

Organization Town of Champion**Board Sewer Board****Date and Time Wednesday, July 14 2004 at 4:30 PM****Place Town of Champion Offices Board Room (rear of building) 10 N Broad St, West Carthage NY****Contact [Chris Vargulick](#) Town Clerk Phone (315) 493-3240 Fax(315) 493-2900****Minutes**

Present: T. Buckley*, L. Longway*, D. McLallen*, P. O'Donnell*,
M. Smith, R. Taylor*, and C. Vargulick

(*voting representatives)

K. Amyot, J. Condino, K. Dimmick, M. Elliot, T. Falkenburg, W. Hall,

K. Jordan, J. Peck and K. Vebber

The NYS Route 3 Corridor Sewer/Development Board met on Wednesday July 14, 2004 at the Village of Black River Municipal Building. Prior to its regular meeting, members of the Board and guests traveled by bus to tour the current and proposed service areas with stops at pump stations in the Towns of Champion and Pamelaia.

Planning

K. Amyot discussed aspects of the NYS Route 3 scenic byway including vistas and transportation management. She cautioned communities to be cognizant of the affect of residential and business development in regards to open space. Ms. Amyot stated that efforts are focused on attracting and enhancing existing services directed at tourism.

Correspondence

R. Taylor distributed a letter from Congressman John McHugh in response to the Board's request for earmarked funds to complete the sewer project. Mr. McHugh responded that existing deficits in the federal budget make any additional funding unlikely.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by L. Longway, seconded by P. O'Donnell to approve the minutes for May 12 and June 9, 2004 as submitted. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

Operating Report

Board members received advanced copies of the operating report for their review. T. Buckley commented on the favorable condition of the budget to date.

Board members reviewed the expansion protocol. Motion by T. Buckley, seconded by L. Longway to approve the protocol as presented. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

J. Condino requested that all checks for sewer receipts be directed to the following address:

Development Authority of the North Country
ATTN: Sharon Fitzpatrick
RE: Route 3 Administration
23557 NYS Route 37
Watertown NY 13601

L. Longway informed the Board that he had met with Mark Gebo, Board counsel, to discuss the acquisition of land from the City of Watertown for T/Pamelia pump station #2. Mr. Longway stated that he has authorization from his town board to proceed if the acquisition would benefit the project but that the T/Pamelia board wants assurances that any associated legal costs would be borne by the Route 3 Sewer Board. T. Falkenburg responded that land acquisition and associated expenses are a legitimate project costs and would be included within the construction budget. The T/Pamelia board is also requesting a commitment, from the Route 3 Sewer Board, that Gardner Drive will receive sewer services in a future phase. K. Jordan reminded members that Gardner Drive was specifically referenced as a proposed service area in the original feasibility study. Members agreed by consensus that Gardner Drive would be included in a future phase and that a timeline would be established pending completion of the current project and future funding announcements. Design of the project will be considered pending the results of the Rutland bid opening.

Construction Update - Black River

Bids for the new bridge in Black River have been opened. A bid of \$79,000 was received for the bridge crossing. Reserve funds are sufficient to meet the cost.

Construction Update - LeRay/Pamelia

Phase I - Final restoration is proceeding. All affected roads in the project area will receive a top course in September. Lateral construction is complete with the exception of an outstanding connection to a house and the Renaissance Restaurant. The owner is refusing the contractor general access to the property. The contractor is requiring an additional \$16,000 to perform the work in the narrow area allowed by the owner. The Board agreed, by consensus, to authorize Mark Gebo, Counsel, to forward a letter to the owner to inform him of a deadline date (to be determined) has been set for construction of the laterals, as per the signed and filed easement, within the project. Failure, by the owner, to allow access to the property on or before that date will negate the project's responsibility to construct the lateral and any future service construction will be at the owner's expense. The owner shall also be billed at the user rate.

Phase II - Construction is well underway but behind schedule due to pending electrical work by Niagara Mohawk. The contractor has requested a time extension at no additional cost. Niagara Mohawk has scheduled the installation of the gas/electric services for the week of July 20th.

Design Update - Rutland-Hamlet of Felts Mills

T. Falkenburg reported that the agency comment period is winding down. The two significant outstanding issues - a Fort Drum easement and property acquisition for a pump station have been addressed. The Phase I environmental review found no evidence to suggest that the property being considered for acquisition is contaminated so bidding may proceed. The Department of the Army has forwarded a letter requesting \$2,000 for administrative fees for connection to the Fort Drum sewer line. The Board directed the secretary to forward a letter to the Department of Army for a waiver of fees.

T. Falkenburg reported that the Rutland project would be facilitated if the T/Rutland received right-of-way authorization from the T/LeRay for an unidentified roadway. The T/LeRay will take the matter under consideration.

Other Business

L. Longway requested that paving from Water Street toward NYS Route 3 be extended to meet paving constructed by NYS DOT. T. Falkenburg will meet with T. Maloney to review the request.

D. McLallen questioned the status of the design of the Black River south project and the citing of pump stations. T. Falkenburg responded that the project will require only two stations.

T. Falkenburg reported that property owners in Heather Acres are working in conjunction with the contractor to complete the paving within the development.

T. Buckley recommended that the Board purchase a raised seal for the purpose of certifying necessary documents. Motion by T. Buckley, seconded by P. O'Donnell to purchase the seal at a cost not to exceed \$28.75. Ayes-5, Nays-0. Motion carried.

T. Buckley informed the Board that as of October 1st the T/Champion will transfer all responsibility for the operations/maintenance and collection of receipts for sewer services within the physical boundaries of the T/Rutland to the T/Rutland.

Public Forum

Rich Leonard, 26897 NYS Rte 3, a district resident, discussed his belief that the contractor is not meeting the requirements of the restoration specifications. Specifically, he stated that no seed is being used, hay instead of straw, and no watering is being done. T. Falkenburg stated that the contractor has been given some latitude but that he will investigate the allegations to insure that the specified seed is being applied and that mulching materials are reasonably free of noxious weeds. Mr. Leonard also requested that NYS Route 3 be groomed west of Duffy Road to remove blasting debris.

The Board agreed, by consensus, to cancel the regular August meeting.

Motion by T. Buckley, seconded by R. Taylor to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:14PM.

The next regular meeting of the NYS Route 3 Corridor Sewer/Development Board will be held Wednesday, September 8, 2004 at the T/Rutland Municipal Building.