



Onondaga County Legislature

DEBORAH L. MATURO
Clerk

DAVID H. KNAPP
Chairman

KATHERINE M. FRENCH
Deputy Clerk

401 Montgomery Street • Court House • Room 407 • Syracuse, New York 13202
Phone: 315.435.2070 Fax: 315.435.8434
www.ongov.net

PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES

AMENDED SCHEDULE OF SEWER RENTS FOR THE ONONDAGA COUNTY SANITARY DISTRICT

November 7, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. May, Mr. Rowley, Mr. Burtis, Mrs. Tassone, Ms. Cody, Mrs. Abbott-Kenan, Mr. Buckel, Mr. Ryan, Dr. Chase, Mr. Holmquist, Mr. McBride, Mr. Bush, Mr. Jordan, Ms. Williams, Mrs. Ervin, Mr. Knapp

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Bottrill

Chairman Knapp called the 12:55 p.m. public hearing to order at 1:10 p.m.

The Clerk read the notice of public hearing and stated the notice was duly published.

Chairman Knapp asked for speakers wishing to be heard.

1. Tom Law, ECOL Commonhood – Statement on file
2. Helen Cohen, New York Public Interest Research Group – Statement on file

The public hearing was adjourned at 1:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DEBORAH L. MATURO, Clerk
Onondaga County Legislature

ROLL CALL			PUBLIC HEARING NOVEMBER 7, 2019
LEGISLATOR	PRESENT	ABSENT	12:55 p.m. – Proposed Adoption of an Amended Schedule of Sewer Rents for the Onondaga County Sanitary District
1. MAY	✓		
2. ROWLEY	✓		Called to order
3. BURTIS	✓		at 1:10 a.m.
4. TASSONE	✓		
5. CODY	✓		Speakers:
6. ABBOTT-KENAN	✓		Tom Law
7. BUCKEL	✓		
8. RYAN	✓		Helen Cohen
9. CHASE	✓		
10. HOLMQUIST	✓		Statements on file
11. McBRIDE	✓		
13. BUSH	✓		
14. JORDAN	✓		
15. BOTTRILL		✓	
16. WILLIAMS	✓		
17. ERVIN	✓		Adjourned at 1:18
12. KNAPP	✓		
TOTAL	16	1	

October 8, 2019

147

Motion Made By Mr.Knapp

RESOLUTION NO. _____

CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPOSED ADOPTION OF
AN AMENDED SCHEDULE OF SEWER RENTS FOR THE ONONDAGA COUNTY SANITARY
DISTRICT

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 563-1978 and pursuant to the Onondaga County Administrative Code Section 11.79, this County Legislature established and imposed a schedule of sewer rents for the Onondaga County Sanitary District ("District"), and such schedule imposed sewer rents upon property owners within the District on the basis of a "unit", using an estimate of 146,000 gallons per year for each such unit; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 46-2017, this County Legislature provided for a new schedule of sewer rents, redefining a unit using an estimate of 137,000 gallons per year for each such unit; and

WHEREAS, it is now proposed to redefine such unit to use an estimate of 125,000 gallons per year for each such unit, and the Commissioner of Water Environment Protection has prepared a schedule of proposed sewer rents which would supplant and supersede the current schedule of rents; and

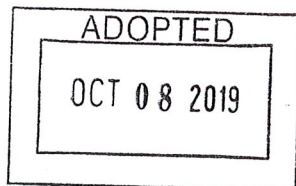
WHEREAS, the proposed schedule has been filed with the Clerk of the County Legislature and with the clerks of the various towns, villages and the City of Syracuse all within or partly within the District wherein such proposed sewer rents would be effective; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Water Environment Protection of said County, pursuant to the Onondaga County Administrative Code, held a Commissioner's Hearing on September 30, 2019 to consider said modification of sewer rents and has prepared and submitted to said County Legislature a Report dated October 1, 2019, duly approved by the County Executive and filed with the Clerk of the Onondaga County Legislature, recommending modification to the existing schedule of sewer rents; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held for the purpose of considering the proposed sewer rent schedule and the Commissioner's Report and said public hearing shall be held in the Legislative Chambers in the County Court House, in Syracuse, New York, on the 7th day of November, 2019 at 12:55 o'clock P.M. for the purpose of considering the aforesaid matter; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Onondaga County Legislature hereby is directed to cause a notice of such public hearing to be published and posted in the manner provided by Section 11.79 of the Onondaga County Administrative Code.

