



## PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE

**Time: 1:30 PM**

**Location: Municipal Building**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Room 200**

**20 Ontario Street**

**Canandaigua, NY 14424**

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**JANUARY 14, 2019**

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Chair Singer, Supervisors Bateman, Guard, Hicks, Lightfoote, Venuti, and Wickham.

### **OTHERS PRESENT**

County Administrator Mary Krause, Deputy County Administrator Brian Young, County Attorney Holly Adams, Planning Director Tom Harvey, Finance Director Mary Gates, Sustainability & Solid Waste Management Director Carla Jordan, Associate Planner Tim Jensen,, Planners Regina Sousa, Maria Rudzinski & Linda Phillips, Casella Manager Mark Clinker, Casella Engineer Amy Dill, Grant Coordinator Peter Brown, Economic Developer Michael Manikowski, Sr. Fiscal Manager Michael Wojcik, Supervisor Vedora, Cornell Cooperative Extension Executive Director Tim Davis, Reporters David Shaw & Julie Sherwood, John Hicks, and Clerk to the Board Kristin Mueller.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting of the Planning & Environmental Quality Committee was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Committee Chair Singer.

### **MINUTES**

Supervisor Bateman made a motion to approve the minutes of the Planning and Environmental Quality Committee meetings held on December 10, 2018. Supervisor Venuti seconded the motion. The motion carried.

### **CASELLA**

#### **♦ Update**

Mr. Clinker presented the happenings at the landfill since the last committee meeting as follows:

- Increase in the number of calls to the hotline, about 1.2 calls a day
- They have inspected and addressed all calls in a timely manner
- They have hired a new consultant for the gas collection system
- They are looking into improvements for reducing odors from gas sources
- They have covered drainage areas allowing them to pull more gas from these areas
- They will be able to better seal off between cells 9C-1 and 9C-2

- by the end of the month
- The odor control system is water based and doesn't work below freezing
- Review daily operating management
- Two vapor based control systems on the East & North side have been installed
- NCM products were selected to balance the organic bio-cells and sludge. These ingredients are FDA approved and biodegradable
- They have met with the DEC to reviewed multiple items

Supervisor Venuti asked about the complaints regarding the stage of completion of cell 9C-1 in the last two DEC inspection reports. The DEC reports that they don't believe there is enough wells to capture a sufficient amount of gas and talks about more enforcement. Mr. Clinker said they have met with their new consultant and are looking at scheduling the addition of more gas wells to be installed in 9C-1.

Supervisor Venuti asked does the county review these reports? Ms. Jordan responded, yes, and they are working with Casella to talk about the reports and inspections. They have a meeting tomorrow with Casella and the DEC at the landfill to discuss these reports. They had a kick off phone call last week with SCS, Casella, and county employees to work on the first phase of their reporting. This is going to be regarding best management practices at the landfill. The second phase of their reporting will be assessing the ongoing odor control management and gas monitoring/collection at the landfill site.

Supervisor Wickham asked why is the DEC holding up putting the fluff layer down? Mr. Clinker let the committee know that they are still working on how to tie in the access road, where the old landfill meets the new construction, and sealing off the old landfill portion. The DEC come back to Casella with more questions, they have answered them, but haven't heard back and that is what is holding up the DEC approval.

Chair Singer also let the committee know that Casella had requested permission to place a temporary cap and DEC denied the request. The temporary cap would have helped control some of the odor.

Supervisor Guard asked what can we do to not loose data? Not everyone is using the hotline as they are contacting other people or not talking to anyone. Ms. Jordan encourages people to use the hotline as many people and agencies use this information. If people don't call the hotline then there isn't a way to track their information correctly. The hotline tracks information such as date, time, place, wind direction, etc. when the odor is smelled. They are seeing an increase of people going by the facility and calling the hotline not just calling from their homes. They are also looking at improvements that could be made to the hotline making it easier for callers.

John Dennis, who lives about four miles from Seneca meadows, believes

that the smell is a management problem as they take in the same amount of trash a year as when there was no odor. He believes that there should be a website to go to and log a complaint not just the hotline.

John Turner, Town of Seneca, would like to look at original projections of where the smell was intended to be. Are they monitoring smells? You can smell it far away now. Moisture is making the smells increase and he feels a course correction is needed.

Valerie Olson, Geneva, please don't ask if we know what garbage smells like on the hotline. It's rude and insulting to the callers.

Supervisor Vedora, City of Geneva, asked what percentage of sludge is coming in. He feels more sludge is being accepted and that is increasing the smell. Ms. Jordan noted that they are meeting tomorrow to talk about the sludge intake and composition. Casella is working with companies make sure they are treating it correctly to minimize odors when it is coming in.

Joel Freedman, City of Canandaigua, the smell hasn't reached Canandaigua yet but it's getting worse as you are going to Geneva. We need to think about water and air population from the landfill. He feels that we shouldn't be accepting trash from all of the state, but only from Ontario County. Chair Singer stated that the OML doesn't allow us to force Casella to only take Ontario County trash.

Steve Dressner, Seneca Castle, would like to know if the County's health department is looking into the gasses coming from the landfill. Also, what effects are they having on people and crops around the landfill. The County's health department needs to supply this report to the residents of the County. Ms. Jordan noted that Supervisor Guard had recently requested the same information. The public health impacts were addressed, and information was provided, as part of the SEQR process when Casella took over management of the landfill and started the expansion. Ms. Jordan summarized that the landfill is compliance with their State and Federal air quality permits. She also noted that community health assessments that are completed by the county since 2012 don't show any increase of health issues (i.e respiratory, chronic diseases, etc.) of residents living around the landfill.

