

**ROCKLAND COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT NO. 1
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING
December 5, 2023**

Members Present:

P. Carroll
R. Diaz
M. Genito
G. Hoehmann
T. Kenny
M. Specht
J. Tursi

Members Absent:

K. Connell
S. Lehman
A. Simon

Others Present:

M. Saber, M. Dolphin, T. Phillips, J. Gilberg, L. Apotheker

Item #1: The meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm.

M. Specht: I'll call to order the meeting of the Rockland County Sewer District No. 1 for tonight, December 5, 2023. I'm going to ask Commissioner Carroll to lead us in the Pledge.

Item #2: Roll Call

M. Specht: I'll ask the Clerk to call the attendance. Thank you.

Item #3: Public Participation

M. Specht: Is there anyone from the public who would like to speak? There appears to be nobody.

Item #4:

**RESOLUTION NO. 67 OF 2023
ADOPT MINUTES OF MEETING OF NOVEMBER 16, 2023**

WHEREAS, P. Carroll offered the following resolution, which was seconded by J. Tursi and approved unanimously, now, therefore, be it,

RESOLVED, that the transcribed Minutes of the Rockland County Sewer District No. 1 Meeting of November 16, 2023, as recorded by the Clerk, are hereby adopted.

Item #5:

M. Specht: I'll ask Executive Director Saber to discuss this with the Board.

M. Saber: The rates are the same as what was approved by the Board for the 2024 Budget back in June. The increase is \$323.00 to \$342.00 for the user rate which is a 5.9% increase. The area benefit charges are increased by 2% with the overall increase to be 4.5%. Based on some adjustments to earnings on investments, approximately, \$1,105,000 versus the originally \$1,944,856 is allocated from undesignated fund balance for the 2024 budget. After this release from fund balance, approximately \$12,017,099 is remaining. An additional \$200,000 may be used from fund balance for next year to cover contractual increases that were recently approved by the County Executive, Legislature, and unions. I request that the Board approve this resolution.

M. Specht: Any questions for Mr. Saber?

Motion to Approve:
Diaz/Kenny

December 5, 2023

Unan.

**RESOLUTION NO. 72 OF 2023
 RECOMMENDED RATES FOR USER CHARGES
 AND AREA BENEFIT CHARGES FOR 2024**

WHEREAS, the Rockland County Sewer District No. 1 has submitted its budget for calendar year 2024 for incorporation in the budget submitted by the County Executive to the Legislature of Rockland County, and,

WHEREAS, information has been received from the Town of Clarkstown, the Town of Ramapo, and the Town of Orangetown concerning assessed value and number of units of use within each municipality, and,

WHEREAS, equalization rates for the Towns of Clarkstown, Ramapo, and Orangetown have been received by the Clerk to the Legislature from the New York State Board of Equalization for use in computing Sewer District charges only, and,

WHEREAS, all said information has been used in computation of User and Area Benefit Charges, and,

WHEREAS, these rates have been audited and verified by the Accountant to the Sewer District, the Sewer Commission Budget Committee, and the Executive Director, now, therefore be it,

RESOLVED that the Executive Director, Rockland County Sewer District No. 1, hereby recommends that the government of Rockland County adopt the following charges:

<u>Sewer Use Charge:</u>	\$342.00 per unit of use
<u>Collection System Operation and Maintenance Charge:</u> Only for the Village of Spring Valley	\$42.00 per unit of use
<u>Collection System Operation and Maintenance Charge:</u> Only for the Village of New Square	\$52.00 per unit of use
<u>Collection System Operation and Maintenance Charge:</u> Western Ramapo	\$19.00 per unit of use

<u>Total Use Charges</u>	Number of Units	Rates	Amount to be Raised
Town of Clarkstown	41,284.0	\$342.00	\$14,119,128
Town of Ramapo	44,559.0	\$342.00	\$15,239,178
Town of Orangetown	<u>149.0</u>	\$342.00	<u>\$ 50,958</u>
TOTAL	85,992.0		\$29,409,264

<u>Collection System Operation and Maintenance</u>			
Clarkstown-Sp. Valley	1,379.0	\$42.00	\$ 57,918
Ramapo-Sp. Valley	11,207.0	\$42.00	\$470,694
Village of New Square	2,096.0	\$52.00	\$108,992
Western Ramapo	<u>2,457.0</u>	\$19.00	<u>\$ 46,683</u>
TOTAL	17,139.0		\$684,287