Pub Hearing - Sewer
LHT
dak



I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING IS A TRUE AND
EXACT COPY OF LEGISLATION DULY ADOPTED BY THE
COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF ONONDAGA COUNTY ON THE

8th DAY OF October, 2019.

Deborah A. Matus

CLERK, COUNTY LEGISLATURE
ONONDAGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

55:6 AM 2-10061

RECEIVED
ONONDAGA COUNTY
LEGISLATURE

Tom Law

Onondaga Legislature

A.

Public

1255 pm Hearing (1-7-2019) / THURS

Where and how

does your "Dawn" soap go?

gravity pipe to sewer branch ...

To the Atlantic, of course.

But how?

with what touch of Metro chemistry

"magic": primary process

secondary treatment

tertiary protocol

thence,

to Onondaga Lake & Outlet

thence joined

to the Seneca River flow

thence joined

to the Oneida River

becoming our Oswego River near

Phoenix outletting @

Syracuse's "harbor" - Oswego on

Lake Ontario @ 5508 cwb.ft./sec

thence our "wastewater product

effluent "mixes in"

to the Great Lakes flow, FLUEVE

ST. LAW' - & the LABRADOR

So, MY FELLOW SEWER USER

CURRENT

Oct. 1988 - SEP 89 Water Yr, Wtr Resur Data for NY
USGS @ ALBANY.

10-7-19 12:55

According to:

- Accountable Accountants "the externalities" are the externalities, No one is required "to make whole" our daily commons. We may continue using No line item; FONSI (Finding of No Significant Impact) PAYMENT DUE

ENVIRO
ASSESSMT
TERM

Acrdg to,

- A Syracuse highwire walker: [from the bridge cable American Span Thousand Island Bridge] the St. Lawrence River Ship Channel is
- 570 feet deep below & flowing speedily about 6-7 mph (~9.5 ft/sec) currently;

Acrdg to,

- the lives of the late Steven Effler & Mrs. Sage et alia environmental stewardship per the CWA (Clean Water Act) involves considerations, permitting, field monitoring, redress...

Pollution
discharge

Acrdg to,

- the dictionary, "li-mic-o-lines" are those who inhabit the shore region, my two sisters: @ Cape Cod Bay & N.N. Myrtle Beach. It was not a good year for "stripers" (ocean stripped bass) @ Manamet.

C

According to
 11-7
 19 • the love of Rachel Carson, we are
 attracted to teeming seashore biota
 (the flora and fauna of a region)
 - drawn into shape, color, motions of
 life forms, tidal pools - asking our
 eyes to play
 to play in our minds
 to rescue the scene
 the potent scene
 to continue our own ocean
 - drawn to walk this seashore.
 to appreciate the salt air.
 to protect the "littoral".

According to
 • J. J. WALSH, Emeriti of U. of S. FL (and co-writers)
 in Wind-Borne Illnesses From Coastal Seas: Present
 and Future Consequences of Toxic Marine Aerosols
 red tides (algal) are not limited to
 the waterscape but blow inland.

11-7
19

MY FELLOW Stewards of the Commons
there exists "big data"
from oceanography and
from ESF-linkage to the
Cort Lakes Research Consortium

The chemical onslaught on waters (fresh
and salt) calls for ongoing
attention and for
a vision tied to scenarios
modelling enfranchised in
County plans and reports.

Quotas on haddock harvest catch
is but one flag of many red flags
which give meaning and focus
to our citizenry and government
staff programming.

Attached:

TPB-9, Z.A. SMITH, The Environmental Policy
Paradox (SEVENTH), 2018.

Helen Cohen

Onondaga County Talking Points:

