD

RESOLUTION #2024-19

WHEREAS, on April 9, 2024, the Gloversville Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment Facility experienced a Slope Failure adjacent to the Cayadutta Creek, Northside of creek, approximately 70 feet wide.

WHEREAS, on April 19, 2024, the Gloversville Johnstown Joint Wastewater Treatment Facility received a letter summarizing the slope failure from Greenman-Pedersen, Inc (GPI) following a site visit and slope evaluation; indicating that the slope is considered unstable and actively moving. Due to the proximity to the facility's main electrical bus duct and critical fiber optic cable, further slope failure could lead to loss of the wastewater Treatment Facility function.

WHEREAS, on June 12, 2024, the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board voted to enter into a contract with GPI for Emergency Slope Repair Project Engineering Services including interpretation of building codes, field inspections, document review, developing and awarding bids, vetting contractors, and permitting.

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2024, GPI provided Recommendation of Award for the Emergency Slope Repair, GPI recommends the Lowest Responsible Bidder, Carver Construction, Inc. with a total bid of \$1,032,145.00.

RESOLVED, that the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board agrees to follow GPI's recommendation and awards the Emergency Slope Repair Contract PO-14081-A to Carver Construction, Inc. in the total amount of \$1,032,145.00.

DATED: October 9, 2024

MOTION: Bobbi Trudel

SECOND: Michael Stover

YES: 4

NO: 0

ABSENT: 2

GLOVERSVILLE-JOHNSTOWN JOINT SEWER BOARD

RESOLUTION #2024-20

WHEREAS, 2024 General Budget J8130-1100 Salaries were established based on current staffing levels as of fall 2023, vice the approved staffing level. In January 2024 the facility filled the open WWTP Attendant position and in June 2024 filled the open WWTP Operator position.

WHEREAS, in February of 2024 the decision was made to commence utilizing Ferrous Chloride addition to the Solid Holding Tank for odor control, this resulted in approximately a 30% increase in Ferrous Chloride consumption, which was not budgeted in the 2024 budget.

WHEREAS, on February 29, 2024, the facility had an event which rendered the High Yard Control Building inoperable, the subsequent recovery requiring the facility to operate the Emergency Diesel Generator for an extended period, incurring unbudgeted fuel usage.

WHEREAS, the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board wishes to make changes to the 2024 General Fund Budget as follows:

Transfer From:

J8110-4720	Professional Services	(\$600)
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Transfer To:

J8110-4260	Telephone	\$600
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Transfer From:

J8130-4311	Desiccant	(\$15,000)
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J8130-4312	Scrubber Media	(\$15,000)
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J8130-4321	Potassium Permanganate	(\$5,000)
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J8130-4760	Other Fees and Services	(\$15,000)
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Transfer To:

J8130-1100	Salaries	\$50,000
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Transfer From:

J8130-4312 Scrubber Media (\$9,000)

Transfer To:

J8130-4320 Ferrous Chloride \$9,000

Transfer From:

J8130-4740 Travel & Training (\$3,000)

Transfer To:

J8130-4600 Fuel \$3,000

RESOLVED, that the Gloversville-Johnstown Joint Sewer Board make the above mentioned changes to the 2024 General Fund Budget.

DATED: October 9, 2024

MOTION: Bobbi Trudel

SECOND: Michael Stover

YES: 4

NO: 0

ABSENT: 2



City of Johnstown

Meeting: Planning Board Meeting
 Date: Tuesday, November 5, 2024
 Time: 4:00 p.m.
 Location: Conference Room, City Hall
 Presiding Officer: Peter Smith, Chairman

Meetings are broadcast using Facebook Live. The public is able to view the meeting from the official City of Johnstown Facebook page: [City of Johnstown, New York](#)

The proceedings of meetings are taped for the benefit of the City Clerk; the minutes are not a verbatim record of the proceedings; therefore, the minutes are not a word-for-word transcript.

Meeting Minutes

- **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**
- **MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

		PRESENT	ABSENT / EXCUSED	LATE
Peter Smith	Board Member, Chairman	X		
Chandra Cotter	Board Member	X		
Terri Easterly	Board Member	X		
Betsy Camarra	Board Member	X		
Roberta Thomas	Board Member	X		4:03 pm
Michael M. Albanese	Board Member, City Attorney	X		
Christopher J. Vose	Board Member, City Engineer		Excused	
Larry O'Regan	Fire Chief	X		
Carrie M. Allen	City Clerk	X		
Scott Jeffers	Council Liaison		Excused	

– **APPROVE MINUTES**

1. Meeting – October 1, 2024

Action Taken

Motion:	Board Member Cotter	Ayes:	6	Absent:	1 (Vose)
Seconded:	Board Member Easterly	Noes:	0	Abstain:	0
Discussion:	None				

– **PUBLIC HEARING**

1. Johnstown Public Library; learning landscape	Opened: 4:01pm
Speakers: None	
Discussion: None	Closed: 4:02pm

– **ITEM #1: Vital Sign & Graphic; 299 N. Comrie Avenue**

Vital Sign looking to install a pylon sign for optimal visibility. The sign height currently does not meet code regulations and the company is looking for a variance.

- No one from the company was present to speak
- Codes was authorized to reject application and advise applicant to reapply if necessary. Matter would need to be referred to Zoning Board of Appeals.

– **ITEM #2: Johnstown Public Library @ 38 S. Market Street; landscape renovation & reduction of off-street parking**

Dave D'amore presented the Board with further plans. Key points discussed were as follows:

- Phase I will go out to bid in Spring 2025
- Phase II will go out to bid in either Fall of 2025 or Spring of 2026

DECLARE NEGATIVE DECLARATION

Motion:	Board Member Cotter	Ayes:	6	Absent:	1 (Vose)
Seconded:	Board Member Easterly	Noes:	0	Abstain:	0
Discussion:	None				

SITE PLAN APPROVAL

Motion:	Board Member	Cotter	Ayes:	5	Absent:	1 (Vose)
Seconded:	Board Member	Easterly	Noes:	0	Abstain:	1 (Camarra)
Discussion:	None					

• **ADJOURN**

<u>Time:</u> 4:13 pm						
Motion:	Board Member	Easterly	Ayes:	6	Absent:	1 (Vose)
Seconded:	Board Member	Thomas	Noes:	0	Abstain:	0

Respectfully Submitted,



Carrie M. Allen, City Clerk



City of Johnstown

Assessor's Office

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assessor@cityofjohnstown.ny.gov

ASSESSOR REPORT November 18, 2024

- Property Owners 65 years of age and older MAY be eligible for the Partial Tax Exemption for Senior Citizens on their PRIMARY RESIDENCE. Total Household Income MUST be \$29,999 or less for tax year 2023 to qualify. Contact the Assessor's office at 518-736-4015 for an application.
- **Renewal** applications for the Partial Tax Exemption for Senior Citizens were mailed November 6th. **Please submit income from the tax year 2023.**
- All Exemption applications which are filed with the Assessor's Office are due March 1, 2025.
- New homeowners need to register for the STAR Credit at www.tax.ny.gov/star or call 518-457-2036.
- The Assessor's Office continues to work on the 2025 roll.