TOTAL Use and Collection System Operation & Maintenance **\$30,093,551**

<u>Area Benefit Tax</u>	Tax Rate	Equalization Rate	Amount to be Raised
Town of Clarkstown	1.367114	24.27%	\$ 6,080,825
Town of Ramapo	3.898924	8.51%	\$ 7,498,326

Town of Orangetown	0.931233	35.63%	\$ 58,549
TOTAL Area Benefit Tax			\$13,637,700

GRAND TOTAL **\$43,731,251**
 (Use and Collection System and Area Benefit Tax)

and, be it,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the same schedule of charges is advisory only until the 2024 Rockland County Budget, as it may be amended or any revisions to the assessed values and/or number of units by the Towns of Clarkstown, Ramapo, and Orangetown have been finalized by the Board of Assessment Review, and adopted by the government of Rockland County and signed by the County Executive, and, be it,

STILL FURTHER RESOLVED, that should amendments to the Sewer District’s 2024 Budget occur, prior to its final adoption, the same will be used for recalculation by the Board of Commissioners for adoption by the County of Rockland, and, be it,

STILL FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director is hereby authorized and directed to take such steps as may be necessary to carry out the intent of this resolution, and, be it,

STILL FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director is authorized to forward said documents to the County Executive for forwarding to the Legislature for their approval.

Item #6:

M. Saber: This is the annual project in the Village of Spring Valley which consists of replacing sanitary sewers, reconstructing house service connections with lateral piping and clean outs, and performing required testing of new pipes.

Sixty-one (61) Plan Holders accessed and/or downloaded the Bidding Documents at the website.

Eight (8) bids were received on November 15, 2023. The lowest responsive and responsible bidder is Southern Industries Corporation at \$189,931.25. References were checked and we did verify that they could perform the work at the price given. I recommend that the Board award this contract.

M. Specht: Any questions for Mr. Saber?

Motion to Approve:
Genito/Hoehmann

Unan.

December 5, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 73 OF 2023
 AWARD OF CONTRACT RFB-RC-SWR-2024-02
 2024 SPRING VALLEY SEWER SYSTEM REHABILITATION**

WHEREAS, bids for Contract RFB-RC-SWR-2024-02, 2024 Spring Valley Sewer System Rehabilitation were advertised and received on November 15, 2023, and,

WHEREAS, this contract is to replace two (2) segments of approximately 409 linear feet of 8” sewer pipe at Ewing Street in the Village of Spring Valley; reconstruct house service connections; provide 6” diameter PVC lateral pipe with clean out, televising and testing of sewer lines, and miscellaneous additional work, and,

WHEREAS, the work is located in the Village of Spring Valley, Rockland County, New York, and,

WHEREAS, in a memo dated November 29, 2023, the Staff of the Sewer District has indicated that a total of eight (8) bids were received as follows:

<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Bid Amount</u>
Southern Industries Corp.	\$189,931.25
Colonnelli Brothers, Inc.	\$330,775.00
MTS Infrastructure LLC	\$340,451.80
Metra Industries	\$346,739.00
TAM Enterprises, Inc.	\$374,800.00
Northbrook Contracting Corp.	\$378,000.00
Montana Construction Corp. Inc.	\$481,111.00
Paladino Concrete Creation Corp.	\$651,130.00

and,

WHEREAS, the bids have been checked and tabulated by the Purchasing Department, and,

WHEREAS, Southern Industries Corp. has submitted the lowest bid for the work described in the contract documents, and,

WHEREAS, Southern Industries Corp.'s bid was significantly lower than the engineers estimate and the other seven (7) bidders, and,

WHEREAS, the District had a discussion with Southern Industries Corp. regarding variances in their bid proposal, and,

WHEREAS, Southern Industries Corp. confirmed to the District that they could complete the project for their submitted bid proposal, and,

WHEREAS, references for Southern Industries Corp. have been checked and they have completed similar projects in the past in a satisfactory manner, now, therefore, be it,

RESOLVED, that the Board of Sewer Commissioners, upon the recommendation of the Executive Director, hereby awards Contract RFB-RC-SWR-2024-02, 2024 Spring Valley Sewer System Rehabilitation to Southern Industries Corp. 520 White Plains Road, Suite 500, Tarrytown, NY 10591 in the amount of \$189,931.25, and, be it,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director is authorized and directed to execute such documents as may be necessary to carry out the intent of this resolution, after review by the Staff of the Sewer District and the Office of the County Attorney, and, be it,

STILL FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director is authorized to forward said documents to the County Executive for forwarding to the Legislature for their approval.

