



KingstonCitizens.org is a non-partisan, citizen-run organization focused on relevant and current issues about Kingston, N.Y. Our aim is to help to foster transparent communication via citizen participation.

Judith Hansen, Superintendent
Kingston Water Department
111 Jansen Avenue
Kingston, NY 12401
jhansen@kingston-ny.gov

Transmitted via e-mail

Re: Questions Posed by
KingstonCitizens.org at Board of Water
Commissioners Meeting, 11.12.2014

November 13, 2014

Dear Judith:

As discussed at yesterday's Board of Water Commissioners meeting, KingstonCitizens.org hereby submits the questions we posed to you and the commission for your responses:

1. **Infrastructure Capacity:** The infrastructure from Cooper Lake to Tech City has been delivering less water than when IBM was in operation. What Infrastructure work would be necessary, both immediately and incrementally, for the delivery of 1 million GPD to the proposed Niagara Bottling Facility, and who would be responsible for those updates and upkeep?
2. **New infrastructure:** An additional main would be necessary to bring 750,000 GPD to Tech City for a future expansion of the proposed Niagara Bottling Company. Where would the new water mains/pipes begin and end, and who would be responsible for the costs and upkeep of the mains? What is the City of Kingston's role in overseeing construction, as the Common Council has oversight – according to the City Charter – over the Water Board in this way (see § C11-Powers, which include the Council's purview over § C11-5. Water supply outside of city).

3. **Budget Projections:** Has the Water Board created an estimated budget to show the projected earnings from a water sale to Niagara? Over the course of how many years would the infrastructure costs be paid (\$17.925 was shown in Judith Hansen's presentation to the Conservation Advisory Council on October 14, 2014) and, at what point would the resident users' be affected? How much and for how long? If this is based on a no-growth scenario, please tell us how the Water Board anticipates a financial break-even point. Please provide a budget. If not available, please note this.
4. **Term Limits According to Law:** We have noticed that all of the members of the Water Board have served far beyond the five-year term stated in the Kingston Charter, the former president having served since 1981. Can you help us to understand where in the charter there is language that allows reappointments and no term limits? Please provide information regarding efforts to appoint new members to the Water Board. Also, please provide an explanation of the requirements according to New York State's Public Officers Law regarding efforts to appoint new members to the Water Board.
5. **Historical Data Regarding Infrastructure Costs:** As noted, we intend to collect data from the establishment of the water board in 1895 to the present. Please let us know how this can be made available, including – if necessary – access to data for a KingstonCitizens.org researcher.

We are requesting these responses as representatives of Kingston Citizens, a community-based organization. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. I may be reached by phone at (845) 389-2404 or email (jennifer@kingstoncitizens.org) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Schwartz Berky, Planning & Policy Advisor