James Elken, West Lake Road Geneva, He can now smell the landfill most day now, when it was just every once in a while before. He works in a tourism industry and it is effecting the tourist as they are not coming due to the smells of the landfill. He feels that people aren't calling the hotline because they don't believe that it is making difference and their voices are not being heard.

Jean Cirone, Geneva, she smelled landfill odors on Christmas night at her home. From posts on Facebook regarding the landfill she has found out that people feel discouraged. She has written to the DEC and

received a response back from them. They expressed to her that they had concerns about the biosolids being accepted there as well. She would like better accessibility for the hotline as people have difficulty getting through. When employees come out to explore the complaint they should bring an odor analyzer with them. She does appreciate what the County is trying to do.

Kim Benson, Town of Canandaigua, has been concerned for years and lives on Butler Road. She recently has started smelling the landfill at her home, and feels she has smelled it in Cheshire during her runs. She has health, air quality, and water concerns. She feels we need to look for different solutions in the near future.

George Wells, Town of Seneca, sixteen years ago Casella said they were going to get rid of the odors, which were nothing compared to what they are now. They have just gotten worse and worse since they have taken over. Something needs to happen to correct this issue.

Supervisor Venuti asked about the environmental review that was completed. When that was done the odor wasn't this bad can we relook at that again? He would also like to look into how gas travels and how is it traveling to Geneva and other areas. Ms. Jordon said she will look into it and see how it is traveling.

Mike Yaeger, Canandaigua, feel the real problem is a lack of communication between DEC, the County, and Casella. Also, there is a lack of communication to the public. The VA has a biosolid generator, can we as a county use that?

Ms. Krause talked about the creation of our new department of Sustainability and Solid Waste Management. It is a new beginning and the County is taking on the responsibility for getting out public information on the landfill issues.

## **SUSTAINABILITY & SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT**

- ◆ *Informational: Comprehensive Solid Waste Mgmt. Program Assessment & Transfer Station Consolidation Study – Review Committee Update*

Ms. Jordan talked about how the new department will be focusing on reduce, reuse, and strategic planning for 2028. They have received three proposals back from the RFP they sent out for a compressive solid waste management program & transfer station consolidation study. A review committee will meet in a few weeks to go over the proposals to pick a firm by the end of February.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

- ◆ *Resolution: Appointment to Ontario County Local Development Corporation –*

Supervisor Guard motioned to approve the appointment of Donald Culeton. Supervisor Lightfoote seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Donald Culeton

- ◆ **Resolution:** *Agreement with Underberg & Kessler, LLP for Legal Services as Revolving Loan Fund Transaction Counsel for 2019* Supervisor Lightfoote motioned to approve the contract with Underberg & Kessler, LLP. Supervisor Wickham seconded the motion. The motion carried.

## PLANNING

- ◆ **Resolution:** *Approval of New Ontario County Planning Board By-Laws* Supervisor Lightfoote motioned to approve the new Ontario County Planning Board By-Laws, as amended. Supervisor Venuti seconded the motion. The motion carried.  
  
Ms. Phillips highlighted changes in the new by-law from the existing by-laws with the committee. Mr. Harvey noted that this was many years in the making.
- ◆ **Resolution:** *Appointment of Paul Passavant to Ontario County Planning Board* Supervisor Guard motioned to approve the appointments to the Ontario County Planning Board as a block. Supervisor Wickham seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- ◆ **Resolution:** *Re-Appointment of Carol O'Brien to the Ontario County Planning Board*
- ◆ **Informational:** *Update on the Manchester Roundhouse/ Manchester Railyard Redevelopment Projects* Ms. Rudzinski presented a PowerPoint with information updating the committee on the railyard redevelopment and Roundhouse project. They received a grant for \$20,000 for analysis, phase 1 brownfield assessments, and other items. They plan to keep applying for grants and revising their scope to determine what they want to work on next. The EPA phase 2 draft report has been released from the testing they completed last year.
- ◆ **Resolution:** *Approval of No Cost Time Extension to Intermunicipal Cooperation Agreement with the Town of Victor for Shared Services Related to Planning and Zoning* Supervisor Wickham motioned to approve the no cost time extension with the Town of Victor. Supervisor Lightfoote seconded the motion. The motion carried.

## COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

- ◆ **Informational:** *Budget Transfer for Occupancy Tax* Mr. Wojcik noted that this is for an anticipated increase in occupancy tax and tourism contract for 2019.

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

- ◆ **Resolution:** *Resolution Approving the Official* Supervisor Hicks motioned to approve bond for Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council. Supervisor Venuti seconded the motion. The

*Undertaking of Public  
Employee Fidelity (Blanket)  
Bond for Genesee/Finger  
Lakes Regional Planning  
Council - 2019*

motion carried.

## **CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION**

- ♦ *Informational: Supporting  
Corn Production*

Mr. Davis talked about bird damage to sweet corn. On average, it is about \$542/acre on sweet corn. Cornell has done test pilots on preventative measures and is providing producers with options to protect the crops. The corn congress met and also presented educational programs regarding this. Supervisor Lightfoote also noted that the corn congress has looked at many efficiencies for farmers not just bird damage.

## **COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR UPDATE**

- ♦ *Update*

County Administrator Krause informed the committee of these items:

- We have a new department. Carla Jordan will be the director of the department of Sustainability and Solid Waste Management
- Orientation with coroners went well
- Orientation programs with the Sheriff and Undersheriff have started
- 2019 NYSAC legislative program
- Some money is still available from the State for shared services and we will need to do another panel for the next round of money

## **ADJOURNMENT**

On motion of Supervisor Wickham seconded by Supervisor Venuti the meeting was adjourned at 3:11 pm.

Respectfully Submitted  
Kristin Mueller  
Clerk to the Board