

Approved 12/12/19

**LITCHFIELD WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
29 Stoddard Road, Bantam, CT
November 14, 2019 ~ 7:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER: David R. Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Christian Bratina, William Buckley, James Koser, David R. Wilson, Ted Donoghue, Plant Superintendent, Raz Alexe, Public Works Director, and Ann Combs, Recording Secretary

Absent: David Geiger

SEATING ALTERNATES: None

MINUTES

a) 5/9/19 Regular Meeting: Motion: C. Bratina moved to adopt the regular meeting minutes of 5/9/19 and W. Buckley seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

b) 10/10/19 Regular Meeting: Motion: C. Bratina moved and J. Koser seconded a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes of 10/10/19. All voted aye except W. Buckley, who abstained because of absence, and the motion carried.

J. Koser was recommended for appointment as the WPCA member on the Capital Improvements Committee by consensus.

BUSINESS

1. Public Requests: None

2. Discussion about Woodridge Lake Sewer District: D. Wilson said they have not heard back from DEEP. There is a move to reclassify the waters of the Bantam River from A to B, a recreational grade. They are flow monitoring for us for 12 weeks.

3. Torrington Inter-Municipal Agreement: W. Buckley agreed to work with D. Wilson on the IMA, and D. Wilson gave him a draft as well as the previous draft for comparison. He will read through so they can discuss. Our cost would have been triple what it is now per the first proposal. W. Buckley asked whether they will have an IM negotiating committee as noted in Chapter 7, and D. Wilson said he would look into it.

4. 2020 WPCA Regular Scheduled Meeting Dates: Motion: W. Buckley moved and J. Koser seconded a motion to approve the 2020 meeting dates as presented. All voted aye and the motion carried. D. Wilson signed it for Ted to file.

5. 216 Circle Drive: Ted said there was a blockage around the manhole and it leached into the connector. This house, originally a duplex, only has one active pipe. They cleared out the blockage in the spring and recently revisited it. The pipe is broken and the collapse is getting worse. He got 3 quotes: 1) Hemlock \$16,000 for the whole repair (100 ft. from manhole to property line) and \$13,300 (for 40 ft. of pipe); 2) Knox \$16,750 and \$9,800, and 3) Deacon 100 ft. \$9,000 + \$2,000 shrub and tree removal, with \$2,500 for the manhole relining and shoring up. Ted recommends fixing this problem now and address the rest of the street later. **Motion:** W. Buckley moved to award to Deacon the base work of 100 ft. for \$9,000 and the

manhole of \$2,500, take the tree down and take out shrubs and replace them, with cost not to exceed \$13,500. C. Bratina seconded, and all voted aye; motion carried.

6. 112 Circle Drive: D. Wilson explained that the owner said he keeps getting billed for two units and had paid. He had bought it from his mother in 1992. It is a duplex converted to a one-family. There was no building permit at the conversion, and they do not know when it was changed. After being confirmed by the Assessor and Building Inspector, Sandy adjusted the bill to one EDU and changed the mailing address, as it was still being sent to his now-deceased mother. The man has requested a rebate from 1992 forward. There are no provisions in the statutes to do this, as it is not a clerical error. W. Buckley felt it was not fair that he had to pay double. D. Wilson said they can either respond to him or wait for him to come back. **Motion:** C. Bratina moved that the Chairman respond that we made the change as soon as the Assessor corrected the error. J. Koser seconded, and all voted aye except W. Buckley who voted no; motion carried.

7. Collection System Work: Ted said they found the four missing manholes on Russell St. that had been buried for decades. They did jetting at 216 Circle Drive and CCTV'd. D. Wilson asked for recording of how many feet they've done monthly for the CMOM report. Ted is hoping they can enter data into the tablet in the field.

