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*First.* That the plans proposed are justified by public necessity.

*Second.* That said plans provide for the proper and safe construction of all work connected therewith.

*Third.* That said plans provide for the proper protection of the supply and the watershed from contamination and the purification of the supply and that filtration is at the present time unnecessary.

*Fourth.* That said plans are just and equitable to the other municipalities and civil divisions of the State affected thereby and to the inhabitants thereof, particular consideration being given to their present and future necessities for sources of water supply.

*Fifth.* That said plans make fair and equitable provisions for the determination and payment of any and all legal damages to persons and property, both direct and indirect, which will result from the execution of said plans or the acquiring of said lands.

Wherefore, the Water Control Commission does hereby approve the said application, maps and plans of the village of St. Johnsville as thus modified.

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In the Matter of the Application of the VILLAGE OF SCHAGHTICOKE for Approval of Its Acquisition of a Source of Water Supply and of its Financial and Engineering Plans for the Construction of a Water Supply System

Water Supply Application No. 353

(Water Control Commission, October 28, 1924)

Application approved as modified.

BY THE COMMISSION.—John W. Banker, president of the incorporated village of Schaghticoke, acting on behalf and in the name of said municipality, on August

14, 1924, made application to the Water Control Commission for approval of the project of said village for obtaining a source of water supply and the establishment of a water supply system therein. This application was filed in the office of the Commission August 16, 1924.

After due notice published in the *Schaghticoke Sun*, the hearing on this application was held in Odd Fellows hall in the village of Schaghticoke on September 12, 1924, at 10:00 o'clock in the forenoon. At this hearing the Commission considered the petition, maps and plans submitted, examined witnesses and heard arguments for and against the project, as shown by the minutes. The petitioner was represented by John W. Banker, village president, J. W. Richards, village clerk, and G. R. Solomon, engineer. Dr. G. R. Little, health officer, and sixteen other persons filed objections to certain portions of this application. They were represented at the hearing by Dr. Little.

On July 8, 1924, the Commission had caused the sites of the proposed work and the proposed source of water supply to be inspected by one of its engineers.

It is proposed to install a complete waterworks system in the village of Schaghticoke capable of supplying water for domestic purposes and fire protection to all parts thereof. Water is to be obtained from a dug well located in the river flats within the village limits and northeast of the central portion thereof. This well is to be formed by reinforced concrete caisson, about fifteen feet in diameter by twenty feet in depth. Entrance of surface wash and the flood waters of the river into this well is to be prevented by keeping the top of the concrete above the highest known flood, by grading the soil from the well about the curb and by constructing ditches to intercept surface water and carry it away from this structure. The

top of the well is to be covered and on it is to be constructed a brick pumping station about fifteen feet square. In this station is to be placed one fifty gallon per minute triplex plunger pump, automatically operated by an electric motor, and one fifty gallon per minute triplex plunger pump, actuated by a gasoline engine. Provision is to be made in the pumping station for the later installation of a large fire pump. Provision is also to be made for the sterilization, by liquid chlorine, of all water to be pumped from this well. This last is not to be installed unless the Commission finds it to be necessary. Water from the well is to be pumped through 850 feet of six-inch cast-iron force main to a 75,000 gallon elevated steel tank located on high ground northwest of the wells and near the east side of Valley Falls avenue. This tank is to be on a 100 foot tower. The distribution system is to consist of approximately 1,350 feet of eight-inch, 11,360 feet of six-inch and 800 feet of four-inch cast-iron pipe and twenty-eight fire hydrants.

Dr. Little and his associates objected to the proposed well as a source of water supply on the grounds that it was so located as to be subject to pollution from a neighboring dump and because the results of the analyses of water taken from the well were unsatisfactory. They were of the opinion that some other source of water supply would be more satisfactory.

After due study of the petition and its exhibits, the evidence and arguments given at the hearing and the report of the engineers of the Commission on this application, it appears as follows:

Schaghticoke is an incorporated village located on the north bank of the Hoosic river, in the town of Schaghticoke, in the northwesterly corner of Rensselaer county, about five miles east of Hudson river. This village is on the main line of the Fitchburg division of the Boston and Maine railroad. Formerly

it was a manufacturing town of some importance, but the larger mills have been closed with resulting loss of prosperity to the community. At present a cable flax mill, employing sixty hands, is the principal industry therein.

