

**LITCHFIELD WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
29 Stoddard Road, Bantam, CT
July 11, 2019 ~ 7:30 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER: David R. Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: David Geiger, James Koser, David R. Wilson, Ted Donoghue, Plant Superintendent, and Ann Combs, Recording Secretary

Absent: Christian Bratina, William Buckley, Raz Alexe, Public Works Director

SEATING ALTERNATES: D. Geiger was seated as a regular member.

MINUTES

- a) **5/9/19 Regular Meeting:** Approval was delayed until the next meeting.
- b) **6/13/19 Regular Meeting:** Approval was delayed until the next meeting.

BUSINESS

1. Public Requests: None

2. Discussion with Woodridge Lake Sewer District: Richard Reis, Director of the Woodridge Lake Sewer District, and Jeff Clark, Finance Committee, were present. They've been working with DEEP for many years to resolve the consent order that was issued to WLS D and possibly send sewage to Torrington. Three years ago they got approval from the taxpayers to take \$15.5 million in USDA grant and bond money, 40 years at 2.25%, and had begun working on an inter-municipal agreement with the Torrington WPCA. This process to work out a solution has slowed down dramatically due to numerous issues, including when the Torrington Water Co. said WLS D preferred route could pollute the Allyn Reservoir. After resolving those concerns, which have taken nearly three years, the cost of the project has increased to \$22 million. The USDA regional office in Massachusetts wants to help rural communities but considers Torrington a city and not a rural community so this project does not meet their mandate. The USDA offered three alternatives to help WLS D get the funding they need.: 1) Continue to negotiate with Torrington and pursue Clean Water Funding; 2) Build a new plant and pipe fluid to a class B waterway; and 3) connect with Litchfield. The USDA can provide a preliminary engineering report of reviews up to \$30,000 to Litchfield and Woodridge Lake to study a possible linkage. The DEEP supports all three options, but has no money, so the Torrington option is off the plate for them. Building a new plant and piping is not a smart idea for them, but if they are going to pipe to the same class B waterway as Litchfield, it would seem more viable to combine forces by going out of the plant business, construct a pipe and work out a deal with Litchfield. They would like to investigate this option and asked that the Litchfield WPCA talk about the possibility and form a working group with WLS D. They have 16 miles of collection system and 682 connection with an average daily flow of .11 MGD, and have been attacking I&I problems and CCTV-ing and rehabbing about four miles of their collection system per year. WLS D peak flow is .190 MGD on average. Our design flow is 800,000 gal./day; wet weather flow is 1.4 MGD, with peak flows at 2.5 MGD. Ted shared that our seasonal YTD flows are around 400,000 gal/day. Historically, a six-year average flow is 450,000 gal/day. Mr. Reis said about 50% of Woodridge Lake people are away in the winter. D. Geiger voiced concerns about the work Litchfield already needs to perform to reduce I & I and protect plant design capacity. D. Wilson concurred and stated that before Litchfield would agree to have a working meeting, we would need to get the best data on their flows and I&I to studies. They agreed to share their data and gave it to Ted at the meeting. Once the WPCA reviews it they will respond back to WLS D request.

3. Collection System Work: Ted said there were two major points. They followed up on piping on North St, in front of Form School, and only found grit. And no roots. There are concerns about the VCP that goes under North St as it was showing cracking. The other challenge was finding manholes that were paved over by Public Works. As of the meeting all of these manholes had been uncovered.

- a) **Jetting/Cleaning:** No report
- b) **CCTV Work:** No report

4. Plant Equipment Updates

a) **UV System:** A representative from Trojan will come to look at putting an horizontal system in the spare channel. Ted and C. Bratina are working on the language and determining whether a horizontal system or vertical is best.

b) **Nitrate Return Pumps:** There should delivered the second week in August. Ted will call to see if the elbows could be delivered sooner.

c) **Side Mount Mower:** Ted said the mowing and maintaining on the sewage rights-of-way could be done much more effectively with a side mount flail mower. He got 3 prices on mowers: one from Ferri for \$11,591, a Muchacho for \$12,000 and a Ventura ditch bank flail mower for \$11,775. D. Wilson asked about using DPW's equipment, but they won't lend it and they don't know the areas of the ROWs. Ted said this type of mower is much more versatile than the brush hog. The Commission aske Ted to consider sub-contracting this work out and he will reach out to some possible vendors and get pricing.

5. Safety: Ted reported no issues and no training.

6. Commissioner's Requests: None

7. Public Works / Treatment Plant Report

a) **Easements:** None

b) **Operational:** Ted reported permit compliance has been maintained, with the exception of one effluent non-compliance event. Routine operations and maintenance work continues. The average daily flow for June was 0.396 MGD and the total flow was 11.867 MG. They removed 71,500 gallons of sludge. Sludge cost was \$7,300 over for year end. BOD removal was 99% and TSS was 99%. The daily average for total nitrogen lbs. /day discharged was 2.8 mg/L, or 10 lbs. /day. The daily average for total phosphorous lbs. /day was 1.6 mg/L, or 5 lbs. /day.

Incidents acted on include:

- 6/10/19: reported an effluent non-compliance event for exceeded daily maximum for E. coli. The count was 1413.6/100 ml and the results of necessary hosing of algae in the settling tanks.
- 6/11/19: Dave and Ted had a meeting with Chris from Arethusa to discuss the surcharge and sampling protocol. Dave and Ted preferred they go to composite sampling.
- 6/13/19: discovered that Public Works paved over 7 manholes during their shimming projects.
- 6/22/19: power outage occurred at 10:30 a.m. Ted responded and found the circuit breakers did not automatically switch back when the line power was restored.
- 6/24/19: Jim started mowing rights-of-way after fixing the tractor.

Old Business:

- 202-204 South Street Illicit Connections: No report

- RAS Pumps: No report
- Energy Action Program: No report

c) **Septic:** They processed 171,100 gallons of septage in June, a 24% increase over last June. Year to date shows a 24% increase over last year.

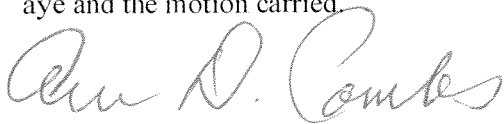
d) **Equipment:** Possible RAS pumps, UV system, truck, possible brush mower

8. Financial Report: Ted reported some large expenses at the end of June, but finished with a surplus of \$2,000 - \$3,000. Revenue as of today was \$40,000 over budget. All in all, they got a lot of work done this past fiscal year. He will see a 20% increase in the operational budget this year because of increased insurance costs. Morris flows were high and they got a penalty charge. They should be 8.5% of our flow, but averaging 9% because of above normal precipitation and I&I.

9. Old Business

a) **Second Vehicle:** Ted said an F-350 with a lower gear ratio for towing and single cab, used, would be acceptable. He was advised to look around for a good used truck. Ted also said he would like to add garage space in the future. He said they need a second vehicle so the Town does not have exposure with employees using their own vehicles. D. Wilson believed they could operate with one truck. They decided to write the bid specs with "either used or new."

10. Adjournment: Motion: D. Geiger moved to adjourn at 9:05 p.m. and J. Koser seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.



Ann D. Combs, Recording Secretary