

BUFFALO WATER BOARD MINUTES
May 15, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Oluwole A. McFoy
Gerald Kelly
Steven Stepniak
William Sunderlin

OTHERS PRESENT:

Peter Merlo
Jack McMahan
David Hill
Ken Maving
Stephen Waldvogel
Charles Martorana
Damon Sykes
William Appenheimer
Lisa Foti
William Ferguson
Mike Wolasz
Pat Potts

The regular monthly meeting of the Buffalo Water Board was called to order at 8:00 a.m.

1. Motion by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Stepniak to approve the agenda. Approved.

Motion by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Kelly to approve the minutes from the April 17, 2018 meeting. Approved.
2. Staff Update: Mr. Hill with Veolia Water provided a staffing update to the Buffalo Water Board.
3. Motion by Mr. Stepniak, seconded by Mr. Kelly to approve the Buffalo Water Board Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. Approved.
4. Ms. Patricia Potts, President of Harbison Bros., Inc. located at 32 Appenheimer Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14214 presented her concerns regarding the Buffalo Water Board's notification of increasing water rates pertaining to fire protection. She recommended more notice, such as written information on an invoice or the use of an insert with the invoice to inform customers that the fire protection rates were increasing.
5. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the Division of Water, motion made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Stepniak to authorize and fund a water meter purchase contract with Neptune Technology Group, Inc. for meters to be purchased by the City of Buffalo Purchase Department in an amount not-to-exceed \$200,000.00. This authorization is based on the Water Board's prior resolution that standardized all future water meter and valve acquisitions through Neptune Technology Group, Inc. Approved.
6. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the City Division of Water, motion made by Mr. Sunderlin, seconded by Mr. Kelly to authorize permission to engage GHD Consulting Services, Inc. for a professional engineering services contract for the Colonel Ward Water Treatment and Pumping Facility – Electrical Upgrade. The project and contract will be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water in an amount not-to-exceed \$776,400.00. Approved

7. Upon the recommendation of the Principal Engineer of the City Division of Water, motion made by Mr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Stepniak to increase the Buffalo Water Board's funding for a contract by the City of Buffalo with CDM Smith for additional engineering services to its Security Engineering Services contract (contract #93001995) in an amount not-to-exceed \$24,800.00. This contract will continue to be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water. Approved.

8. Mr. Waldvogel of GHD Consulting Services, Inc. yielded his reporting time to the Buffalo Water Board's Rate Consultant, Lisa A. Foti, C.P.A., who reported that S & P Global Ratings has assigned its rating of A+ (stable outlook) to the Buffalo Municipal Water Finance Authority's Water System Revenue Bonds, Series 2019-A and Water System Revenue Refunding Bonds, 2019-B issued on May 9, 2019. Ms. Foti projected that this improvement in the Authority's credit rating will save the Buffalo Municipal Water Finance Authority and the Buffalo Water Board approximately two million dollars in debt service obligations in connection with these bond issuances.

9. Mr. Hill from Veolia Water presented Veolia Water's monthly management report with the Buffalo Water Board. He reported that revenue collections have generally increased. A kiosk with a tablet has been installed at the Colonel Ward Administration Building containing Water System Safety Data Sheets to facilitate public access to the safety data information. Veolia has purchased a video capable drone and has a certified licensed operator on staff, with an infra-red imaging camera is operational and staff are being trained to operate the camera. Veolia continues to monitor and verify locations of Buffalo Water Board assets, such as valves and hydrants using GPS devices. The annual water quality surveillance testing program is being initiated for the summer months. Renderings for the Imagine LaSalle Park project will be on display at the Centennial Park Pool building May 16th -19th for public viewing.

Motion by Mr. Stepniak, seconded by Mr. Kelly to adjourn at 9:05 A.M. Approved.

Next meeting, Wednesday, June 5, 2019 at 8:00 A.M. This meeting will be in Room 502 in City Hall.