Item #7:

M. Saber: This approval is for several staff members to participate in the largest conference for the New York Water Environment Association. The Board has supported attendance of this conference in the past. This conference is very informative for personnel in the wastewater industry. I request that the Board approve this resolution.

M. Specht: Do we have a motion to approve?

Motion to Approve:
Hoehmann/Tursi

Unan.

December 5, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 74 OF 2023
AUTHORIZATION TO ATTEND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
NEW YORK WATER ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION
96th ANNUAL MEETING, NEW YORK CITY
February 5, 2024 to February 7, 2024**

WHEREAS, the New York Water Environmental Association’s 96th Annual Meeting is scheduled for February 5, 2024 to February 7, 2024, and,

WHEREAS, the Program of said Annual Meeting includes training courses, papers and topics of interest and needs to various members of the staff of the District, as well as an equipment and vendor exhibition, and,

WHEREAS, continuing education credits are available for engineers and operations staff, and,

WHEREAS, it is desirable that various members of the staff of the District attend, and,

WHEREAS, the Executive Director will attend three days and will remain in New York City for those days, now, therefore, be it,

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners, Rockland County Sewer District No. 1, on the recommendation of the Executive Director, does hereby authorize the attendance of the following schedule of staff members, at the expense of the District including registration, lodging, tolls, and parking:

Three-Day Attendance is as Follows:
Executive Director
Assistant Director

One-Day Attendance is as Follows:
Chief Operator
Shift Operator (4)
Shift Operator Trainee (2)
Pollution Control Assistant
Engineer IV (1)
Engineer II (2)
Engineer I (2)
Compliance Administrator
Assistant Director of Plant Facilities

for a total not to exceed \$7,800.00 to be charged to the appropriate accounts in 8110, and, be it,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that this training for the staff of the Sewer District No. 1 is subject to approval from the County Executive’s Office.

Item #8:

M. Specht: The Nominating Committee met last week and made a recommendation that we continue with the same officers. So, we have a resolution to that affect.

Motion to Approve:
Carroll/Diaz

Unan.

December 5, 2023

**RESOLUTION NO. 75 OF 2023
NOMINATION OF OFFICERS FOR THE BOARD OF SEWER
COMMISSIONERS, ROCKLAND COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT NO. 1**

WHEREAS, nomination of officers for the Board of Sewer Commissioners need to be appointed for the year 2024, and,

WHEREAS, the positions consist of Chair, First Vice Chair, Second Vice Chair, and Secretary, now, therefore, be it,

RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners, Rockland County Sewer District No. 1, does hereby appoints Michael Specht as Chair, Michael Genito as First Vice Chair, Teresa Kenny as Second Vice Chair, and George Hoehmann as Secretary for the year 2024, and, be it,

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes and directs the Executive Director to take such steps as are necessary to carry out the intent of this resolution.

M. Specht: Thank you, everybody.

Item #9: Orangeburg Plant Performance

M. Saber: The CBOD limit of 85% removal has been met over the last few months but is not yet available for November. We are currently passing for the month through November 27.

M. Specht: Any questions for Mr. Saber?

Item #10: New Business

M. Specht: I think we have some items in New Business that will also require an Executive Session so that we can discuss matters of current pending litigation.

Executive Session - for current pending litigation.

Enter Executive Session at 6:11pm

Motion: G. Hoehmann and M. Genito

Leave Executive Session at 6:20pm

Motion: G. Hoehmann and T. Kenny

M. Specht: We're out of Executive Session. I believe that concludes our agenda unless we have any further new business.

At this time I want to say first, on behalf of the Board, thank you to everyone for the renomination for serving next year. It's been a pleasure to serve with this Board and I think we all look forward to continuing working well together. I also want to just wish everyone, all the Board members, Commissioners as well as our staff, a very Happy Holidays. Hanukkah starts next week and then soon it will be Christmas. So, Happy Holiday season to everyone. Thank you.

Motion to Adjourn.

**RESOLUTION NO. 76 OF 2023
ADJOURNMENT**

J. Tursi offered the following resolution, which was seconded by R. Diaz and approved unanimously.

BE IT RESOLVED that the December 5, 2023, Meeting of the Board of Commissioners, Rockland County Sewer District No. 1, is hereby adjourned.

The Board of Sewer Commissioners Meeting adjourned at 6:21 pm.

M. Specht: Thank you, everybody.

Respectfully submitted,
Jean Langan
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners
Rockland County Sewer District No. 1