

FINAL JULY 20, 2020

1 _____X

2 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE

3 WATER AUTHORITY OF GREAT NECK NORTH

4 HELD ON JUNE 15, 2020

5 AT 50 WATERMILL LANE, GREAT NECK, NEW YORK¹

6 _____X

7 50 Water Mill Lane
8 Great Neck, New York
9 Held Telephonically
June 15, 2020
6:00 P.M.

10

11 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

12

13 A P P E A R A N C E S:

14 Michael C. Kalnick, Chairperson, Village of Kings Point

15 Jean Celender, Director, Village of Great Neck Plaza

16 Carol Frank, Director, Town of North Hempstead

17 Jay Johneas, Director, Village of Great Neck

18 Susan Lopatkin, Director, Village of Kensington

19 Michael Smiley, Director, Village of Great Neck Estates

20 Steven Weinberg, Director, Village of Thomaston

22 _____

23 ¹ The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Water Authority of Great Neck
24 North was held on June 15, 2020, at 6:00 P.M. in accordance with Governor Cuomo's March 13,
2020 Executive Order No. 202.1 which permitted public meetings to be held remotely by
25 conference call. The agenda for the meeting was posted on the Authority's website. In
accordance with said Order, the public was given the ability to listen to such proceeding at
the Authority's office and this transcript was made of the public portion of the meeting.

1 ALSO PRESENT:

2

3 From the **Water Authority of Great Neck North:**

4 Ralph J. Kreitzman, Vice-Chairperson

5 Robert Graziano, Deputy Chairperson

6 Gregory C. Graziano, Superintendent

7 Adam Solow, Supervisor of Water Plant Operations

8 Sue Huang, Civil Engineer

9 Judith Flynn, Treasurer

10 Debra Ray, Secretary

11

12 Stephen Limmer, Counsel, McLaughlin & Stern, LLP

13 Gary Stuart, Principal Engineer, CDM Smith, Consulting Engineers

14

15 NOT PRESENT:

16 Dan Levy, Director, Village of Saddle Rock

17 Michael Rispoli, Assistant Superintendent

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 (Whereupon attendance was taken of all
2 members present.)

3 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Approval of draft
4 minutes of May 18th. [Res. #20-06-01]

5 Moved by?

6 DIRECTOR SMILEY: Michael Smiley.

7 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Seconded by?

8 DIRECTOR CELENDER: Second.

9 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: All in favor?

10 (Whereupon all board members responded in the
11 affirmative.)

12 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Any abstentions?

13 (No response.)

14 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: None.

15 Approval of the Abstract of Claims. [Res.
16 #20-06-02]

17 Moved by?

18 DIRECTOR LOPATKIN: Susan Lopatkin.

19 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Seconded?

20 DIRECTOR WEINBERG: Steve Weinberg.

21 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: All in favor?

22 (Whereupon all board members responded in the
23 affirmative.)

24 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Any abstentions?

25 (No response.)

1 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Treasurer's Monthly
2 report.

3 Anything unusual since we have reviewed it?

4 TREASURER FLYNN: Nothing to report.

5 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Need a resolution to
6 approve the Workman's Comp policy.

7 MS. RAY: Sorry to interrupt. We need a resolution
8 on the Treasurer's Monthly Report. [Res. #20-06-03]

9 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: We do, okay. Motion to accept?

10 DIRECTOR WEINBERG: Steve Weinberg.

11 DIRECTOR CELENDER: Seconded.

12 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Any abstentions?
13 (No response.)

14 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Greg, any issue with
15 Workman's Comp?

16 Recommend renewal?

17 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: No issue, but actually
18 Judy can speak about the numbers because they
19 went down.

20 Judy?

21 TREASURER FLYNN: Yes, so the New York State
22 Insurance Fund premium is decreasing by \$1,807.

1 Greg and I both reviewed the policy and we
2 noted that the coverage is consistent with last
3 year's policy so we recommend to the Board to
4 approve the 2020 renewal of the Workman's Comp
5 policy. [Res. #20-06-04]

6 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: So moved by?

