

PUBLIC HEARING
July 29, 2015
ERIE COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT NO. 6
MODIFICATION OF PLANS (2015)

ECLEG AUG05'15 PM 3:11

PRESENT: Jim Carr, Assistant Deputy Commissioner
John Mallory, Assistant Sanitary Engineer of the Department of
Environment and Planning, Division of Sewerage Management
Karen M. McCarthy, Clerk of the Erie County Legislature

Ms. Karen M. McCarthy opened the hearing at 1:30 P.M. by stating that the Hearing Notice was published in the Official County Newspapers. She then proceeded to read and notice a copy of which is attached. Ms. McCarthy then asked if anyone was present to speak in favor of the project.

Mr. John Mallory stated that he was present to speak in favor of the project. He stated the project is within Erie County Sewer District No. 6 and he was representing the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning, Division of Sewerage Management; the Erie County Sewer District No. 6 Board of Managers, and the Erie County Sewer Agency.

Erie County Sewer District No. 6 (ECSD No. 6) was established in 1983 and provides sanitary and storm sewers services to approximately 20,000 residents in the City of Lackawanna.

In 2005, ECSD No. 6 established a \$4.0 million Bond Project to improve the services provided by the district and to reduce treatment costs by initiating a comprehensive I/I program. The District has made great strides in this direction. There is still bond authorization remaining which will require an extension in time to complete new projects that have surfaced. The improvements included upgrade of the Wilmuth/Well St. Pumping Station and engineering costs associated with those upgrades.

Currently there is \$1.534 million in unused authorization available due to previous construction bids coming in below engineers' estimates. The funds would be used for engineering, easements, design, financing, new construction, maintenance, repairs and related items needed to rehabilitate/replace the existing infrastructure and to add needed new facilities.

It is estimated that the Wilmuth/Well Street Pumping Station project will cost approximately \$1.2 million. As previously stated the remaining authorization would be used for repairs at the major facilities, replacement/repairs of existing sewers and pumping stations and any issues/problems that arise due to the age of many of the existing facilities. Note that there will not be any further impact on the ratepayers of the Sewer District outside of that which was calculated in the original Sewer Agency Report in 2005.

Federal and/or State grant assistance for construction projects are currently not available. However, low interest loans are available through New York State's Revolving Loan Fund Program (SRF). For eligible projects, the program provides a low interest rate for bonds and zero percent interest for temporary financing (BANS) during construction.

In conclusion, ECSD No. 6 has a very old sewer system dating back to the early part of the last century and ECSD No. 6 has \$1.534 million in unused authorization remaining from the initial authorization of \$4.0 million. Therefore, it is in the District's best interest to re-allocate the remaining unused funds to make needed improvements to the District.

Comm. 16D-4

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Submittal of an application to NYS Audit & Control for approval is not required as this is a Modification of Plans pursuant to Article 5A, Section 253-b, County Law and there are no increases from the original proposal in 2005. Pursuant to Chapter 397 of the New York Laws of 1995, application to the NYS Comptroller is not required as a result of this Modification of Plans.

The project has been discussed with the Board of Managers of Erie County Sewer District No. 6 and based on these discussions and review of the Sewer Agency Report, the Board Approved this Sewer Agency Report on May 13, 2015 and requests the Erie County Legislature approve a Modification of Plans pursuant to Article 5A, County Law.

The Erie County Sewer Agency and the Department of Environment and Planning recommendation are that the Erie County Legislature should:

1. Accept and adopt this Sewer Agency Report which calls for needed improvements to the sewerage infrastructure in ECSD No. 6;
2. Adopt the necessary resolution for a Modification of Plans pursuant to section 253-b, Article 5A of County Law; and
3. Approve the Modification of Plans to finance the cost of improvements to the sewerage infrastructure in ECSD No. 6.

Dated: Buffalo, New York,
July 29, 2015

BY ORDER OF THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE
OF THE COUNTY OF ERIE, NEW YORK

By:



Karen M. McCarthy
Clerk, County Legislature