ERIE COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY



INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

September 7, 2018

To:

Terrence D. McCracken, Secretary to the Authority

Russell J Stoll, PE, Executive Engineer

From:

Steven W. Denzler, PE, LEED BD&C, Distribution Engineer

Subject: Contract NC-036

Water System Improvements

Towns of Cheektowaga and Clarence

Project No. 201700090

Please include an agenda item for the next Board Meeting regarding the possible takeover of residential water services on Eggert Road from the City of Buffalo, thus providing water service to homes in the area identified below. This item will be reported by Russell Stoll.

The City of Buffalo contacted the Erie County Water Authority in late August to know if the ECWA would be interested in taking over service connections from 16-152 (even only) on Eggert Road, north of East Delavan. A map of the forty (40) affected properties is attached for reference.

ECWA is currently replacing the waterline on Eggert Road as part of the NC-036 project. The houses on the west side of the street are serviced through a City of Buffalo waterline which runs behind the houses in an old alleyway. Homeowners have encroached into this alleyway over the years, making maintenance of their waterline difficult. In concert with this issue, the City is concerned that there might be lead water services serving these homes.

The City of Buffalo has requested a meeting with the Authority to discuss the issue further. The properties in question are partially within the City of Buffalo and partially within the Town of Cheektowaga limits, therefore the City believes water can be provided by the Authority. An agreement between the City and Authority would be necessary before the ownership of these services are transferred to the Authority.

The City understands they would have some financial responsibility in the takeover, since private plumbing modifications would have to be performed to alter these service tie-ins. Transfer of service connections would require new services installed in the right-of-way and connected to the new watermain, as well as new copper installed on private property and inside each home. With all new service connections and plumbing necessary, there is no risk of any lead or galvanized services in existence after takeover is complete. With the new 8-inch waterline on Eggert, there should be sufficient capacity for these new services.

The advantage to the Authority would be to obtain forty (40) new customers. The responsibilities of the Water Authority involve account maintenance/billing, any future repairs to services and associated curb boxes, valves, and connections to the watermain.

Time is of the essence with this project since the NC-036 project is still in construction. If an agreement between the City and the Authority can be negotiated, the contractor on the NC-036 project might be utilized for service connections within the right-of-way limits.

SWD:jmf Attachments

cc: L.Kowalski, PE

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