

Town board lifts 5-year-old sewer moratorium

By Jessica Mosier Columbia-Greene Media | Posted: Friday, November 15, 2013 1:30 am

CAIRO — After years of hard work and discussion, a major issue has been resolved in the Town of Cairo.

The 2008 sewer moratorium was successfully and unanimously lifted with the passing of a resolution at Wednesday afternoon's general town board meeting.

In an email sent by Department of Environmental Conservation employees Kevin O'Conner and Andrea Dzierwa on Oct. 29, they agreed that the moratorium should be lifted.

"Please consider the moratorium lifted and the requirements of the order satisfied with this email," stated Conner and Dzierwa.

The town has successfully completed the work needed to satisfy the 2001, 2005 and 2008 consent orders.

"The consent orders required the town to develop, submit, and act on plans to reduce infiltration and inflow, manage high wet weather flows, assess the existing filters and repair or replace them as necessary," explained a letter written by Alan Tavenner of Delaware Engineering that was sent to the DEC in late August.

It was not until the last order that the town decided to institute a moratorium on new connections, that was in March of 2008.

Over the past five years, operational changes have been applied to the plant to bring Cairo in compliance with DEC.

As stated in the resolution, "The Town's sewer system is now capable of accepting new users and hook-ups — WE ARE OPEN FOR NEW BUSINESS."

"It has been a long time coming," said Town Supervisor Ted Banta.

Banta and town board members Doug Ostrander, Ray Suttmeier and Dan Joyce celebrated with congratulations and handshakes.

In other business, the town board unanimously passed the 2014 Town Budget with only one minor change.

"The only change was an added \$1,000 to highway," stated Banta.

The town board also passed a resolution appointing Richard Busch as Police Sergeant for the Town of Cairo Police Department. Busch has been serving as Provisional Sergeant for Cairo since March of this year.