a) **Jetting/Cleaning:** see above

b) **CCTV Work:** see above

8. Plant Equipment Update

a) **UV System:** C. Bratina says the issue in upgrading the system is finding the maximum flow for the system in this plant. Ted pulled together all the data for flows in excess of the design peak hour flow of 2.13 MGD so we can analyze the cause. Some were caused by manually cleaning the influent bar screen and some by discharging septage into the plant influent, which could be minimized by installing a mechanically operated bar screen and increasing the septage receiving capacity. Unfortunately we do not have flow charts or thorough flow records, though we did find daily flow reports with the peak hour flows for several years. At this time it appears that the actual peak hour flow is around 4.5 MGD. Ted is gathering more data. In addition, the peak hour flow would increase if Woodridge Lake is added. Another issue that came up is that we have not received records of the flow meter calibration and reportedly it was only zero'd and not spanned. Thus we do not know if our recorded flows are correct. Ted has arranged for another technician to properly calibrate the plant flow meter, documenting its accuracy before any adjustments so we can factor that into previous flow data.

b) **BST and FST Sludge Mixers:** Ted said the submersible mixers in both tanks died about three weeks ago. D. Wilson suggested getting a used one to get by. Ted talked to Ken from Hydrotech and got a price for two sets of different mixers: one from Fleet for \$16,132 each and a variable speed for \$25,213. The new mixers are 3-blade as opposed to two that we have. He can ask Ken if he has one we could lease or loan, at least for the finish sludge tank. Dave also mentioned a consortium for sharing equipment. Ted said he'd like to procure one for the FST tank. C. Bratina will get the tank dimensions and said we need to get additional quotes, and that a recirculation pump is another option. **Motion:** W. Buckley moved to authorize Ted to purchase one of the mixers at a cost not to exceed \$16,133. J. Koser seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

c) **Brentwood Inspection of Settling Tanks:** Ted said this may get pushed to the spring. The vendor came out, did a full inspection of the tanks, and made a report. Kovacs Construction is the Brentwood representative, so Ted would like to talk to them and share the report to make recommendations.

9. Safety: Ted said Raz Alexe did safety training on silica.

10. Commissioner's Requests: None

11. Public Works / Treatment Plant Report

a) Easements: No report

b) Operational: Ted reported permit compliance has been maintained with the exception of exceeding monthly average for lbs/day of phosphorus and nitrogen. Routine operations and maintenance work continues. The average daily flow for September was 0.340 MGD and the total flow was 10.540 MG. They removed 39,000 gallons of sludge. BOD removal was 99% and TSS was 99%. The daily average for total nitrogen lbs. /day discharged was 7.1 mg/L, or 25 lbs. /day. The daily average for total phosphorous lbs. /day was 4.3 mg/L, or 13.1 lbs. /day.

Incidents acted on include:

- 10/1/19: Drained center aeration tank to install new rail system for nitrate return pump rail system; pump was installed on 10/15/19.
- 10/9/19: Both hard drives failed on main SCADA computer. NIC repaired/replaced. One of the radios failed in the sludge thickening room, and it is obsolete and used is not available. He would like to replace all four out of his operating budget at about \$1000 each. Because it is a purchase over \$3,000, he is informing the group.
- 10/15/19: Blockage on private building connector at 101 North Street. Did dye test to confirm line in tile manhole.
- 10/16/19: Cummins did load bank testing on the main plant generator.
- 10/18/19: Results of Annual Aquatic Toxicity Report showed all chemical determinations were within compliance limits.
- 10/24/19: Smoke testing at 202-204 South Street confirmed the curtain drain from the tennis court is connected to the collection system. Ted will send them a letter.
- 10/31/19: Three alarms due to high winds: 2 at the plant and one in Northfield.
- Plant Water System: Ted said it was reported that the returned pump's shrill noise was from corrosion build-up on the stainless steel impeller. This should not have happened on a brand new pump. They serviced it and tested it and said it was fine. It should be back on Monday. Commissioners did not accept the vendor's explanation.

c) Septic: They processed 126,800 gallons of septage in October, a 16% decrease over last October. Year to date they are at 15% increase.

d) Equipment: No report

12. Financial Report: Ted reported spending 22% through the first 10 days of November. He has spent 47% of the budget, including the new encumbrance, for the first 6 months. D. Wilson said 80% of billings have come in so far.

13. Old Business

a) Second Vehicle: Ted said Dave found a vehicle they can look at on Maple Street.

14. Adjournment: Motion: W. Buckley moved to adjourn at 9:03 p.m. and C. Bratina seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Ann D. Combs

Ann D. Combs, Recording Secretary