- Hi my name is _____, and I'm with NYPIRG, the New York Public Interest Research Group. Thank you so much for the opportunity to speak this evening.
- Since 1976, NYPIRG has been a leading voice in New York on a wide range of environmental and energy issues.
- NYPIRG's Environmental Protection Project fights back against serious threats posed by water pollution, air pollution, climate change, and toxic chemical exposure, while holding corporate abusers accountable.
- As you may be aware, we are soon approaching New York State's budget season – the Governor will be releasing his executive budget proposal in early to mid-January.
- The Clean Water Infrastructure Act, which funds New York's water infrastructure grant program, along with numerous other programs to address algal blooms, emerging contaminants, and more, has been critical for Onondaga County and New York as a whole.
- Water infrastructure needs in New York state are tremendous – it is estimated that over the next 20 years New York will need to invest \$80 billion to replace, repair, and upgrade wastewater and drinking water infrastructure.
- Aging infrastructure has led to more sewage overflows and watermain breaks, which threatens public health.
 - This has been an issue in Onondaga County. For example, in 2018, Syracuse had 234 water main breaks. That's down from prior years, when there was, on average, one water main break per day.
- As a result, in 2015, the Governor and the Legislature created the water infrastructure grant program, which has been a tremendous success, but needs still far exceed available funding.
- Onondaga County has seen this firsthand.
 - Onondaga has had a number of awarded projects thanks to this funding – 14 projects within Onondaga County have received water infrastructure grant funding over the past 3 years.
 - However, for the Central NY region, from 2015-2017, only 38% of eligible infrastructure projects were awarded funding.
- Simply put, the Clean Water Infrastructure Act needs more funding to catch up with outstanding needs.
- NYPIRG is calling for a new \$1 billion in funding for the Clean Water Infrastructure Act. We are asking local governments to support this effort by either passing a resolution, sending a letter to the Governor, or signing on to a letter with other local elected officials (which NYPIRG will be able to share with you soon, if interested).
- NYPIRG would love to talk with you all about this and our other campaigns for the environment with a full presentation. Please reach out to me if you are interested.
- Thank you for your time.

by adding pollution to systems. When compounded with the fact that scientists disagree over the upper limit, or carrying capacity, of an ecosystem, the adaptive cycle and concept of multiple steady states makes determining an ecosystem's upper limit, or carrying capacity, even more problematic. Environmental policies must take an even more conservative approach to the amount of resources that can be extracted and pollution that is permitted. Society must move beyond concern for depletion of resources and begin to focus on ecosystem cycles and how they impact our use of resources if it wishes to achieve sustainability.

Closely related to the notion of the steady state is the concept of sustainability. Although many have decried the abuse of the term "sustainability," the use of resources, by nonrenewable extraction or by degradation (pollution), must be limited to a point at which there is no threat to the regenerative capacity of natural systems.¹⁵ Otherwise, those systems are not being used in a sustainable manner (or managed to maintain a steady state). As we will see throughout the book, the institutions that manage the planet often are not geared toward sustainability.

For example, in many Sunbelt cities in the southern and southwest United States, political, economic, and even the health of social and cultural institutions are predicated upon continued growth and expansion of building and construction. This is nonsustainable in the long run and will ultimately lead to the demise or redefinition of these institutions and the assumptions upon which they are founded. In natural resource management, we cannot cut more trees than we grow, and in pollution and environmental management, we cannot introduce more pollutants into a natural system than it can absorb and still provide life-sustaining ecosystem services. These are both examples of nonsustainability. It has become popular in some circles to refer to "sustainable growth" as an appropriate goal of natural resource and environmental policy. However, it should be noted that sustainable growth, to the extent it requires ever more increasing resources is, by definition, an oxymoron.¹⁶

COMMON POOL RESOURCES

Garrett Hardin, in his influential essay "The Tragedy of the Commons,"¹⁷ drew attention to the problems associated with common pool resources. He uses the analogy of a common green, or the sharing of a common pasture, where the rational individual will seek to maximize his or her returns from that pasture by putting as many additional cattle as he or she can afford onto the commons. This rational individual behavior, however, will result in destruction through overgrazing of the common pasture. No individual in this situation has an incentive to protect the pasture. In fact, the incentives operating on individuals are to increase

their return from the pasture, the result being the hastened destruction of the pasture for everyone.

Common pool resource problems are very much a part of environmental policy. The groundwater in an aquifer underlying several farms, for example, may be a common pool resource. Farmers located above the aquifer have no incentive to save the groundwater for future use. In fact, if the groundwater supply lies beneath adjacent farms, landowners may have an incentive to pull as much out of the ground as soon as possible, there being no individual incentive to manage the resource for the long-term beneficial use of all.

Air is also a common pool resource. Individual polluters have no incentive to protect the common pool resource of clean air. In fact, the individual has every incentive to continue polluting. The cost of air pollution is borne not only by the polluter but rather by the community as a whole.

