LITCHFIELD WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
Town Hall Annex, 80 Doyle Road
Bantam, CT 06750
Thursday, December 9, 2021–7:30 PM

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

ROLL CALL
Present: Members present were David R. Wilson, William Buckley, Sky Post, Christian Bratina, and Christine Harding. Also present were Ted Donoghue, Plant Superintendent, and Ann Combs, Recording Secretary
Absent: David Geiger, James Koser, and Raz Alexe, Public Works Director

SEATING ALTERNATES: Chairman Wilson seated Sky Post as a regular voting member.

MINUTES
a) 11/18/21 Regular: Motion: C. Bratina moved to approve the meeting minutes of 11/18/21 with a missing “t” added to Mattabassett on Item No. 8. W. Buckley seconded, all voted aye and the motion passed.

BUSINESS
1) Public Request and or Comment: Don Lafayette, Beach St., said he understood from the last discussion that Woodard & Curran could sign a contract with Litchfield and a month later sign a contract with Woodridge Lake. D. Wilson thanked him for his comment.

2) Update on Torrington Inter-Municipal Agreement: D. Wilson said he will sit down with Ray Drew next week. The sticky point remains the method of billing. The way it reads is they want us to calculate the EDU’s and they will bill us for the maintenance portion of their user fee (about 45%). W. Buckley questioned the legality and said if we pass a law to say we will only pay half of what they pay in Torrington, that won’t be fair either. C. Bratina said we are not using their full collection system and suggested talking to DEEP about the contract before talking to Ray and then negotiate. D. Wilson will call DEEP.

3) Scope of Work & Contract Negotiations with Woodard & Curran: D. Wilson said he reviewed the packets submitted for the interviews, and Woodard & Curran had indicated 3 projects they had with Woodridge Lake, so they were not sneaking anything by us. Answers to the chronology of work done and when they were last paid (9/2019) was presented in a memo from Mike Head of Woodard & Curran dated 12/8/21 and relayed by D. Wilson. A letter dated 10/13/21 from M. Head on the David Prickett response was also received. D. Wilson spent time going through the WLSD minutes and is confident there is no conflict of interest. They also did not try to run something by us, and he covered all the items Mr. Grimes alluded to. C. Bratina thought the firm’s rates are reasonable and would meet our needs, and he felt we should go ahead with them. D. Wilson added that he reached out to the Clean Water Fund, and they said they would just fill out the forms without charge. D. Wilson has them and noted it was just a placeholder that enables us to get funding if it comes available. He also noted he asked Woodard & Curran to accelerate the initial portion of the flood study so we will have an idea if something might have to be replaced. Motion: C. Bratina moved to negotiate with Woodard & Curran to hire them to provide the engineering services that we outlined in our RFQ and per the revised scope. S. Post seconded. T. Donoghue said we should be sure they understand they should not discuss Woodridge Lake until they have finished our part of the facilities plan. C. Bratina also would like a monthly summary from them in order to give them direction and not waste money. W. Buckley felt
the term “facilities plan” instead of “engineering study.” Ted asked him to be professional and come to him first with his irritations for a sidebar discussion. He reports directly to Raz Alexe and ultimately to Denise and the Board of Selectmen. He said further that Liz Callahan has explained to them several times that the Commission is volunteers; they are not the employer. Mr. Wilson said he would put this off, as is not the direction he wanted to go.

C. Bratina said Ted has been helping him get nameplate data in order to value assets for the audit. There are errors and holes in the GIS data. We also need to validate the data in Hach Wims before it goes to Woodard & Curran. He would like to work on a more detailed maintenance program. They can set up data in a spreadsheet for all equipment and Preventive Maintenance data. Name plate data he has, but he needs PMs. He would like to hire a college student over the Christmas break to enter all the data. Ted said has the manpower to enter the data and does not need to hire someone. He has workbooks and spreadsheets that has been maintained on all the equipment, although the PMs are very generic. He also has preventive maintenance that they do on a digital database. He will send again to C. Bratina as requested. C. Bratina said there is still more name plate data to be gathered, and there is some PM data but not detailed data. Ted said that out of the 7 items he requested, he only has yet to send him the Northfield data. They disagreed on PMs that were sent to Mr. Bratina, and Ted said he would send him everything he has tomorrow.

C. Bratina then said he finds it hard to believe that everything is in the GIS. There are a lot on inaccuracies and does not include everything. Ted said the layer map is the basis of the GIS layer. The manhole detail came from the '94 sewer study. He offered to show it to everyone next week. C. Bratina said they need a college student to fill in the holes in the data. They talked about setting a date to meet at the plant on Monday or Tuesday. Ted said one of the issues with Hach Wims is that C. Bratina set it up where he can’t put in “non-detectable”. C. Bratina said it is against the law to put in ND and said he has been saying that for 5 years, and Ted is doing it wrong. He wants all these issues cleared up within a month. Ted said he is not sure if that information is correct and would like to confirm with Susan at the DEEP. C. Bratina strongly disagreed. S. Post said it would take a while to get a college student up to speed, and 2 weeks may not cut it. C. Bratina said it can be done with someone who knows spreadsheets and data bases. T. Donohue said it will be hard to find someone at this late date, but if there are things Christian wants, we will provide it. Next they discussed the Arethusa surcharge data, and Ted said getting data from Chris has been slow. He said any talk about change in surcharge should be put on the agenda. We need to give Chris the courtesy of coming to a meeting and hearing about it first. C. Bratina wants a year’s data on TSS and FOG and said Ted was not following the proper sampling protocol. Data on monthly comparison is all wrong. C. Bratina said the influent BOD and TSS is well over 200 again, and Ted explained that they are loading the septage mixed in with the raw influent again. C. Bratina said he should not do that, and Ted said the SVI’s are the lowest they’ve been all year long and the plant is running very well now. C. Bratina said the influent data is wrong, and they cannot use it to evaluate what plant upgrades we need. He said further that he will report this to the DEEP, saying Ted is not following the proper sampling protocol. Ted tried to explain, but they disagreed, and C. Bratina said this is why we need an evaluation committee.

11) Public Works / Treatment Plant Report
a) Easements: None

b) Operations[A1][A2]: Permit compliance has been maintained since the last report. Routine operations and maintenance work continues. For the month of November the total flow was 20,485 MG and the daily average flow was 0.683 MGD. We removed 78,000 gallons of biosolids for final disposal during the month of November.
14) Adjournment: Motion: W. Buckley moved to adjourn at 9:28 p.m. and S. Post seconded. All voted aye and the motion carried.

[Signature]
Ann D. Combs
Recording Secretary