

TOWN OF CONCORD TOWN BOARD
Work Session 6:30 p.m.

May 8, 2025

Supervisor Drozd opened Work Session.

1. Supervisor Drozd reported that the Town did receive the check for \$3,703 for Year 2023 Safe Workplace award from Comp Alliance as discussed last month. Thanked the Highway Department for being safe; no claims were submitted.

2. There was a kick off meeting at MDA Engineers on April 15th in the morning for the Waste Water Treatment Plant consolidation. Ben Slotman was also present. Sewer Operator Slotman will be working with MDA Engineers on the modification of the SPDES (State Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permit which still needs to be submitted, and scheduling of the sampling with the DEC and the site walk through with MDA Engineers staff and Sewer Operator Slotman.

3. Using notes from MDA Engineers and Supervisor Drozd Office regarding Craneridge Sewer projects over the years, MDA Engineers were able to put together a map of what has been done and where from Years 1999, 2000, 2004, 2007, 2010, 2013 and 2014. Location of the manholes, lines are noted. The Ridgeview Pump Station abandonment needs some more work; MDA Engineers should have cost estimates for the June meeting. The second map is sewer line recommending for smoke testing that hasn't been done. Where the infiltration problems are, there are six old, bridge-style manholes that still need to be replaced; these are down by Ridge Trail. Council Member Zittel asked if the Town wanted to send out notices to the residents of development to check about their sump pumps; Supervisor Drozd didn't know if the Town was ready to do that at this time. Supervisor Drozd thinks that this MDA Engineers map will be useful to the Town.

4. MDA Engineers provided their Summary of all Active Projects for the members to review. Supervisor Drozd reviewed:

- Library Plumbing RFP-these proposals were thrown out; the prices are out of hand. The contractors used the pictures that Caleb Henning, MDA, sent out and didn't come to the site. A couple contractors will be coming out to see the problem with the outside spigot and the insulation. This is a priority; the DiPietro Community Grant for outside maintenance will be paying the costs for this project.

- GIGP Grant Application for the Water Meters-This grant for the water meters at Kissing Bridge Water District was scrapped. Supervisor Drozd had a conference call with Jeff Smith, Municipal Solutions, and Caleb Henning, MDA Engineers and it was decided that this grant is not feasible for the project.

- Kissing Bridge Watermain Extension – This project is moving forward. MDA Engineers wanted to have this out for bidding but there was a delay.

- Senior Center Improvement and Garage – The gravel pad is in for the garage. There is one Change Order for this project and is on the Agenda tonight. The electrical was put out again for RFPs and the RFPs were scrapped. The excavation and conduit from the main building was included in the RFP. There are two fuse boxes at the Center and four breakers are being used so there is ample room to run a line out. It was in the electrical bid to have the contractor run the conduit and every electrical contractor was going to subcontract that out. Bogner said they would do that for \$2,100. This should take down the cost of the electrical. The Town will wait until the garage building is up and then the contractors can come to the site to see the actual work that needs to be done instead of looking at the plans; hopefully the costs will come in cheaper. The grant money has been used so this cost will need to come out of building maintenance.

- Generator for Kissing Bridge Water Building - MDA Engineers did not charge the Town anything for his review. Supervisor Drozd and Water Operator Domes met Holland Propane at the site to review this project and Supervisor Drozd drew up the specifications sheet for this project. MDA Engineers reviewed the quote on the Town's behalf.

- Driveway Permit Application – MDA Engineers did not charge the Town anything for this review. Supervisor Drozd reviewed this with Deputy Hwy Supt Heim and Secretary Heyden designed the permit. MDA Engineers reviewed the documents for the new Wendy's driveway. The location is owned by Roosa and between Emerling and Aldi.

- Supervisor Drozd advised that there are now only two credit card users for the Town: Supervisor Drozd and Senior Director Hunt. This was recommended by the NYS Comptroller Office during the Town Audit.

- Sales Tax for the month is 2.3% greater than Year 2024 at this time. Year to Date is 11% over Year 2024.