Polluters on a body of water are in a similar situation, as are users of any resource who are not responsible and have no incentive to ensure the use and management of that resource over the long term. The oceans are a classic example of a common pool resource problem. Nations have little or no incentive to restrict their harvesting of fish when they are competing with other nations that are not willing to similarly restrict their fishing activities. The result is the depletion, and possibly the eventual destruction, of common pool fisheries. Fisheries off the coasts of Japan and the northeastern United States are facing severe reductions in fish populations. It is presumed that this depletion is the result of years of commercial overfishing, without paying much regard to the needs of the aquatic ecosystems.

Because there is not a strong international body that governs pollution discharges into the ocean, individual nations have little or no incentive to regulate their polluting activities in a way that will provide for a clean ocean environment for all the inhabitants of the earth. Again, what is rational for the individual, in this case the nations that are polluting, could lead to the destruction of the overall resource. As you will see later, common pool resources have proven problematic to environmental policy development and implementation.

SUMMARY

We live in a world of finite resources. Every time we drive our cars, there is ~~is~~ less irreplaceable oil in the world (a resource management problem). There is also *more* carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere (a pollution or environmental problem). This thickens the layer of greenhouse gas that, in turn, artificially heats our planet (everyone's problem). Each time we write on another piece of paper, there may be fewer trees to help cleanse the air. These same trees could provide habitat for a dozen species,

- Z.A. SMITH, 21-2018
THE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY PARADOX (SEVENTH)

October 8, 2019

Motion Made By Mr.Knapp

RESOLUTION NO. 147

CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPOSED ADOPTION OF
AN AMENDED SCHEDULE OF SEWER RENTS FOR THE ONONDAGA COUNTY SANITARY
DISTRICT

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 563-1978 and pursuant to the Onondaga County Administrative Code Section 11.79, this County Legislature established and imposed a schedule of sewer rents for the Onondaga County Sanitary District ("District"), and such schedule imposed sewer rents upon property owners within the District on the basis of a "unit", using an estimate of 146,000 gallons per year for each such unit; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 46-2017, this County Legislature provided for a new schedule of sewer rents, redefining a unit using an estimate of 137,000 gallons per year for each such unit; and

WHEREAS, it is now proposed to redefine such unit to use an estimate of 125,000 gallons per year for each such unit, and the Commissioner of Water Environment Protection has prepared a schedule of proposed sewer rents which would supplant and supersede the current schedule of rents; and

WHEREAS, the proposed schedule has been filed with the Clerk of the County Legislature and with the clerks of the various towns, villages and the City of Syracuse all within or partly within the District wherein such proposed sewer rents would be effective; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Water Environment Protection of said County, pursuant to the Onondaga County Administrative Code, held a Commissioner's Hearing on September 30, 2019 to consider said modification of sewer rents and has prepared and submitted to said County Legislature a Report dated October 1, 2019, duly approved by the County Executive and filed with the Clerk of the Onondaga County Legislature, recommending modification to the existing schedule of sewer rents; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held for the purpose of considering the proposed sewer rent schedule and the Commissioner's Report and said public hearing shall be held in the Legislative Chambers in the County Court House, in Syracuse, New York, on the 7th day of November, 2019 at 12:55 o'clock P.M. for the purpose of considering the aforesaid matter; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Onondaga County Legislature hereby is directed to cause a notice of such public hearing to be published and posted in the manner provided by Section 11.79 of the Onondaga County Administrative Code.

DATED: October 9, 2019.

Pub Hearing – Sewer
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I, Katherine M. French, do hereby certify that on the 9th day of October 2019, the above notice was posted by me in the west lobby of the Onondaga County Court House on the bulletin board.

/s/ Katherine M. French
Katherine M. French
Deputy Clerk
Onondaga County Legislature

MEMO

To: Frank Mento, Commissioner

From: *Katherine French*
Katherine French, Deputy Clerk

Date: October 9, 2019

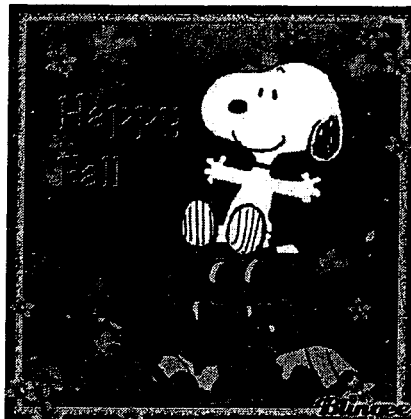
Re: Public Hearing Postings

Message

Please find enclosed four copies of the public hearing resolution adopted by the Onondaga County Legislature on October 8, 2019. As required, please post the resolutions in four separate public locations. I have posted a copy in the courthouse lobby to accommodate the required fifth location.