According to the petition the population of Schaghticoke was 568 in 1920 and is now estimated at 750. The total assessed valuation of property within this village was shown by the last roll to be \$581,002. The village has no bonded indebtedness.

At present there is no public water supply system of any sort in the village of Schaghticoke. Water for domestic purposes is obtained from ordinary individually owned dug and driven wells. The mills obtain water from the river, which is impure and discolored. Water under pressure for fire protection purposes is unobtainable, except at such mills as may be in operation. The installation of a water supply system is desired in order that the people of this community may profit by the convenience of water under pressure for domestic and industrial purposes and for fire protection. The people state that in their opinion, if such a system is installed, the former prosperity of this village will be in some measure restored and that without such a system the continued existence of this community will be threatened. It is evident that need for a water supply system in this village exists and that it should be installed if a reasonable project can be developed.

At a special meeting held July 22, 1924, the board of trustees of this village called a special taxpayers' election to pass upon the project now under consideration. This election was held August 5, 1924, and the proposition to construct this system and to issue village bonds in the amount of \$60,000 to defray the cost thereof was carried in the affirmative by a vote of

sixty-three to thirty-three. The making of this application to the Commission was authorized by vote of said board of trustees adopted at a meeting held August 15, 1924.

Gabriel R. Solomon, a consulting civil engineer with an office in the city of Troy, was employed as village engineer and the plans, reports and estimates on this project prepared by him were filed with the application.

It is proposed to obtain water from the dug well above described, sunk in the flats on the right bank of the Hoosic river adjacent to an existing back-water, which before the construction of the railroad is said to have been the main channel of that stream. These flats lie in an embayment in the plateau on which the village is built. They are bounded on the north, east and west by steep banks about 100 feet high, apparently largely consisting of sand. The plateau lying to the north of this embayment appears to be one of the sand plains typical of this portion of the State. A test well was put down on the site first selected; which penetrated about a foot of turf, nine feet of silt and quicksand, and then entered a stratum of clean, water-bearing sand and gravel. It is proposed to obtain the water supply for this village from this stratum.

Pumping from the test well appeared to indicate that it would be possible to obtain 30,000 gallons of water per day from such a source, which amount would be sufficient to meet the present needs of the people of this village. Until sewers are installed or some water-using industry is established the use of water therein will be relatively small. Furthermore, additional water can be obtained by sinking other wells in the same flats and not far distant from that proposed to be put down. In order to avoid the danger of contamination of the water in this well by surface

wash from a small ravine and by seepage from the dump mentioned by Dr. Little, the site was, subsequent to the hearing, changed to a point 350 feet east of the location of the test well.

Analyses of the water from the test well were made and the results filed with the application. These analyses showed the water to be decidedly hard and of poor sanitary quality. If the samples then analyzed could be considered as representative of the water to be furnished to the village, that water could be permitted to be used only after careful and elaborate purification. It appears, however, that the village authorities failed to take a sample of water for analysis when the well was pumped down, at which time only could a representative sample have been obtained. The sample actually analyzed was dipped from the well three weeks after pumping had ceased, during which time the well had filled up and the water in it was undoubtedly and visibly contaminated by surface wash and the cattle pastured on the neighboring flats. This sample was not representative and the results of the analysis can be considered informative only as to hardness. A careful examination of the surroundings of the proposed well would indicate that such water as will enter it from the land side should be pure and fit to drink, although very hard. If during heavy pumping water reaches it from the contaminated Hoosic river, that water probably will adequately be purified by passage through 100 feet or more of soil, sand and gravel before reaching the well.

The Commission believes that in so far as this question can be determined at the present time the water from the proposed well will be of proper quality. It will, however, require that the results of analyses of a representative sample of this water be submitted to it as soon as it is possible so to do and reserves the right to make additional requirements, in order to

protect the purity of the water proposed to be used, if the results of such analyses indicate necessity therefor. In any event it will reserve the right to require the sterilization with liquid chlorine of all water pumped from the well if future analyses fail to show water of high sanitary quality or if unfavorable conditions are discovered.

Bids for the construction of this proposed system have already been received, on the basis of which it appears probable that the work proposed can be completely constructed at a cost not exceeding the amount of the available appropriation.

In general the system as shown by the plans and specifications submitted will be adequate and safe. Owing to the change in the location thereof, final plans for the well and pumping station have not yet been made. Plans and specifications for the proposed elevated tank were not submitted, but will be filed later by the contractor for this part of the work. It will be required that these structures be completely constructed in conformity with plans and specifications which have previously been submitted to and approved by this Commission.

