

**LITCHFIELD WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
Remote Meeting by Live Internet Video Stream and by Telephone
August 13, 2020 ~ 7:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman David R. Wilson called the remote meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: William Buckley, Christian Bratina, David Geiger, David R. Wilson, and William "Sky" Post. Ted Donoghue, Plant Superintendent, and Ann Combs, Recording Secretary, were also present. Members of the public were present, and First Selectman Denise Raap hosted the Zoom meeting.

Absent: James Koser, Thomas Waterhouse and Raz Alexe, Public Works Director

SEATING ALTERNATES: D. Geiger and Sky Post were seated as regular members for James Koser and Thomas Waterhouse.

MINUTES

a) 6/11/20 Regular Meeting: Motion: W. Buckley moved to approve the minutes of 6/11/20 and Sky Post seconded. All voted aye except D. Geiger, who abstained because of absence, and the motion carried.

b) 7/9/20 Regular Meeting: Motion: W. Buckley moved to approve the 7/9/20 minutes and D. Geiger seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

BUSINESS

1. Tropical Storm Impact: Ted Donoghue showed photos of the storm damage at the plant Tuesday, August 4th. Between Stoddard Road and the front gate they had two poles and two massive trees come down, and a large tree fell on the generator. They lost power for five days, but the generator was put on line and performed as needed. They had to cut their way out of the plant via Trumbull Street. A crew from South Carolina came on Saturday and restored power. Northfield pump station was out for four days. Two days after the power was restored in Northfield the generator kicked on again. Eversource was called out again and verified no issues with line power. Ted called HO Penn to investigate as it could be an issues with transfer switch. C. Bratina asked about disaster assistance and Ted said he is keeping track of expenses for it.

2. Discussion about Woodridge Lake Sewer District: D. Wilson said that if they are not on the September funding list for the USDA. Another to hire an engineering firm for the plant's own facility plan is to be put on the Clean Water Fund priority list for January. The benefits for this is a possible 55% grant if the project is put on the Priority List. Regarding the RFQ, S. Post said they don't have an outline of the work needed. C. Bratina said this selection is based on the engineering firm's qualifications only. D. Wilson said they are looking for DEEP approvals along the way. W. Buckley outlined the process as he has known it in the past: securing qualifications by Sept. 15th; select those for interviews; conduct interviews in October and make a decision by November. Then we get the contract ready by the end of the year. D. Wilson added they should formulate the work they will do in a format that DEEP will fund. C. Bratina suggested setting up a committee to make a short list, but D. Wilson said to wait to see what the information is that we can gather from the DEEP. W. Buckley said they should keep the short list to two or three and ask them for a proposal. Ted noted that they do need to follow the detailed Quality based Selection (QBS) process if they are going for Clean Water Funds. Ted would reach out to the CT DEEP for more detailed information on this selection process. Ted suggested to have members make edits to the draft RFQ that Christian put together.

3. Update of Torrington Inter-Municipal Agreement: D. Wilson read part of the Torrington Ordinance regarding non-jurisdictional user fees. None of the changes we suggested to the draft are in conflict with that. Shared facilities are defined well. We will divide operating costs at the plant. They discussed looking at 50,000 gallons/day reserve as opposed to 150,000 gallons/day we are using now. They discussed details based possible future charges based on daily peak flows on Torrington Road and Hart Drive in the draft agreement. W. Buckley did not think the penalty clause was fair.

4. Commercial Industry Discharge to WWCF: T. Donoghue said they are setting up the composite sampler at Arethusa. Samples show BOD in line with their data but TSS samples showed a wide range of results. They will collect samples at the beginning of the week during their top production days. They have not focused on the Distillery as of right now.

5. Collection System Work: Ted Donoghue said they put in the HOBOS in the Bantam system. Data was consistent with no major problems. There has not been much rain. They will move to a different section of the system. Ted is waiting for a delivery of N95 masks for use with any jetting and grouting work that will need to be performed.