- In Erie County, the City of Buffalo, Lackawanna, Amherst, Cheektowaga, Concord, Hamburg, Village and Town of Lancaster, Tonawanda, West Seneca, Village of Blasdel, Depew, Kenmore with the Cannabis Tax. The sales reported to the State for the last quarter, was \$43,258.36 was sold here in the Town of Concord. West Seneca Supervisor Dickson noted that West Seneca sales were \$588,949 and he received a check for peanuts. Supervisor Drozd is looking into this for the Town of Concord. Our check was \$208.26; he does not know how this amount was calculated. Our local cannabis dispensary is supplying a lot of these other entities around Erie County; he called Supervisor Drozd and relayed how much he had paid in sales tax and wanted to know how much the Town had received. At that time the Town had not received this \$208.26; Supervisor Drozd will reach out to the Comptroller's Office. Supervisor Dickson is taking the lead on this to find out the breakdown/formula used. Supervisor Drozd will update the Board as he gets more information.

- Supervisor Drozd has been in contact with NYSEG by correspondence and telephone calls with our new municipal representative. Chris Knopse is no longer our representative. It is \$14/month to opt out of the smart meter. NYSEG can't find the Ridgeview Townhouse Pump Station location; Supervisor Drozd volunteered to meet the representative there. Supervisor Drozd notified NYSEG that that location is going to go away and the Town would prefer NYSEG not do anything there or at the Craneridge Plant because the Town has ongoing projects at these locations. Supervisor Drozd felt that the Town should just proceed with the opt out and pay the \$14/month charge. There are residents on NYSEG with the new smart meters that say that their bills have gone up drastically with the new smart meters. The Town only has so much budgeted for electric for these locations. There is a new meter at the new pump station that went online a year ago. Community Park has a new meter from two years ago. The sewer plant that is left will be demolished when the new plant is built. NYSEG does not seem to care. The Town has not received letters yet for two locations: The plant and the new pump station. Supervisor Drozd does not believe he needs a motion for this; it is not that much money but he will contact the representative and opt out of the smart meter.

- The Summer Concert series schedule is complete and a list was provided to the members for the announcing of the bands each week.

- Supervisor Drozd discussed the Craneridge Kissing Bridge Waste Water Treatment Plant. Last week the \$4,957,000, zero percent, loan was approved; the Town has the Jacobs' Grant for \$2,000,000 and then the WIA Grant of \$1,175,000. As it is right now, the Town should be pretty good for this project according to Jeff Smith, Municipal Solutions, and Caleb Henning, MDA Engineers. Mr. Henning will be finishing up and get in the preliminary design to the State and County Health Department for approval.

- There have been situations at the Town where some employees have been double-paid. M&T Bank Treasury Department said that last weeks was a software update that caused the issue. Supervisor Drozd advised that if this happens again, it may be that the Bank has more internal problems than what is being said to the Town. The Town may need to take their payroll account to another bank. This is not the Town's fault or the payroll company's fault.

- Reviewed the bid specifications for paper products, soaps, and janitorial supplies. His office will be working with Custodian Ott and Senior Director Hunt to order on bid instead of buying supplies from multiple vendors or from Lowes. These pennies will add up to a savings to the Town; there will be some savings to the Town.

- Custodian Ott will be out on medical leave starting tomorrow for six to eight weeks' minimum. Kathy Isler who cleans the Senior Center will be coming to Town Hall once a week. She was here last weekend for ten hours doing a much-needed deep clean of Town Hall. She will be coming in every couple months to do a deep clean; just once a week for the routine cleaning for \$100. Reuben Bugenhagen, the part-time employee at the Highway Department, will be coming to Town Hall to do the mowing.

- Twelve Springs Church has requested use of the Town Hall for seven different Sundays for their worship services. Several years back, the Crossing Church did use the Town Hall for a short period of time. The Twelve Springs Church usually meets at the Springville Center for the Arts but these seven Sundays have conflicts. Council Member Drake asked if the Church should be paying the rental fee because this is not just a one-time use. This could be a Board decision. Town Attorney Attea advised that the Town should just make sure that there is an appropriate agreement in place with insurance coverage and waiver indemnification for their use. This should be included in the Town's responsive letter.