

TOWN OF WEST SENECA



ENGINEERING
DEPARTMENT

TOWN SUPERVISOR
SHEILA M. MEEGAN
TOWN COUNCIL
EUGENE P. HART
JOHN M. RUSINSKI

February 28, 2013

Honorable Town Board
Town of West Seneca

Re: **Efficiency Grant for Water District Consolidation**

Honorable Board Members,

The Town of West Seneca in collaboration with the Erie County Water Authority is seeking grant monies not to exceed \$400,000.00 to make capital improvements to the Town's water system. This effort could result in the consolidation of eight water districts and ownership of the Town's water hydrants to the Erie County Water Authority.

This resolution is for the grant opportunity only. Approval for consolidation will be presented to the Board after negotiations are complete with the Erie County Water Authority and is subject to Permissive Referendum.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. R. Tanner", written over a horizontal line.

Steven R. Tanner
Town Engineer

cc: file TB
Project

Town of West Seneca Local Government Efficiency Grant Resolution for Water District Consolidation with the Erie County Water Authority

WHEREAS: the Town of West Seneca, in collaboration with the Erie County Water Authority, seeks grant monies in an amount not to exceed \$400,000 to make capital improvements to the Town's water system in an effort to consolidate eight water districts and the Town's water hydrants in order to convey ownership to the Erie County Water Authority;

WHEREAS: the Town of West Seneca, in collaboration with the Erie County Water Authority, is committed to reducing the cost of municipal services, while remaining committed to providing enhanced levels of water services in the Town of West Seneca;

WHEREAS: the Town of West Seneca, in collaboration with the Erie County Water Authority, has determined that it is in the best interest of the Town of West Seneca taxpayers to have the Erie County Water Authority take over water service for the entire Town of Hamburg as a direct service provide, thereby eliminating all future involvement and responsibility of the Town with respect to water system facilities within the Town of West Seneca, except for the payment of direct service hydrant maintenance fees to the Erie County Water Authority;

WHEREAS: the Town of West Seneca, in collaboration with the in collaboration with the Erie County Water Authority, is seeking capital funds to rehabilitate the Town's water system for this consolidation to achieve municipal cost savings and property tax relief;

WHEREAS: the Town of West Seneca, in collaboration with the Erie County Water Authority, will share in the decision-making processes related to this consolidation and subsequent ownership transfer;

WHEREAS: the Erie County Water Authority and the West Seneca Town Board entered into a draft Memorandum of Understanding in February 2013, and as such, support the consolidation and subsequent transfer of ownership to the Erie County Water Authority;

WHEREAS: the Town of West Seneca will serve as the lead agency for the purposes of securing and administering this grant; and

WHEREAS: the Town of West Seneca will provide the funds required to complete this project in order to achieve consolidation, estimated to be approximately \$6,500,000, inclusive of the 10% cash matching funds required by this grant;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Town of West Seneca Supervisor Sheila M. Meegan act as the Lead Applicant Contact Person to represent the Town of West Seneca in all matters related to this grant; its partner, the Erie County Water Authority designates Executive Engineer Wesley C. Dust as its representative to execute the Erie County Water Authority's administrative processes related to the 2012-2013 Local Government Efficiency Grant with the Town of West Seneca and the New York State Department of State to make capital improvements required to consolidate and transfer ownership of eight water districts and the Town's Water Hydrants to the Erie County Water Authority.

NOW BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Connie Miner, the Town of West Seneca Grants Consultant, be directed to prepare and submit an implementation grant application under the Local Government Efficiency Program to consolidate and transfer ownership of the Town of West Seneca water districts to the Erie County Water Authority.