

**LITCHFIELD WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MEETING  
Remote Meeting by Live Internet Video Stream and by Telephone  
July 9, 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, David Geiger, James Koser, David R. Wilson, Thomas Waterhouse (7:38 p.m.) and William “Sky” Post. Ted Donoghue, Plant Superintendent. Members of the public were present, and First Selectman Denise Raap hosted the Zoom meeting.

Absent: Christian Bratina and Raz Alexe, Public Works Director

**SEATING ALTERNATES:** Sky Post was seated as a regular member.

**MINUTES**

**a) 6/11/20 Regular Meeting:** D. Wilson suggested passing on approval, as not everyone had a chance to read them.

**BUSINESS**

**1. Discussion about Woodridge Lake Sewer District:** There is now a funding deadline of September, 2020 that will determine WPCA funding for next year. WLSL may be under a time constraint because of plant apparatus condition. The WPCA, per CT General Statutes Sections 246 and 247 is quasi-separate from the Town, with its duties spelled out in our Town ordinance. The WPCA is responsible for the sewers, budgeting and negotiating inter-municipal agreements; however, they need Town meeting approval for bonding a project. Because of the public interest in this project, the First Selectman has asked the WPCA to hold a public informational meeting soon to allow the public to ask questions and get answers. W. Buckley said he was willing but it should be clear that the members of the WPCA are nowhere near being ready for a presentation. The members are not even in agreement with each other on needs. D. Geiger said they don't have enough information to make a presentation. T. Donoghue said they gave DPC Engineering a decade of data that they put into their modeling software to analyze for potential upgrade work in Litchfield in order to accept the flows from WLSL. T. Donoghue said there are different calculations that are used to determine loading, and DPC used a value that was based on the EPA standard, so there was a lot of additional loading that we do not agree with. W. Buckley said he would rather have a consultant working for us to analyze the data to see what has to be done for the Litchfield plant alone. D. Wilson emphasized that a key question is what the true plant loading really is. W. Buckley said that we have sent a signal to the public that we were supporting the WSLD project. He thought that before we negotiate an inter-municipal agreement with an adjacent community, we need to know what the cost of our entire Litchfield plant upgrade would be. Only then should we sit down with WLSL to negotiate and figure out what the host benefit would be to let them into our plant. The WPCA members are fragmented and we need to have a discussion amongst ourselves. Ted Donoghue summarized the loading concerns and the sampling they are doing. D. Geiger agreed they need a cohesive statement on capacity first, and maybe we should tell WLSL we cannot participate in any talk about funding if the deadline is September. All agreed the plant has been running the best it ever has. On question by Sky Post, D. Wilson estimated it would take about 6 months to a year and \$75,000 - \$80,000 consultant work to get us to where we are ready to negotiate. The source of payment for this work would come from the Capital Non-Recurring account, Fund 66. After discussion on how to proceed, they agreed to go out for qualifications for an engineering firm, but wanted to wait for C. Bratina to be present to act.

**Motion:** W. Buckley moved to delay action on this item; i.e., going out for qualifications for an engineering firm, until the next meeting when C. Bratina is present. T. Waterhouse seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

**2. Update of Torrington Inter-Municipal Agreement:** D. Wilson said Torrington has been back to us to answer our question on this year's user fee in Torrington. It is 50% O&M of their plant, and 50% debt service for ongoing projects and sinking fund for their portion of the upgrade. Taking our flows and doing the calculations, our cost should be three times less than what we are paying now. We need to strike that language from the draft agreement, and Harwinton agrees. Mr. Wilson will sit down with Harwinton and Litchfield to iron out the terms.

**3. Commercial Industry Discharge to WWCF:** D. Wilson said there is a problem with Arethusa running close to 600 gallons/day. We will install our composite sampler to determine what they are putting out. Arethusa's discharge permit is out of date and should be addressed. Ted said they are about 1/3 of our loading Monday through Thursday. Ted reminded the group that Arethusa is working with us and is paying a surcharge. We will, however, continue to work with them on daily flows.