7 DIRECTOR LOPATKIN: Susan Lopatkin.

8 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Seconded?

9 DIRECTOR SMILEY: Michael Smiley.

10 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: All in favor?

11 (Whereupon all members responded in the
12 affirmative.)

13 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Any abstentions?

14 (No response.)

15 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Engineering Status
16 Report?

17 MR. STUART: Gary Stuart from CDM Smith.

18 The report was included in your packet. I

19 would be happy to answer any questions.

20 Three pieces of bigger news is Well 2A

21 is back online.

22 The Well 6 project is out to bid; and the

23 Middle Neck Road water main project is out to

24 bid as well.

25 So those are the high-level highlights.

1 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Greg?

2 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: The next
3 item to discuss with the Board is the
4 Middle Neck Road water main project.

5 Right now, it's currently set for a July award
6 which after reviews and so forth would be on the
7 August agenda for award of contract to the
8 lowest, responsible bidder. And then by
9 the time insurance and contracts are signed, et
10 cetera, we're looking at a September start date.

11 Mike has called numerous times to the county
12 to try to figure out their paving schedule for
13 next year and they told us Middle Neck Road was on
14 the docket to be paved next year.

15 Got a response a while ago that as of now
16 everything is the same, that includes Middle
17 Neck Road and the schedule is going to be e-mailed.
18 As of now there is no paving schedule
19 for the county for next year. The only thing we
20 have is everything is still the same as it was.

21 DIRECTOR CELENDER: Greg, are you interacting
22 with Ellen Birnbaum to facilitate the
23 interactions with Nassau County?

24 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: No.

25 DIRECTOR CELENDER: Sometimes it will light a

1 fire, you know, if you badger her enough.

2 DIRECTOR FRANK: I was also wondering maybe if
3 Ralph has regular meetings with the County
4 Executive if maybe Ralph could do something.

5 DIRECTOR KREITZMAN: Yes, she has been avoiding
6 the meetings with us, but I could try reaching
7 out to Sean Sallie who I have a relationship
8 with and who is the Deputy Commissioner. I will
9 give him a call tomorrow.

10 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: Thank you. I will
11 reach out to Ellen Birnbaum, so thank you for
12 the idea.

13 DIRECTOR KREITZMAN: But that being said, if I
14 don't get ahold of Sallie, do you want me to
15 call Ellen? I will follow up with her too.

16 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: Sure, that would be
17 great. Thank you.

18 DIRECTOR KREITZMAN: No trouble.

19 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: Hey, Greg or Gary, I have a
20 question: What's the duration--the contract
21 duration--on the water main project?

22 MR. STUART: We have 180 days from when we
23 issue notice, so basically six months from when
24 we issue notice to proceed.

25 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: Not

1 to disprove Gary but Bancker is going to
2 be one of the bidders. One of the big guys,
3 obviously, and he thinks this is going to be 215
4 to 225 days, not including restoration,
5 permanent restoration, because of the complexity
6 of the job.

7 So, we're anywhere from six months to eight
8 months, right Gary? That could be like a
9 conservative number, six to eight months?

10 MR. STUART: Yes. I would guess, yes.

11 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: So, if for some
12 reason we don't start in September and then we
13 start next spring, it has its benefits to the
14 Authority because there's so much going on right
15 now. We have the Well 6 project that's going to
16 start this fall and come off-line. Well 8 is
17 going to start this fall and come off-line and
18 you have the Middle Neck Road project all going
19 on at the same time.

20 However, if we wait to start until next April
21 and then all of a sudden the county decides to
22 come back to us January of next year and says
23 yeah, we are paving in May, well we have a
24 problem because if we don't start
25 until next April, we are basically taking up the

1 rest of the calendar year just to finish the
2 project so the county would not be able to pave
3 next year. That's what we are kind of running
4 up against.

