



# Onondaga County Legislature

**JAMIE McNAMARA**  
Clerk

**TIMOTHY T. BURTIS**  
Chairman

**TAMMY BARBER**  
Deputy Clerk

401 Montgomery Street • Court House • Room 407 • Syracuse, New York 13202  
Phone: 315.435.2070 • Fax: 315.435.8434 • [www.ongov.net/legislature](http://www.ongov.net/legislature)

## **ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMITTEE MINUTES – JANUARY 23, 2024** **JULIE ABBOTT, CHAIR**

**MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Kelly, Ms. Cody, Mr. Romeo, Mr. Brown**

**ALSO ATTENDING: Chairman Burtis, also see attached list**

Chair Abbott called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and the previous meeting's minutes were approved.

### **1. SOIL & WATER:**

#### **a. Confirming Appointments to the Onondaga County Soil and Water Conservation District Board (Mark Olson, David Knapp)**

*A motion was made by Mr. Romeo, seconded by Ms. Cody, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.*

#### **b. Confirming Reappointments to the Onondaga County Soil and Water Conservation District Board (Jessi Lyons, James Pollard)**

*A motion was made by Mr. Brown, seconded by Dr. Kelly to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.*

### **2. WATER ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION: Eric Schuler, Deputy Commissioner**

#### **a. A Resolution Approving Improvements for the Onondaga County Sanitary District in and for the County of Onondaga, New York**

- All projects were included with 2024-2029 CIP (Capital Improvement Plan); carried forward from previous years
- Camillus Force Main Improvements, Phase II
  - Includes rehabilitation and replacement of existing pipelines with advanced failures
- Asset Renewal at Metro WWTP (Waste Water Treatment Plant)
  - Existing facilities are past functional use
  - Replace pipeline on Metro campus
  - Replace media in filter building
- Pump Station and Force Main Improvements
  - 3 pump stations within Syracuse city limits on Richmond, Sackett and Taylor Streets
    - All have outlived useful service life
    - Replace pumps, piping, valves, and concrete
- White Pine/Route 31 Sewer Expansion
  - New pump station on corner of Route 31 and Caughdenoy Road
  - New force mains to transport waste to Oak Orchard Treatment Plant

#### **Questions/Comments from the Committee:**

- Is the strip of land previously purchased related to this?
  - Yes
- Is everything purchased?

#### **Law Department**

- Will have 2 more resolutions for final property easement purchases for this municipal line

- For comprehensive planning purposes, is there a document that shows the oldest force mains and pump stations?
  - Asset Management System provides age and maintenance history
    - Data is looked at throughout the year to update capital book accordingly
- Are there schematics of where the White Pine pipes will be and who will be able to tap into them?
- Many homeowners eager to have access to county sewers
  - There are 2 phases
    - Build out the pump station
    - Discharge from pump station to treatment plant
  - Base design has been done to see how far the extents could reach; the district boundary for county sewers is tight
  - Cannot service individuals outside of boundaries
  - Pipeline route runs along roads; will make it easy to tie in and build out
- Have had similar conversations with OCWA, National Grid for gas lines

**Request: WEP to provide Legislature with schematic of proposed White Pine project area**

- Can the Law Department speak on what is involved with creating a water district?
- Does it have to go on a ballot for actual vote?
- WEP Commissioner will know the process

Law Department

- There is a process set forth in the statute
- Creating a new water district would at least require a legislative process
- Will need to confirm if referendum is required for water

Legal Counsel

- Towns have ability to create districts
- Requires Comptroller approval
- Subject to permissive referendum

*A motion was made by Dr. Kelly, seconded by Ms. Cody, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.*

**b. BOND: A Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of \$55,945,000 Bonds of the County of Onondaga, New York, to Pay Costs of Certain Improvements for the Onondaga County Sanitary District in and for Said County (\$55,945,000)**

*A motion was made by Dr. Kelly, seconded by Mr. Romeo, to approve this item. Passed unanimously; MOTION CARRIED.*

The meeting was adjourned at 1:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



TAMMY BARBER, Deputy Clerk  
Onondaga County Legislature

ATTENDANCE

COMMITTEE: ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMITTEE  
DATE: JANUARY 23, 2024

NAME (Please Print)	DEPARTMENT/AGENCY
ERIC SCHULER	OCPWEP
John DeSantis	Leg
Patricia Gonzalez	Comp
Tim Edgeman	Comp
Joe Frateschi	Council
Ben Yaus	Law
Darcie Lesniak	Leg
Jim Bebe	Leg