

ERIE COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT NO. 3
BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING
WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 2, 2015
SOUTHTOWNS TREATMENT PLANT CONFERENCE ROOM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman John Mills, David Kaczor, David Millar, Glenn Nellis,
David Rood, Don Witkowski

MEMBERS ABSENT: Karl Simmeth, Michael Kasprzyk

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Canestrari, Joe Fiegl, Kevin Kaminski, Jill Krafft

ITEM NO. 1 – CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Mills called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

ITEM NO. 2 – ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

ITEM NO. 3 – OLD BUSINESS

None

ITEM NO. 4 – NEW BUSINESS

a. Amended 2016 Proposed Budget (Handout)

On a motion by Mr. Kazcor, seconded by Mr. Nellis, the Board voted to discuss and consider a proposed resolution reducing the 2016 fringe benefit rate, approved at the annual ECSD No. 3 budget meeting held on June 24, 2015, by 3% which would reduce the corresponding tax levy to District by \$120,224. The motion carried, 6 – 0.

Mr. Fiegl presented a copy of the Amended 2016 Proposed Budget, and accompanying Resolution, to the Board. He started the conversation noting that Mr. Kasprzk's firm view was that the fringe benefit savings should be reallocated to additional capital work in the sewer district and that Division of Sewerage Management staff have consistently stated that more infrastructure investment is necessary. Mr. Fiegl stated that, for years, the Board has discussed the benefits of infrastructure investment adding that, if funds were unlimited, the proposed budgets would include more projects. The 2016 Budget did include additional funding for several upgrades and continued the sewer district in the right direction relative to increasing investment in sewerage facilities. However, Mr. Fiegl also stated that Erie County must operate under New York State's Property Tax Cap Law adding that the proposed resolution supports the County's overall obligation to comply with that requirement.

Item 2(9)

Mr. Kaczor stated that the approved budget proactively included funding for several capital projects. He noted that ECSD No. 3 ratepayers have been in a situation for years where many have not received pay raises at a time when the cost of living continues to increase. He added that the impact on the ratepayer is a primary priority.

Mr. Rood noted the Board must be mindful that a significant rate increase may be necessary to address capital projects in the future. He added that he is in agreement with the fringe benefit reduction at this time, but planning for the future must continue to be considered.

Mr. Witkowski expressed his support for infrastructure investment, but also acknowledged the need to comply with New York State's Tax Cap, and that the average increase as amended is still above the 0.73% threshold.

Chairman Mills stated that Erie County has a responsibility to keep Lake Erie clean. He added that, to that end, work carried out by ECSD No. 3 is very important.

Mr. Fiegl commented that Mr. Simmeth corresponded with him and although he was unable to attend this meeting, wished to express that he was in favor of the amended budget.

On a motion by Chairman Mills, seconded by Mr. Rood, the Board voted to approve the Amended 2016 Proposed Budget Resolution. The motion carried, 6 – 0.

ITEM NO. 5 – ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING

On a motion by Chairman Mills, seconded by Mr. Rood, the meeting was adjourned at 8:19 a.m. The motion carried, 6 – 0.

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday October 7, 2015 at 8:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary

ECSD No. 3 – Board of Managers

DM:jk

Motion to Approve the September 2, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Moved by: _____

Seconded by: _____

App/Disapp: _____

Date: _____

David C. Millar, Secretary
ECSD No. 3 Board of Managers