5 DIRECTOR KREITZMAN: I was just looking at
6 construction through the winter. If we don't
7 get there before the county does and they
8 postpone it, we don't know when they are going
9 to come back.

10 DIRECTOR CELENDER: That's not good. Need to
11 pave that as soon as possible because
12 aren't they doing the northern
13 section then they're going to do the southern
14 section in my village, and they're stopping at Great
15 Neck Road?

16 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: We got from the
17 county this is going all the way from Northern
18 Boulevard all the way up to the Kings Point
19 line. That's what we have. I don't know what
20 phase.

21 DIRECTOR CELENDER: Their project coincides
22 with yours, they're trying to dovetail with
23 yours?

24 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: Yes, correct. They
25 unfortunately, put in, I believe, all

1 the traffic, the light control stuff which is
 2 going to be another headache for us to hop
 3 around all those intersections, but the goal was
 4 for them to come in and pave, you know, shortly
 5 thereafter. I certainly don't want to be the one
 6 holding it up and if we miss the opportunity,
 7 that main is roughly 112 years old right now so
 8 we don't want to have to wait another ten years
 9 on that main. It's well past its life
 10 expectancy of 80 to 100 years.

11 So, we could start in September or the Board
 12 could agree tonight that if we find out that
 13 they are definitely not paving next year, the
 14 Board can agree tonight to push it off to next
 15 April; or if Ralph finds out that they are
 16 paving next year, just continue in September.

17 I just wanted to put it out there for all the
 18 mayors and board representatives. It's going to
 19 affect a lot of villages, obviously.

20 DIRECTOR CELENDER: Sounds like you have to
 21 find out about the paving, right, because that's
 22 going to form your decision, so you'll hopefully
 23 know something more by next month.

24 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: True. By next
 25 month we should know much more.

1 DIRECTOR KREITZMAN: We have to hope they're
2 capital projects--which I think are part bonded
3 and part grant--will continue notwithstanding
4 the critical problems they're having.

5 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: We would have to
6 put an addendum out before the bid, before the
7 next board meeting for the bid if there is a
8 possibility that there is going to be a bid
9 awarded next year but construction is not going
10 to start until next year because there are rate
11 changes that come into effect; there are rate
12 changes year-to-year. A contractor may come
13 back and say, oh, if I knew this was going to be
14 next year, my pricing could have been different.
15 I guess the bottom line is if the Board is going
16 to find out they are paving next year, everyone
17 is vying to start in September?

18 (Whereupon all board members responded in the
19 affirmative.)

20 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: And if we find out
21 that they are postponing it until 2022, I will
22 be fine postponing it until April of next year.

23 (Whereupon all board members responded in the
24 affirmative.)

25 DIRECTOR KREITZMAN: But Greg, if we do that,

1 there is a possibility that all of a
2 sudden the County will come back and say, do you
3 know what, we moved it up. Then we are in
4 trouble.

5 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: Yes.
6 So, whoever we get the information from,
7 if we get any information, hopefully
8 it's coming from a reliable source and it's
9 going to be accurate and held to. But it's a
10 valid point.

11 After we do our work we are
12 going to fully restore, correct, regardless of
13 the county?

14 I think we are trying to
15 negotiate with the county just to go
16 base to grade, right, Gary? Or are they making us
17 put the top back?

18 MR. STUART: Right now, Greg, we do include
19 final pavement. I think we
20 include that now in the bid, but I think we were
21 trying to, as soon as somebody calls us back,
22 discuss the project with them. Depending on the
23 timing of their project, we are going to propose,
24 that we just do binder to grade.

25 MR. LIMMER: Gary, in doing the addendum, can

1 you draft it such that we make reference to
2 having to work around the county and we may have
3 to change the start date which could be as late
4 as "blank" or as early as "blank" depending upon
5 when the county is doing its work; and secondly,
6 if Bancker is telling us it's going to take 200
7 and some odd days, I think we have the time of the essence as 180
8 days. We have to change that in a
9 separate or the same addendum
10 so that everybody is bidding on the same basis.