A plot of land comprising a little more than two acres is to be acquired on the river flats, which will include the site of the proposed well. A plot approximately seventy feet square will be acquired for the elevated tank. In addition certain rights of way for pipe lines will be needed. The greater part of the piping system is to be laid in public streets and roads.

Seven alternative sources of water supply for this village have been investigated and reported upon by the engineer. But two of these appear to deserve serious consideration, namely the obtaining of water by gravity from a small stream north of the village and the purchase of a supply of water from the Tomhannock reservoir of the city of Troy. Either of

these projects would be materially more expensive than that now proposed. It seems that the project now under consideration is probably the cheapest which can be developed by this village and, in view of the small size of Schaghticoke and the present state of business depression therein, as expensive a system as can be afforded by the people of this village.

The carrying out of this project will have no effect whatever on the water supply interests of any other municipality or civil division of the State.

The legal damages which may be caused by the execution of the plans of the petitioner do not appear to be such as to require any special consideration or legislative enactment in order that they may be equitably determined and paid.

Dr. Little's objections to the sanitary quality of the water were in part met by the action of the village in changing the location of the well. In making those objections Dr. Little showed commendable zeal in the carrying out of his duties as health officer of this village. The Commission believes, as above stated, that the sanitary conditions of the proposed well were not in fact as bad as he feared and that the change in location bettered the situation. With the various restrictions above mentioned the Commission feels that it can, in full conformity with its duty as set forth by the statute, approve of this source of water supply as to quality. Dr. Little and his associates believe that driven wells might be a more satisfactory source of supply. The only evidence as to this is that such a well sunk in the fair grounds north of the village gives water of rather high sulphur content. It seems to the Commission that such driven wells would probably penetrate and draw water from the same stratum tapped by the proposed well. Except for possible danger of sulphur water, such water might be of better quality than that obtained from the dug

well if that well were fed directly by seepage from Hoosic river. The cost would be greater and the Commission does not feel that the small added advantage could compensate for the increased cost. Dr. Little also desired that the estimated cost of the project be reviewed by another engineer. The employment of a consulting engineer is primarily a matter which is in the hands of the village authorities. They did not see fit to do so in this case, perhaps depending in some measure upon the review of the plans which would be given by this Commission. As bids have actually been received for this work and as such bids are the best possible evidence of the probable cost thereof, the Commission does not feel it necessary to require any such review of the estimated cost by an outside authority.

In view of the above, pursuant to authority given to it by statute, the Commission hereby determines it to be necessary to modify such application, maps and plans submitted, and they are hereby modified by imposing the following conditions:

1. In case future analyses or inspections shall indicate necessity therefor, the village of Schaghticoke shall install such apparatus for purifying the water to be pumped from the proposed well as the Commission may direct and thereafter shall operate such apparatus at such times as the Commission may order and in a manner satisfactory to the Commission.

2. The proposed well, pumping station and elevated steel tank shall be completely constructed in strict accordance with plans and specifications for that structure, which shall previously have been submitted to and approved by this Commission.

3. These works shall be completely constructed within two years of the date of this decision.

In consideration of the above, and subject to the

modifications heretofore stated, the Commission, therefore, finds and determines:

*First.* That the plans proposed are justified by public necessity.

*Second.* That said plans provide for the proper and safe construction of all work connected therewith.

*Third.* That said plans provide for the proper protection of the supply and the watershed from contamination and that filtration is at the present time unnecessary.

*Fourth.* That said plans are just and equitable to the other municipalities and civil divisions of the State affected thereby and to the inhabitants thereof, particular consideration being given to their present and future necessities for sources of water supply.

*Fifth.* That said plans make fair and equitable provisions for the determination and payment of any and all legal damages to persons and property, both direct and indirect, which will result from the execution of said plans or the acquiring of said lands.

Wherefore, the Water Control Commission does hereby approve the said application, maps and plans of the village of Schaghticoke as thus modified.

In the Matter of the Application of the VILLAGE OF WILLIAMSVILLE for Approval of Its New Source of Water Supply to be Provided Under Proposed Contract with the Western New York Water Company

Second Application—Amendments

Water Supply Application No. 270

(Water Control Commission, October 28, 1924)

Application approved as modified.

BY THE COMMISSION.—On November 3, 1921, the village of Williamsville made application to our prede-