

VILLAGE OF SHERMAN
PUBLIC HEARING
Village Office-111 Mill St
July 20th, 2017

Present: Trustees: Fisher, Higginbotham and Reyda
Others: Jay Irwin, Ken Knutsen, Colleen Meeder and Clerk Ramm
Apologies: Deputy Mayor Gratto

Clerk Ramm called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm and introduced Mr. Knutsen from Barton & Loguidice, D.P.C.

Mr. Knutsen explained that this is the first step the Village is taking to acquire a grant for the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) which would essentially become the roadmap for upgrading the 40-year old Sherman Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) and gravity collection system which has excessive levels of inflow and infiltration (I/I). He explained in detail how the wastewater system works, beginning with the collection system and reviewing each of the processes at the plant that work together to consistently treat the Village's sanitary wastewater to acceptable levels required in the plant's SPDES permit. The wastewater treatment plant has critical unit processes such as influent pumping, aeration and emergency power that have exceeded their useful design lives, are energy inefficient and, if not addressed soon, pose a significant safety risk to plant personnel and the plant's ability to consistently meet permit requirements. Mr. Knutsen discussed the needed improvements for each process, and stressed that energy efficiency is at the forefront of a plant upgrade project such as this, which could reduce annual power costs for the Village and apply those savings toward capital debt service for improvements.

Mr. Knutsen explained that Barton & Loguidice recommends the Village apply for the CDBG Community Planning Grant in the maximum amount of \$50,000 to allow the Village to address its collection system I/I as well as the treatment plant issues; if the Village is awarded the grant we would have to provide a 5% local match to the grant, which would be a total of \$2,500.00. The NYSDEC typically requires a community to start its planning and rehabilitation work in the collection system to effectively "create" capacity at the plant. The Village's treatment plant is permitted for 140,000 gallons per day. During dry-weather flow periods, the average daily flow is around 60,000 gpd; during wet-weather periods, maximum daily flows have exceeded 250,000 gpd, well in excess of the plant's design capacity. If awarded, the study would include a Sewer System I/I Study for inspecting manholes, smoke testing, flow-isolations and televised pipeline inspection.

The PER would also help identify the key issues and deficiencies at the WWTP; it would evaluate various alternatives for each major unit process, and identify what the cost of the improvements will be and determine the best course of action going forward. He covered other grant opportunities, their requirements and benefits, and reiterated that the PER is the first step that the Village must take in order to move ahead with the improvements and upgrade of the WWTP, which has reached the end of its useful life expectancy. We have to address this immediately in order to protect water quality within French Creek, an intermittent stream that is on the DEC's Impaired Waterbodies List that requires higher levels of treatment. Mr. Knutsen ended by introducing the possible consolidation of this sewer plant and the future needs of Findley Lake,

wherein the Village and Town could possibly leverage additional grant funding for a Joint Sewer Project and intermunicipal cooperation/consolidation of services as a Regional WWTP.

The public was given time to read the Fair Housing Policy (prohibiting discrimination in housing) and the Civil Rights (Equal Employment Opportunity) Policy.

Mr. Knutsen answered all the questions from the Board and the public, including a question from Colleen Meeder regarding potential energy efficiency upgrades at the WWTP, and the planned method of bidding per General Municipal Law versus Performance-based contracting.

RESOLUTION #1: On motion made by Trustee Fisher and seconded by Trustee Reyda to adopt the Fair Housing Policy.

AYES: 3 Fisher, Reyda, Higginbotham

NAYES: 0

RESOLUTION #2: On motion made by Trustee Fisher and seconded by Trustee Higginbotham to adopt the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy.

AYES: 3 Fisher, Higginbotham, Reyda,

NAYES: 0

RESOLUTION #3: On motion made by Trustee Fisher and seconded by Trustee Higginbotham to provide the 5% cash match of \$2,500.00 if we are awarded the CDBG Community Planning Grant.

AYES: 3 Fisher, Reyda, Higginbotham

NAYES: 0

RESOLUTION #4: On motion made by Trustee Higginbotham and seconded by Trustee Reyda to adjourn the meeting at 5:37 PM.

AYES: 3 Higginbotham, Fisher, Reyda

NAYES: 0

Respectfully submitted,
Jeanette Ramm
Clerk/Treasurer