THANK YOU!

KATHERINE M. FRENCH, DEPUTY CLERK
ONONDAGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE
315 435-2070 katherinefrench@ongov.net



THE POST-STANDARD

LEGAL AFFIDAVIT

INV#: 0009362444

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ONONDAGA COUNTY
LEGISLATURE

19 OCT 30 AM 10:47

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SYRACUSE, NY 13202

Name: ONONDAGA COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Sales Rep: Karen Ridgeway

Account Number: 25963

INV#: 0009362444

Date	Position	Description	P.O. Number	Ad Size
10/24/2019	Other Legals NY	October 8, 2019 Motion Made By Mr. Knapp RESOLUTION NO.	PO #54002 Sewer Rer	1 x 118.00 CL

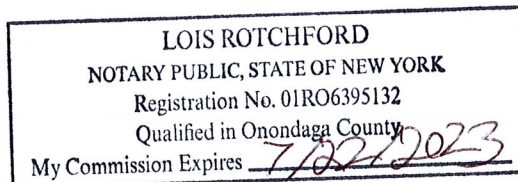
State of New York, County of Onondaga ss. Karen Ridgeway, of the City of Syracuse, in said County, being duly sworn, doth depose and says: this person is the Principal Clerk in the office of THE POST-STANDARD, a public newspaper, published in the City of Syracuse, Onondaga County, New York and that the notice, is an accurate and true copy of the ad as printed in said newspaper, was printed and published in the regular edition and issue of said newspaper on the following days, viz.:

. Post-Standard 10/24/2019


Karen Ridgeway
Principal Clerk

An Authorized Designee of the President, Timothy R. Kennedy
Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 24th day of October
2019


NOTARY PUBLIC



FOR QUESTIONS CONCERNING THIS AFFIDAVIT,
PLEASE CONTACT KAREN RIDGEWAY AT
(315) 470-2051 OR Legals@Syracuse.com

Date	Position	Description	P.O. Number	Ad Size
10/24/2019	Other Legals NY	October 8, 2019 Motion Made By Mr. Knapp RESOLUTION NO. 147	PO #54002 Sewer Rer	1 x 118.00 CL

October 8, 2019 Motion Made By Mr. Knapp RESOLUTION NO. 147 CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROPOSED ADOPTION OF AN AMENDED SCHEDULE OF SEWER RENTS FOR THE ONONDAGA COUNTY SANITARY DISTRICT. WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 563-1978 and pursuant to the Onondaga County Administrative Code Section 11.79, this County Legislature established and imposed a schedule of sewer rents for the Onondaga County Sanitary District ("District"), and such schedule imposed sewer rents upon property owners within the District on the basis of a "unit", using an estimate of 146,000 gallons per year for each such unit; and WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 46-2017, this County Legislature provided for a new schedule of sewer rents, redefining a unit using an estimate of 137,000 gallons per year for each such unit; and WHEREAS, it is now proposed to re-define such unit to use an estimate of 125,000 gallons per year for each such unit, and the Commissioner of Water Environment Protection has prepared a schedule of proposed sewer rents which would supplant and supersede the current schedule of rents; and WHEREAS, the proposed schedule has been filed with the Clerk of the County Legislature and with the clerks of the various towns, villages and the City of Syracuse all within or partly within the District wherein such proposed sewer rents would be effective; and WHEREAS, the Commissioner of

the Commissioner of Water Environment Protection of said County, pursuant to the Onondaga County Administrative Code, held a Commissioner's Hearing on September 30, 2019 to consider said modification of sewer rents and has prepared and submitted to said County Legislature a Report dated October 1, 2019, duly approved by the County Executive and filed with the Clerk of the Onondaga County Legislature, recommending modification to the existing schedule of sewer rents; now, therefore be it RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held for the purpose of considering the proposed sewer rent schedule and the Commissioner's Report and said public hearing shall be held in the Legislative Chambers in the County Court House, in Syracuse, New York, on the 7th day of November, 2019 at 12:55 o'clock P.M. for the purpose of considering the aforesaid matter; and, be it further RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Onondaga County Legislature hereby is directed to cause a notice of such public hearing to be published and posted in the manner provided by Section 11.79 of the Onondaga County Administrative Code.