

ALBANY WATER BOARD
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING
November 6, 2020

A regular meeting of the Albany Water Board was officially convened at 8:30 am. Pursuant to Executive Order No. 202.1, issued by Governor Cuomo on March 12, 2020, and advisories issued by Federal, State, and Local officials related to the COVID-19 virus, the Albany Water Board convened its meeting by video conference call.

The meeting notice provided information to the public on how to participate. No members of the public participated and no inquiries were received from the public prior to the meeting.

PRESENT: Charles Houghton, Chairperson; Barbara Smith, Secretary, Karen Strong, Assistant Secretary; Anthony Owens, Treasurer; Rachel Johnson, Vice Chairperson

STAFF PRESENT: Joseph E. Coffey, Jr., P.E., Commissioner; William Simcoe, P.E., Deputy Commissioner; Emily Lyons, Confidential Assistant

BOARD ADVISORS PRESENT: William Kahn, UHY Advisors; TJ Ruane, Whiteman Osterman Hanna; Gregory Liberman, EDR

Public Comment Period

No public comments.

Discussion Items

Discussion concerning water/sewer repair, maintenance, and upgrade projects being Type II actions and, therefore, not subject to further review under SEQRA.

The SEQRA process has been ongoing to move these projects along. These projects include water main replacements and sewer rehabilitation. Mr. Ruane has been working with Mr. Liberman at EDR to prepare the SEQRA documents and associated maps.

Discussion of the Albany Water Board's intent to act as lead agency for a coordinated SEQRA review process for the Loudonville Reservoir Project and 35 Erie Blvd. Project.

Albany Water Board will declare itself as lead agency for these two projects.

The 35 Erie Blvd. Project includes demolition of the current building on the site and will request Planning Board approval.

For the Loudonville Reservoir Project, the Board will classify the new construction as accessory structures which are a permitted use for public utilities. This will avoid needing to change the zoning.

Resolutions

Mr. Houghton called for a motion to approve each of the following resolutions. A motion was made and seconded for each; and each passed unanimously.

- Resolution 20-67: Authorizing Classification of Type II Actions Pursuant To State

Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA)

- Resolution 20-68: Authorizing To Declare Intent For Lead Agency Status Under State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) for the Loudonville Reservoir Project
- Resolution 20-69: Authorizing To Declare Intent for Lead Agency Status under State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) for the 35 Erie Blvd. Project.

The Board found no purpose to enter Executive Session for this meeting.

Being no further business, Mr. Houghton called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 AM.

Next regular meeting of the Water Board is scheduled for Friday, November 20, 2020 9:00am. The Governance Committee meeting will be at 8:00am

Recorded by: Emily Lyons, Confidential Assistant

Approved by: 

Barbara Smith, Secretary