10 DIRECTOR FRANK: I have a question: How
11 feasible is working all through the winter with
12 this project?

13 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: So, if we get a
14 winter like we just had then we could possibly
15 work through the winter. If we have a typical
16 winter, I would say things would be shut down
17 from the middle of December through the middle
18 of March, so there would be temporary asphalt
19 put down like typical then start back up middle
20 of March, end of March. But it all depends on
21 the winter months and weather and so forth.

22 MEMBER FRANK: So basically, we have a lot of
23 unknowns.

24 DIRECTOR KREITZMAN: In an emergency, obviously

1 work is done in the winter so it can be done.

2 I have two questions or comments: One is if
3 you provided an addendum that the project may be
4 delayed, I suggest you get a separate price for
5 that. You don't want them to factor that in
6 then have us start this September.

7 The second comment is: Can you get a price
8 that does not include a finished top coat in
9 case we can coordinate with the county? Just
10 put on a temporary coat, have them come in and
11 finalize the road?

12 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: I was going to say, yes, you
13 put that in as a deduct alternate and have it
14 removed.

15 DIRECTOR KREITZMAN: Give us the option.

16 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: Gary, can you add
17 that in, please?

18 MR. STUART: Yes, I can do that.

19 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: I agree. If we can
20 call it out as an addendum that it can happen
21 this time or this time, their price would just
22 cover them. I think it should
23 be shown both ways.

24 MR. LIMMER: Well can you include prices for
25 2021, 2022? Or 2020, 2021?

1 DIRECTOR KREITZMAN: That's what I was
2 suggesting.

3 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: Gary, can that be
4 done?

5 MR. STUART: Yes. I propose that we add
6 one line item if the project doesn't
7 start in September.

8 Remember, we have like 100-some-odd bid items
9 so it would be tough to get a contract price for
10 both but we could add a line item,
11 one line item basically with an increase across
12 the board, you know, if work is done next
13 spring.

14 MR. LIMMER: So, a percentage increase or half
15 a percent increase or something like that per
16 item or something.

17 MR. STUART: Right, right.

18 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: September 2020
19 start date, right? April 2021 start date, right?

20 MR. STUART: Yes.

21 MR. LIMMER: I think what Gary is saying
22 because they're unit prices, that unless they do
23 each unit by unit, I think it might be easier to
24 do percentage increase.

1 Am I wrong, Gary? Maybe I am
2 misunderstanding what you are saying.

3 MR. STUART: I think we
4 should try to avoid having the contractor
5 do like a separate bid form with all the items
6 that are in there but either a percentage or
7 just a dollar amount increase I think would work
8 and they would be happier when filling out the bid
9 forms.

10 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: I think if you put two start
11 dates in there you may find that the additional
12 cost in escalation for doing it next April might
13 be cheaper than a contractor trying to do
14 underground work with asphalt through the winter
15 not knowing what the winter is going to be.

16 If it winds up the county can pave
17 next summer or at the completion
18 of this, it should work out fine to start in
19 April.

20 I think you may create a lot of havoc down
21 the road trying to do this through winter if it
22 starts to get bad and snowy.

23 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: Gary and I spoke
24 about it earlier today. Gary thinks potentially
25 there could be asphalt cost savings starting

1 next April and not a cost increase for the
 2 contractor to say, oh, I won this bid, I have my
 3 work lined up for next spring already, this was
 4 great. But you know, costs go up year to year
 5 too so it's not known until we
 6 get the bids.

7 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: Hey, Greg, I also know that
 8 come around Christmas time, and it's also weather
 9 dependent because this past winter was
 10 exceptionally warm, but there are some winters
 11 that it's not. I find in my business that a lot
 12 of the asphalt plants close around
 13 Christmas time.

