

Organization Town of Champion

Board Sewer Board

Date and Time Wednesday, March 10 2004 at 5:00 PM

Place Town of Pamela Municipal Building Board Room 25895 NYS Rte 11 Watertown NY

Contact [Chris Vargulick](#) Town Clerk Phone (315) 493-3240 Fax(315) 493-2900

Minutes

Present: K. Amyot, N. Barr, E. Berghorn, T. Buckley*, J. Condino, K. Dimmick, T. Falkenburg, D. McLallen*, S. Harter, K. Jordan, L. Longway*, K. Montagelli, P. O'Donnell*, F. Phelps, P. Schell, J. Scott, K. Smith, M. Smith, T. Stewart, R. Taylor*, C. Tuttle, and C. Vargulick
(*voting representatives)

The NYS Route 3 Corridor Sewer/Development Board met for a work session on Wednesday, March 10, 2004 at the Town of Pamela Municipal Building. J. Condino suggested a format for the sessions that would focus on administrative issues including monthly reports. Members agreed to the format. Chairman McLallen called the meeting to order at 4:45.

C. Tuttle distributed and reviewed the monthly administrative reports and noted the rate increase approved by the Black River Village Board.

L. Longway discussed a residence, located on Old Eastern Blvd., that is within sewer district boundaries but not included in the Town's EDU count. The homeowner is reluctant to hook to the system and has requested that they be eliminated from the district. K. Jordan distributed an opinion of counsel prepared by Hrabchak and Gebo. Mr. Gebo explained the petition process that is required to diminish the district but cautioned against setting an undesirable precedent.

L. Longway questioned whether capital charges may be assessed to non-profit organizations. T. Buckley stated that RPTL 420a/420b provides for the levy of special district taxes on the full assessment of property granted non-profit status.

K. Jordan distributed information relevant to overall charges that were assessed to the Route 3 Sewer Board communities through September 30, 1999. He reported that he had information indicating that those costs had been charged back to the project in the Champion and LeRay/Black River phases. It was agreed that a change order would be prepared and submitted to reimburse the Town of Pamela \$13,043.07, for the overall project costs, from the LeRay/Pamelia project.

T/Pamelia and T/LeRay members discussed the initial billing for new hookups. It was agreed that initial billings would begin April/May respectively.

K. Montagelli asked for a clarification of estimated O&M charges for budgeting purposes. K. Montagelli also questioned the protocol for billing invoices that are pro-rated. Clerks agreed to send a copy of the bill indicating the pro-rated amount that should be paid through the Route 3 Corridor Sewer O&M.

J. Condino questioned how the Board preferred to have invoices and payments handled:

- a) The Route 3 Board shall approve all invoices prior to payment or;
- b) The Route 3 Board shall approve payments through its approval of the monthly report and note any exceptions.

The Board agreed by consensus to adopt option "b".

Motion by T. Buckley, seconded by L. Longway to approve the report for February 2004, as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

K. Smith discussed the status of the funding for the Rutland/Black River phase of the sewer project. At the urging of Dave Miller, the Town has reduced the scope of the project but Mr. Miller has indicated that he can not meet the funding request and has suggested that the Town pursue an earmarked member item through Congressman McHugh. Mr. Miller has also suggested that the Town consider alternative funding through the EPA-STAG (State Tribal Assistance Grant) fund. The Town shall investigate the alternative sources.

Mr. Miller has agreed to meet with the Board to explain his position. Members emphasized the need to press for the Corridor's needs and to remind the funding agency that project success has been predicated on an economy of scale that will be lost through piece meal construction phases and ultimately will increase the total project cost.

T. Buckley urged the Board to contact Pat Brennan, RUD, for support. Mr. Brennan was a participant in the Association of Towns forum that featured the project and is aware of the attention that the project has garnered nationwide.

The meeting was recessed for a short break.

Chairperson McLellan resumed the meeting at 5:58PM.

Planning & Development

T. Buckley asked for information on the status of the funding for planning. K. Smith reported that a draft letter of request has been forwarded to RUD for comment. The request is for \$10,000 in funding that was encumbered in LeRay/Pamelia Phase I but not formally approved by RUD. The final letter of request will be prepared for signature pending RUD pre-approval.

K. Smith reported that a meeting has been held with V/Black River officials to discuss planning initiatives and focused on a build-out of the downtown.

K. Amyot reported that the EDR design tool is being incorporated, in planning and development efforts, by the T/Champion Planning Board to reflect design concepts for integration with the Town Zoning Law. Ms. Amyot also discussed the status of the T/Rutland CDBG application. Data collection is close to completion and a public hearing on the application will be held on March 11, 2004.

R. Taylor reported on the Association of Towns forum featuring the Route 3 Corridor Sewer Project. Mr. Taylor was part of a panel that included Pat Brennan and Dave Miller, RUD; Thomas Kelly, EFC; Kim Farrell, PMFP; Kevin Jordan, DANC; and Kathy Amyot, THC. Mr. Taylor stated that the forum highlighted the cooperation between the communities through their inter-municipal agreement.

Construction Progress

T. Falkenburg reported that mainline construction in Phase I, Contract 3 is complete with the exception of a portion of Duffy Road which is expected to be finished in March with construction of the laterals to follow immediately. Restoration and final paving will proceed when conditions permit.

All three pump stations in Phase II are installed with an estimated May, 2004 start up. The mainline construction in River Bend is complete. Phase II construction should be completed by June with restoration proceeding into July.

C. Tuttle requested a weekly update detailing actual system connections for billing purposes.

J. Condino expressed concerns relative to security at the Duffy Road pump station. The station is isolated at this time pending further development in the area and the pump station is a popular site for local children to congregate. The Board agreed by consensus to fencing the area. The engineer will request a quote from the contractor and report at the next meeting.

T. Buckley reflected on concerns about securing favorable bids for the next phase of the project if funding levels remain uncertain.

Design Update

T. Falkenburg reported that designs for the Rutland phase have been submitted to agencies and comments are pending. Bidding and the award of bids remains on schedule for August, 2004. T. Falkenburg recommended holding two public sessions, one each in Rutland and Black River, to give residents an opportunity to ask questions about the project and to suggest any necessary changes to the residential design. Public meetings will be held in Black River-April 21st and in Rutland-April 22nd with both meetings beginning at 7PM.

K. Jordan recommended that presenters use discretion in committing to a maximum cost for services and suggested that the discussion should include information about the 2000 census and its possible impact on the grant/loan ratio and per EDU cost.

Administration/Operations

J. Condino informed the Board that he had been approached by engineers representing Newstech regarding the possibility of disposing of leachate through the Route 3 Corridor system. T. Buckley cautioned that Newstech may be using the Corridor to leverage a lower negotiated cost from the Village of Deferiet. C. Tuttle will direct the representative to advise their client that if they are interested in pursuing the request that a written proposal should be sent to the Route 3 Board for consideration.

Other Items

T. Buckley advised the Board that the Town of Champion has received an application for a major sub-division of a parcel within the sewer district. The developer plans to build eighteen (18) homes. The Town expects to request funding from the Route 3 Corridor capital reserves. The Board reiterated its support for corridor-wide growth.

Motion by P. O'Donnell, seconded by L. Longway to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 6:48PM.

**The next regular meeting of the NYS Route 3 Corridor Sewer/Development Board will be held
Wednesday, April 14, 2004
at the V/Black River Municipal Building.**