

**Town of Seneca Falls Waste Management Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
03/13/17**

CALL TO ORDER The Waste Management Advisory Committee (WMAC) held a regular meeting on March 13, 2017 at the Seneca Falls Town Offices. Town Supervisor and committee chair Greg Lazzaro was unable to attend due to the recent death of his mother. WMAC member Matt Blair presided and called the meeting to order at 4:36 pm. Member Barb Reese recorded the minutes. Minutes of the 02/13/17 meeting were approved as submitted. Members present: Matt Blair, Dave Clark, Dave Pannucci, and Barb Reese
Guests: Doug Avery, Dan Babbitt, Kyle Black, Brad Jones, Jan LaValley, Val Sandlas, Allison Stokes

During discussion of the approval of the 02/13/17 minutes, Brad Jones questioned information in the minutes relating to Local Law 3 of 2016 The Seneca Falls Waste Disposal Law and the Host Community Agreement. WMAC members asked Barb Reese not to distribute draft minutes to others outside of the WMAC or Town Board until they are approved by the committee.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

INDEMNIFICATION – Dave Clark again voiced concern about the lack of insurance coverage for town employees.

**Motion by Dave Clark: The WMAC requests that the town board to investigate whether the current insurance coverage is reasonable or not given today's legal costs. Seconded by Dave Pannuci.
Motion adopted unanimously.**

ARTICLE 78 LAWSUIT - Barb Reese questioned why the town board made a resolution for local law #2 of 2017 which would rescind local law #3 The Seneca Falls Waste Disposal Law of 2016 in response to the Article 78 Lawsuit filed against the Town of Seneca Falls on Feb. 3, 2017. Barb re-read the Seneca Falls Town code Chapter 13 Article VI. relating to the responsibility of the WMAC to provide:

“recommendations regarding the Town's oversight of waste management facilities and basic policy regarding waste management; including, but not limited to, suggested amendments to the Town Code, enforcement proceedings, permits or host community agreements.”

Barb asked members of the WMAC of their position on Local Law #2 of 2017. Dave Clark thinks members should speak as individual town citizens at the March 29, 2017 Public Hearing for Local Law #2.

Motion by Barb Reese: The WMAC requests that the town board delay action on Local Law #2 until the WMAC can advise the town board. Seconded by Matt Blair.

Discussion – Dave Pannucci suggested that we meet privately as a committee with the town board to come up with a statement from our committee in regards to Local Law #2. Guests present questioned whether the WMAC would be permitted to meet in private citing issues of transparency with town citizens. Dave Clark would like to get all the facts from the public hearing before he advises the town board and would also like us to delay action due to the absence of Greg Lazzaro at today's meeting. He believes that the WMAC serves at the pleasure of the board and provide recommendations at the town boards request. WMAC members also questioned if our committee can meet with the town board or if such a meeting would need to be open and public. Guest Jan LaValley stated that the WMAC is a vital committee that is currently undervalued by the town board. She believes the WMAC serves as a mechanism for connecting citizens with information and a voice in the town's waste management issues. Guest Doug Avery questioned if WMAC is for oversight or if it is advisory as well. WMAC members aren't fully understanding how much clout the committee has at providing recommendations to the town board and would like clarification from Town Attorney Patrick Morrell. Guest Val Sandlas spoke in favor of this motion while guest Dan Babbitt spoke against it. Guest Allison Stokes commented that it is strange to have a discussion about the Article 78 lawsuit against the Town of Seneca Falls with the district manager of the landfill present. She believes that is a conflict and doesn't think that the landfill should be present at the table to hear how the town might respond to the lawsuit. Matt Blair stated that the WMAC meetings are public and all are welcome regardless.

Motion defeated 1-3.

Matt Blair believes that in the future, the WMAC should be given an opportunity to make a recommendation on matters before the board relating to all waste management *prior to* board action.

TOWN OF SENECA FALLS SEWER UPGRADES AND WWTP – Dave Pannucci said he still does not have a response from Town Engineer Mr. Condino regarding questions posed by WMAC members at the January meeting. 1. What is our capacity now? 2. What will it be when everyone is on-line? 3. Can our current plant handle it? 4. What is the Safety factor that was designed for? 5. Are there future plans for upgrades to handle the increased flow?

Barb Reese will contact Joe Tullo to schedule an April tour of the WWTP. Barb also mentioned that the City of Geneva has an aerobic digester that digests sludge from their own WWTP so that sludge does not need to be transported or disposed of in a landfill.

SENECA FALLS CLIMATE SUMMIT – Mynderse Academy is hosting a climate summit on Thursday, March 16 from 1 pm – 6 pm. Details and registration are available on the news tab of the school district website.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no New Business.

ADJOURNMENT Meeting was adjourned at 6:05 pm. The next meeting will be Monday, April 10th, 2017 at 4:30 pm at the Seneca Falls Town Office.