14 DIRECTOR KREITZMAN: They're closed
 15 Thanksgiving.

16 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: They usually
 17 close about a week or two before Christmas and
 18 then stay closed through the middle of January the
 19 very least and it's very tough to get hot
 20 asphalt during that period.

21 DIRECTOR KREITZMAN: Our experience was they all close but one
 22 around Thanksgiving.

23 It doesn't matter. If the
 24 County is going to pave next year, though,
 25 whatever that saving is isn't going to save us

1 anything because we'll have to put a permanent
2 coat on it and have a road that is patched.

3 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: Correct.

4 DIRECTOR JOHNEAS: That's why we really need to
5 find out when they are going to pave so we can
6 figure it all out. To me, overall it's better to start
7 next April if we can.

8 DIRECTOR KREITZMAN: Do you want me to
9 pursue with the county delaying it a year if --
10 well I don't think we want to do that yet. I
11 think we want to wait until we see the bids and
12 then talk to them about potentially delaying it.
13 If I raise that now they may jump on it and that
14 will do it.

15 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: I don't want the
16 Water Authority being the reason why they delay
17 it and then all of a sudden put that road at the
18 bottom of their list and go on to the next five
19 years to other roads.

20 DIRECTOR KREITZMAN: I won't raise it. Let me
21 see what I can get out of the county. If I
22 can't get a response from Sean Sallie or Ellen
23 Birnbaum I'll go to Curran after that.

24 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: All right.
25 Perfect. At least I know -- Gary, at least we

1 know where we go with this. This is great.

2 MR. STUART: Yes, got you. Thanks, Greg.

3 SUPERINTENDENT GRAZIANO: We will wait to
4 hear back from Ralph to see if we can get a more
5 definitive answer then figure out where to go
6 from there.

7 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Are we ready to go into
8 Executive Session?

9 (Whereupon all members responded in the
10 affirmative.)

11 (Whereupon all other callers left the audio
12 call and only board members remained.)

13 DIRECTOR LOPATKIN: Move to go into Executive
14 Session. [Res. #20-06-05]

15 MEMBER SMILEY: Seconded.

16 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: All in favor?

17 (Whereupon all board members responded in the
18 affirmative.)

19 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Any abstentions?

20 (No response.)

21 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: We are in Executive
22 Session.

23 (Whereupon the Board went into Executive
24 Session from 6:28 P.M. to 6:54 P.M.)

1 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Motion to come out of
2 Executive Session. [Res. #20-06-06]

3 DIRECTOR CELENDER: So moved.

4 DIRECTOR FRANK: Second.

5 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: All in favor?

6 (Whereupon all board members responded in the
7 affirmative.)

8 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: No abstentions.

9 (Whereupon there was a discussion held off
10 the record.)

11 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: The motion is for a
12 request for proposal for engineering services
13 for 1,4-Dioxane, PFOA and PFOS drinking water
14 treatment project at the Water Mill Lane
15 facility.

16 MR. LIMMER: The motion is authorization for
17 the Superintendent to send out request for
18 proposal. [Res. #20-06-07]

19 Who makes the motion?

20 DIRECTOR WEINBERG: I'll make the motion.

21 DIRECTOR LOPATKIN: Second.

22 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: All in favor?

23 (Whereupon all board members responded in the
24 affirmative.)

25 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: Any abstentions?

1 (No response.)

2 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: The next meeting of the
3 Board will be on July 20th at 6:00 P.M. at the
4 Village of Kings Point, 32 Steppingstone Lane,
5 Kings Point.

6 Motion to adjourn?

7 MEMBER CELENDER: So moved.

8 MEMBER FRANK: Second.

9 CHAIRPERSON KALNICK: All in favor?

10 (Whereupon all Board members responded in the
11 affirmative.)

12

13 (Time noted: 6:58 P.M.)

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25