**4. Collection System Work:** Ted Donoghue said they did their first repair of the season between Vanderpoel Ave. and Doyle Road. When the pipe was exposed, they found it completely submerged in water. They are monitoring results. They will start slowly doing some CCTV work and jetting, using the PPE suits.

#### **5. Plant Equipment Updates**

**a) UV System:** C. Bratina has done the design parameters for a new system. He would like to go out to bid, hopefully with the draft of the bid document by next meeting.

**b) Raw Influent Composite Sampler:** There are four samplers currently on line. The raw influent sampler is at the head of the plant, sampling pure waste water with no side streams. This should show a lot less loading coming into the plant than has been reported. The second sampler comes after the grit chamber, with septage mixed into it. The primary effluent sampler is located after the two primary settling tanks, and they are now sampling the filtrate mixed in with that.

**c) Anoxic Mixer:** The anoxic mixer has been delivered to the plant.

**d) Sludge Mixers/Sludge Recirculation Pump:** Since approving a sludge mixer last month, Ted said he has not found one domestically, so they are building it now in Sweden with delivery expected in 4-6 weeks. The SC 200 controller and the Hach Wims have been ordered and he expects them any day. Bob Leigh of Yucatech is familiar with the software, as he has installed it in the waste water plant in New Milford. C. Bratina is working on the parameters to be set up in the new program.

**6. Safety:** Ted said there has not been training during the pandemic.

**7. Commissioner's Requests:** None

**8. 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 June was 0.290 MGD and the total flow was 8.697 MG. We removed 84,500 gallons of sludge for final disposal during the month of June.

- We processed a total of 110,750 gallons of septage during the month of June a 35% decrease over last June. Year to date we are at a 3.88% increase. D. Wilson said he would like to know from the next consultant how much it costs to treat 1,000 gallons of septage. He contends that

the more seepage taken in, the less we make because of the cost of treatment. The haulers are all working to get their sight glasses calibrated.

- For June effluent BOD removal percent was 99% and TSS removal percent was 97%. The minimal removal rates per our NPDES permit is 85%.
- The daily average of Total Nitrogen lbs. /day discharged into the Bantam River was 2.8mg/ or 7 lbs. /day. Our daily limit is 24 lbs. /day.
- The daily average for Total Phosphorous lbs. /day discharged in the Bantam River was 2.0 mg/l. or 5.0 lbs. /day. The monthly average cannot exceed 3.7 mg/l or 9.97 lbs. /day.
- On 6/4/20 we conducted our quarterly Aquatic toxicity test. Survival rates for *Daphnia pulex* (water fleas) and *Pimephales promelas* (fat head minnows) was 100%. If the mean percent survival rate for either or both species is less than 90%, the effluent is determined to be toxic.
- On 6/4/20 NIC connected the new raw influent composite sampler. It went into use on 6/11/20.
- On 6/18/20 RAS pump #2 was taken to have a new impeller and wear rings installed.
- Old Business. 1) Second vehicle. 2) Easements. 3) Influent/Septage study. 4) UV System. 5) Anoxic Mixer. 6) Mechanical Bar Screen.

**a) Easements:** None

**b) Operational – Rotary Drum thickener Performance:** No report

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

**d) Equipment: Influent Sampler – Bar Screen:** T. Donoghue said they are looking to purchase a mechanical bar screen in this fiscal year.

**9. Financial Report:** T. Donoghue reported the revenue is \$100,000 higher than last year at this time. There are still some expenses to put into the books, so the report should be finalized by next month. D. Wilson said the accounting firm says we have to put depreciation in as an expense. He asked Ted to go back to the firm to see what components are in the \$22,000 number.

## **10. Old Business**

**a) Second Vehicle:** No report

**b) UV Replacement:** See above

**11. Adjournment: Motion:** W. Buckley moved to adjourn at 9:08 p.m. and S. Post seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Ann D. Combs, Recording Secretary