

**Onondaga County Water Authority
Budget Workshop**

200 Northern Concourse, Syracuse
Wednesday October 11, 2023 @ 12:00 p.m.

Members of the Authority present were J. Bianchini, B. Doran, K. Gardiner, A. Geiss and D. Wickman.

Others present: J. Brown, G. Miller, J. Stowell, M. Thomas and S. Roth.

A. Board Meeting.

1. The Pledge of Allegiance.
2. K. Gardner, Chairman called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m.
3. J. Brown introduced Sheilla Roth. She will be joining OCWA on October 31, 2023 as the Fiscal Officer.

B. 2024 Budgets

- J. Brown gave an outline of the process to prepare the 2024 budgets. He noted the process included multiple opportunities for engagement with department managers.
- J. Brown presented the following reports and conversations ensued:
 - Twenty Year O&M Budget Projection
 - O&M Budget Justifications
 - O&M Budget Comparison Year to Year
 - O&M Budget Monthly Summary
 - Year-End Projected Fund Balance Report
 - Rate Increase Impact Report
 - Twenty Year Capital Budget Projection
 - Capital Budget Justifications
 - Capital Budget
- The O&M budget was presented with a proposed 6.75% rate/fees increase. The Authority Members discussed at length the increasing cost of materials, chemicals, and outside contractors. Conversations ensued about main replacement and creating redundancy in the system. The Authority Members concluded that a 7% rate increase is appropriate to provide funds necessary to maintain the system and prepare for the enhancements required for the Micron facility.

C. Executive Session

- On motion by J. Bianchini, duly seconded by D. Wickman, with all Members approving, at 1:20 p.m. the Board moved to Executive session to discuss collective bargaining negotiations and matters involving the compensation of multiple specific employees.

- On a motion by B. Doran, seconded by A. Geiss with all members approving, the Authority adjourned Executive Session at 2:50 p.m. and returned to the Budget Workshop.
- On a motion by B. Doran seconded by A. Geiss with all members approving, the Authority adjourned the Budget Workshop at 2:51 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the Authority is scheduled for October 18, 2023 at 12:30 p.m., at 200 Northern Concourse, Syracuse.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennie S. Stowell
Recording Secretary