

**LITCHFIELD WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Town Hall Annex, 80 Doyle Road, Bantam**  
**Thursday, July 8, 2021 ~ 7:30 p.m.**  
**No Remote Meeting by Live Internet Video Stream or by Telephone**

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

**ROLL CALL**

Present: William Buckley, Christian Bratina, David R. Wilson, David Geiger. Also present were Ted Donoghue, Plant Superintendent, Ann Combs, Recording Secretary, and First Selectman Denise Raap.

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

**SEATING ALTERNATE:** Chairman Wilson appointed David Geiger to be seated as a regular voting member.

**MINUTES**

**a) 5/13/21 Regular: Motion:** W. Buckley moved to approve the regular meeting minutes of 5/13/21, and C. Bratina seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

**b) 6/24/21 Special: Motion:** W. Buckley moved to approve the special meeting minutes of 6/24/21 and C. Bratina seconded. All voted aye except D. Geiger, who abstained because of absence, and the motion carried.

**BUSINESS**

**1. Public Request and or Comment:** None

**2. Update on Torrington Inter-Municipal Agreement:** D. Wilson read through the agreement and saw no problems. Harwinton has basically the same language, but they are working on some changes. Then they will both sit down together. W. Buckley said the main thing is we're buying less flow. C. Bratina said there are also some sampling requirements we've not agreed to yet. D. Wilson said they also had a different way of calculating. All Litchfield users get the same rate, no matter where their flow goes.

**3. Scope of Work & Contract Negotiations with Woodard & Curran:** C. Bratina and D. Wilson worked on the scope of work. D. Wilson said the target should be what affects past non-compliance issues. DEEP has a checklist for plant upgrade work, so we need to make sure certain things are included. He shared the draft with W. Buckley, who will review it and offer any additional notes. The engineering companies have a rates approved by DEEP and we could to do certain things in house to reduce possible future cost, such as creating the assets equipment list. T. Donoghue and D. Wilson disagreed on whether the DEEP required a facilities plan. D. Raap read an excerpt from the March letter from DEEP, clearly stating that they "suggested" the Town begin a facilities plan.

**4. Sewer Rate Study:** W. Buckley talked to Aquarion, and they are not interested in providing services to read water meters, if we choose to install at a future date to non-water customers, as it is outside their charter and they would need to request a change from the state. They did mention that they would be very interested in acquiring the entire sewer utility. There was no comments or questions from any of the Commissioner's in regard to this statement, as Aquarion's inquiry was complexly unsolicited. They said to put a water meter the cost could be \$200 - \$500 for each customer and it is good to get one with a remote reading capability. Sixty-seven percent of users have Aquarion water. 15-20 sewer users are billed by gallons such as the

laundromat, carwash, and schools. We have 1200 customers; 1/3 of them would need us to supply a meter, so there's a cost and a fairness question. How do you please everyone? Some benefit by being billed by usage; some do not. They talked about the rate and water usage. D. Wilson said they should go to the next level of users (restaurants). They can compare from the spreadsheets EDU vs metered use. They will focus on the larger users.

**5. Collection System Work:** see plant report

**6. Plant Equipment Updates**

a) **UV System:** on hold

b) **Mechanical Bar Screen:** On hold with the permanent change of loading directly into the septage pit.

**7. Safety:** T. Donoghue reported no issues, no training.

**8. Commissioner's Requests:** C. Bratina asked about the status of the clarifier. Ted said he received a report from Brentwood and sent it to Tom Kovacs. Ted is waiting for a quote for a new chain for the east primary tank, and Tom said they could install it easily without draining the tank. Regarding the emergency generator, HO Penn is coming Monday to do a load bank test. HO Penn manually started it, so the problem was not a transfer switch, but maybe a priming issue, or maybe just a sensor.

**9. Public Works/Treatment Plant Report**

a) **Easements:** No report

b) **Operations:** Permit compliance has been maintained since the last report. Routine operations and maintenance work continues. For the month of June the total flow was 11.333 MG and the daily average flow was 0.378 MGD. We removed 65,000 gallons of sludge for final disposal during the month of June.

- We processed a total of 203,250 gallons of septage during the month of June an 83% decrease over last June. YTD we are down 14%.
- For June effluent BOD removal percent was 98% 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 3.3 mg/ or 10 lbs. /day. Our daily limit is 24 lbs. /day.
- The daily average for Total Phosphorous discharged in the Bantam River was 1.4 mg/l or 4.5 lbs. /day. The monthly seasonal average, between April and October, cannot exceed 3.7 mg/l or 9.97 lbs. /day.
- On 6/4/21 we installed a new manhole frame and cover at B102.
- On 6/9/21 we grouted a gusher in MH A12 in Bantam.
- On 6/10/21 we found a missing manhole, a 102 on the Ebner property in Bantam, We CCTV'd this line as well and it was in good shape.
- On 6/16/21 refurbished aeration blower #3 was put back into service.
- On 6/22/21 Neponset Systems calibrated all flow and magnetic flow meters. We bought a used board from Torrington to repair our FST mag meter.
- On 6/28/21 a hydraulic line failed once again on the John Deere tractor, while mowing right-a-ways. It briefly ran away and luckily Rob was able to stop the tractor without incident. Harwinton Tree dropped the 3 White Pines near the UV system.
- On 6/29/21 Alert Scientific performed annual calibrations of all lab equipment. Rob and Jim stump ground the 3 White Pines.

T. Donoghue said he put money into the budget for preventative maintenance (grouting manholes). C. Bratina suggested including CMOM statistics in report. C. Bratina needs to know when Ted makes changes in process control. Everything is much more organized in the lab, according to Ted, and they have integrated Hach Wims into their daily work. Ted said he extended the service support for another year. They are focusing on preventative work this summer. SVI's are better but still in the 180 range. The settling is very good right now.

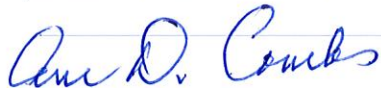
**c) Internal Posting of Class I Plant Operator:** Ted asked for permission to post internally for this. Rob has passed his Class 1 and will apply for it. C. Bratina felt the employee should just be given a bonus without posting a new position. A discussion followed about how to proceed. Ted said the vacant position of Asst. Plant Operator would not be eliminated but would not have to be filled. **Motion:** W. Buckley moved to post the position of Class I Plant Operator internally with the understanding that we will fill the vacancy with an employee who will be promoted and then the vacated position will stay vacant so we are not increasing the table of organization within the sewage treatment plant. D. Geiger seconded, all voted aye and the motion carried.

**10. Financial Report:** Ted said the final revenue report will be delayed until next meeting, as Sandy is away. Revenue has been very good this year. Expenses are \$15,000 - \$20,000 under budget. Polymer prices have increased dramatically and is a continuing trend. He would like to talk at the next meeting about a polymer mixing station and upgrading that part of the sludge to watering system. He will report at the next meeting.

## 11. Old Business

**a) Second Vehicle:** None

**12. Adjournment: Motion:** W. Buckley moved to adjourn at 9:07 p.m. and C. Bratina seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.



Ann D. Combs  
Recording Secretary