5. Plant Equipment Updates

a) **UV System:** Peak design flow number is needed for potential new UV system; the E. coli numbers have been good recently.

b) **Raw Influent Composite Sampler:** Has been on line since June 11th. In July there were 767 lbs/day on average of raw BOD coming into the plant. The TSS numbers are much lower than BOD. Overall, the plant is running very well.

Ted reported the Hach Wims has been received. Yucatech will put together some information for review. The question is how to get into the system. Perhaps a dedicated laptop with a tunnel to the server may work. C. Bratina said he should have the Hach Wims done by mid-September.

c) **Mechanical Bar Screen:** They will do the Hach Wims and UV first before this, perhaps pushing it to the winter or early spring as Ted insist that we have our new system online by May of 2021

d) **Anoxic Mixer:** It has been received.

e) **Sludge Mixers/Sludge Recirculation Pump:** Ted said it should be on route from Sweden.

f) **DO/ORP SC200 Controller:** They put in the new SC200 controller. He had to buy an LDO sensor, but they are up and running.

7. Safety: Ted said there have been no accidents or issues related to the storm.

8. Commissioner's Requests: S. Post asked about Arethusa increasing its prices and any potential impacts, and there was a short discussion.

9. Public Works / Treatment Plant Report: Permit compliance has been maintained since the last report. Routine operations and maintenance work continues. The average daily flow for the month of July was 0.246 MGD and the total flow was 7.627 MG. We removed 6500 gallons of sludge for final disposal during the month of June.

- We processed a total of 101,500 gallons of septage during the month of July, a 19% decrease over last July.

- For June effluent BOD removal percent was 99% and TSS removal percent was 98%. The minimal removal rates per our NPDES permit is 85%.
- The daily average of Total Nitrogen lbs. /day discharged into the Bantam River was 3.0 mg/ or 6 lbs. /day. Our daily limit is 24 lbs. /day.
- The daily average for Total Phosphorous lbs. /day discharged in the Bantam River was 2.1 mg/l. or 4.3 lbs. /day. The monthly average cannot exceed 3.7 mg/l or 9.97 lbs. /day.
- On 7/6/20 the repair of the sewer line was performed on the Vanderpoel/Doyle Rd. easement. We also zeroed the two flow meters with Ed from Torrington WPCA.
- On 7/7/20 Neponset Controls calibrated the effluent, WAS, RAS and FST flow meters. They also correctly programmed the ISCO meter at the Northfield pump station.
- On 7/13/20 picked up refurbished RAS pump from Hydrotec. It was re-installed on 7/23/20.
- On 7/24/20 set up first composite sample at Arethusa Dairy.
- On 7/28/20 Ted and Jim zeroed the Morris flow meter.

a) **Easements:** No report

b) **Operations** – No report

c) **Septic Flow Meter:** No report


10. Financial Report: T. Donoghue reported the sewer use bills will be ready to go out next week. The budget is off to a good start, listing the big ticket items in July.

11. Old Business

a) **Second Vehicle:** No report

b) **FY 2019 Audit:** C. Bratina noted this audit has never been reconciled. He suggested giving them another month, and then if nothing happens, hiring our own independent auditor for FY 2020. There were changes made, but Ted could not get the details of what was the journal correction requested by the auditors.. Finance Director Amaechi Obi said to trust Munis and not the audit, as the two did not agree. D. Raap said she would be happy to set up a meeting to review the audit, including the Finance Director and the auditor. C. Bratina said the WPCA has a fiduciary responsibility to the Town to make sure the money is properly spent and all the funds are correct. C. Bratina said that if they cannot reconcile this for us, we can hire an independent auditor. W. Buckley agreed and wanted to know where the disconnection was. D. Raap will set up a meeting.

12. Adjournment: Motion: W. Buckley moved to adjourn at 8:57 p.m. and C. Bratina seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.



Ann D. Combs, Recording Secretary