

# Towanda Municipal Authority

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June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025

The June meeting of the Towanda Municipal Authority was called to order by Mr. Walsh at 5:02 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Michael Walsh, Joseph Snell, Carmen Venezia, Roger Hatch, Katrina Murray, Mark Christini.

**ABSENT:** Eric West, Robert Williams-WTMA Chairman; Fred Johnson,

**OTHERS:** Morgan Madden (via phone), Babst, Calland, Clements and Zomnir, P.C.; Stacy Schoonover, Borough Manager; Eric Casanave, Stiffler McGraw.

## **Visitors:**

None

## **Minutes:**

The May 19, 2025 meeting minutes were approved as written with a motion made by Mr. Venezia, seconded by Mr. Snell. Minutes approved.

## **Bills:**

The bills were approved on a motion made by Mr. Snell and seconded by Mr. Christini, approved.

## **Diamond Map:**

Mr. Casanave discussed that the Diamond Maps, a GIS based utility mapping program would be less intensive than the current iWorQ's platform and is specifically designed for utilities. Mr. Casanave highlighted some of the benefits such as a more robust data base w better data accuracy. A utility specific mapping. A less intensive system compared to iWorQ's and potential to digitize older projects. Mr. Walsh questioned if we would be getting rid iWorQ's. Ms. Schoonover stated yes that we would be getting rid of iWorQ's.

Mr. Casanave stated he plans to provide more specific pricing details at next month's meeting. He emphasized wanting to get the most value while minimizing huge expenses, suggesting a careful, cost-conscious approach to the transition.

## **Waste Tank Cleaning Bid:**

Mr. Casanave stated we did not get the bids needed for this project. Mr. Walsh questioned whether it was because there was a lot of work out there or the location. Mr. Casanave stated he was unaware because some of these companies are national and go all over the place. He stated he doesn't believe it was one of the most complicated jobs. Mr. Venezia questioned as to whether they had to enter the tank. Mr. Casanave answered, no. Mr. Venezia stated he couldn't believe we can't find something. Mr. Casanave stated the complication, if any at all is how they take out the sludge.

Mr. Casanave deferred to solicitor. Mr. Walsh questioned Morgan if we don't get a second response, can we hand pick the contractor. Ms. Madden stated that she thought that there were certain advertising requirements in order to do that. She was going to look into it and contact Ms. Schoonover and Ms. Schoonover would contact Stiffler.

Mr. Christini asked about a timeline. Mr. Casanave stated if we rebid the job and had a successful contractor, it probably wouldn't be done any sooner than October or November.

Mr. Venezia questioned as to why we have to go outside our system with the sledge. Mr. Casanave stated he didn't recommend cleaning it all out and then putting it all back in, because there is a lot of stuff that probably shouldn't be there. Mr. Casanave gave a description of how it works.

Ms. Madden stated she found the statutes. Ms. Madden stated if no bids received within 15 days of the second advertisement, you can initiate negotiations for a contract, but you can't change any of the bid specs. before you execute the contract, you have to, at a regular meeting, publicly announce the identity of everybody the contract price and summarize the bid specs.

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Mr. Walsh made a formal motion to send this out for re-bid. Mr. Hatch made the motion. Mr. Venezia seconded the motion.

## **Headworks:**

Mr. Casanave stated the rebid is actively out there and that we have a total of 10 plan holders. Bids are due on July 14<sup>th</sup>. We did amend the project as discussed in the May meeting  
Mr. Walsh questioned, Do we have to buy a lot of equipment for inside this? Mr. Casanave replied, Not the Headworks other than the Headworks unit itself. Mr. Casanave stated that it was not overly complicated.  
Mr. Casanave stated the electrical and additional SCADA may have deterred some bidders.

## **Other business:**

Superintendent Search: Mr. Venezia questioned in the absence of a Superintendent are we sure all out regulatory requirements and permits being met, as far as samplings and flow monitoring. Ms. Schoonover responded that yes between Stiffler and our water guys and the sewer guys it is being done. Ms. Schoonover stated that she has three possibly four prospects.

## **Adjournment**

Mr. Christini made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Walsh seconded. Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Anita Gaspar*  
Recording Secretary