

MINUTES
LITCHFIELD WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
29 Stoddard Road, Bantam, CT
October 9, 2014 ~ 7:30 PM

CALL TO ORDER: Acting Chairman David Geiger called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present: David Geiger, James Koser, Robert D'Andrea, Christian Bratina (7:35 p.m.) and William Buckley. Also present were Superintendent Ted Donoghue and Recording Secretary Ann Combs. Absent: David R. Wilson, Public Works Director Jack Healy

SEATING ALTERNATES: Mr. Geiger seated Mr. Bratina as a regular member in Mr. Wilson's absence at 7:35 p.m.

MINUTES

- a) **August 14, 2014:** Tabled

- b) **September 11, 2014: Motion:** J. Koser moved to approve the meeting minutes of 9/11/14 and R. D'Andrea seconded. All voted aye except W. Buckley, who abstained because of absence, and the motion carried.

BUSINESS

1) Public Requests

a) **Wray – 722 Bantam Road:** Doc and Joanne Wray were present to ask for a waiver on the installation of a separate lateral to their detached garage in back of their home. They said the drawing was incorrect in showing a line going all around the building. They would like to put a bathroom in the garage and connect it to the existing lateral for the house. Joanne said that even though the rules call for a separate lateral, they would like to have that waived as the WPCA did for the Fischers on North Lake Street.

Motion: W. Buckley moved to allow the connection from the existing house lateral, and J. Koser seconded. T. Donoghue said the regulations dictate a clean-out every 70 ft. and Mr. Wray agreed, saying the lateral would be 300 feet. Mr. Donoghue said the Sewer permit is \$50, and they would have to put down crushed stone and have an inspection. Mr. Buckley withdrew his motion, and Mr. Koser his second.

Motion: W. Buckley moved to allow a connection to be run from the main home to the garage subject to conditions in the code of ordinances and regulations and rules stated by the Superintendent. J. Koser seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried. There will be no connection fee.

- 2) **Safety:** Ted reported no accidents and said Jack and Naomi are setting up CIRMA training.

- 3) **Commissioner's Requests:** None

- 4) **Definition of an EDU:** Sandy asked for clarification as to what constitutes an EDU. Samples of EDU definitions were provided from other states and CT towns, including Litchfield's which defines an EDU as one single family dwelling with usage equal to approximately 42,500 gallons per unit per year. This discussion was tabled until another meeting.

5) Public Works / Treatment Plant Report

- a) **Easements:** R. D'Andrea said George Simoncelli was moving his office so they will get back to it next week.
- b) **Equipment - Influent Channel Grinder Expected Delivery:** Mr. Donoghue said there was a slowdown and it took three weeks for JWC to review, approve submittals and sign the notice to proceed. All is on track now with delivery set for 10/31/14.
- c) **Septic:** T. Donoghue said they are up 18% for year to date and close to budget. He will track sludge removed to Naugatuck for comparison to the last two years. The fee to haul/gallon went up slightly, about 1 cent. He will also track polymer usage. They are using more and getting 6% solids now, and the yield has been good. Also, the pump is more efficient. To upgrade the sewage meter, he will look into flowmeters, perhaps a magmeter (magnetic flow meter). Christian will send Ted some information.
- d) **Energy:** D. Geiger met with the Energy Task Force and found their data was not very detailed and did not take into consideration the current rate structure for purchasing electricity at the plant. They based their data on total annual consumption divided by 18 cents per KWH. In reality we only pay 11 cents per KWH with some breaks in rates. They will go back and revisit their calculations based on more accurate rate data. The potential savings for a solar array will be drastically less than they thought. D. Wilson also wanted them to look at the old drying beds for a permanent maintenance building. T. Donoghue said there are currently two delivery charges on their bill: one for peak annual demand, paying for electricity they may not be using, and the 30-minute peak demand for each month which varies. It shows that the peak annual demand in January has the effect of 40% of the current electric bill. Ted will work on the peak and the energy audit will begin this Tuesday. The engineering firm J K Muir will be conducting it. The January peak is due to the heating system. Ted said they have been trending down with overall electrical usage. C. Bratina suggested putting a watt meter on the circuit for both heat pumps. It could be more cost effective to switch to oil. Ted will continue to work on getting workable data.
- e) **Morris Flow Meter Update:** Ted said a new NE Environmental Rep called, and after hearing the background, said he would talk to Bob Mack. Bob called Ted regarding the check they thought was from Litchfield. They then realized it was from the Morris WPCA and they had not given them a new meter. That has now been cleared up and the new meter for Morris should arrive here any day. Next Mr. Mack gave a proposal for remedying the loaner demo.
- f) **Operational:** It's been the best summer they could have from a nitrogen perspective with average flow down. They removed more sludge to get ahead for the winter. BOD and TSS removal were both 99%. Total nitrogen released was 11.5 lbs/day. They conducted the quarterly aquatic toxicity test on the 4th. They installed 50' of new tubing at the Torrington Road meter in response to high readings. They sold the old IH tractor to auction and got \$506. They replaced the hose on the TWAS pump for \$730. They repaired the manhole frame on the East Street line. There was an alarm call at the Northfield pump station on 9/27 where one of the pumps failed to start. There have been no issues since, but the pumps are 15 years old. He thinks the wear rings may need to be adjusted. Finally, he announced the First Selectman and Public Works Director have offered him the Superintendent position, with a bump of \$5,000 when he passes the Class 4 test. He will start officially on October 13th. Approval is given also for the separate classifications without necessarily manning them. The Union has to write a letter showing they understand the classification point. He thanked everyone for their support.

- g) **Authorize expenditure from Fund 66 in totaling up to \$4,000 for 4 hoists:** T. Donoghue said he would like each mixer to have its own hoist, and his recommendation was the lowest of the three quotes. J. Healy supports this expenditure. **Motion:** W. Buckley moved to authorize expenditure from Fund 66 (capital non-recurring) of up to \$4,000 for four hoists as recommended by T. Donoghue. J. Koser second, all voted aye and the motion carried.
- h) **Authorize expenditure from Fund 66 in totaling up to \$4,125 to repair and extend fence on north side of facility.** T. Donoghue reported there is now \$475,000 in Fund 66. Rose Bouchard, Finance Director, put more in today. He got three quotes, and Eagle Fence was the best price. With a fence extension included it was decided there is both repair and purchase of an extension involved. **Motion:** R. D'Andrea moved to authorize expenditure from Fund 66 of up to \$4,125 to repair and extend the fence on the north side of the facility. J. Koser seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.
- 6) **Financial Report:** T. said Sandy has done very well with collections, 63% of revenue collected thus far. Both Hunters Chase and Indian Knolls are putting in new foundations, which will help with connection fees. For the first quarter of the budget year, they have used about 27% which puts them in a strong position, having spent more at the outset on big ticket items. Expenses should drop down going into the winter season, so the slight overage should balance out.
- 7) **Quarterly Goals and Objectives:** Ted is waiting for the proposal for weir gaging, saying it will save money keeping water out of the system. He will also report on grease trap inspections next month. Ted has been tracking water consumption at Arethusa relative to the BOD loading surcharge and has come up with some ideas of how to charge. C. Bratina said he really should start billing in some way in case another similar business comes on line.
- 8) **Adjournment: Motion:** W. Buckley moved to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. and J. Koser seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Ann D. Combs
Recording Secretary