



Colchester Sewer and Water Commission

Minutes of the 14 October 2009

Regular Monthly Meeting

Municipal Office Complex
Colchester, Connecticut

Members Present: R. Tarlov, R. LeMay, D. Ferrigno, T. Tripodi, R. Jones, A. Pelletier

Members Absent: S. Boyden, T. Tyler

Others Present: J. Piechta (resident), M. Decker (Public Works Director)

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman Tarlov called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Approval of the Sewer and Water Commission 9 September 2009 Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes** – *Motion to approve the minutes of the 9 September 2009 Sewer and Water Commission regular monthly meeting as presented, by R. LeMay, second by A. Pelletier; Motion approved 5-0 (A. Pelletier abstained)*
3. **Citizen's Comments** – Mr. Joe Piechta, owner of a 4-family house at 116 Broadway expressed concerns about his water/sewer bill and requested the Commission consider the following issues: (a) surcharge for multiple units on a single meter in conjunction with having to pay an increasing rate for increased use seems to be a double charge; (b) last bill was for 103 days of service compared to the more standard 91 days - results in more use at the higher charge rate; (c) is it possible to be billed monthly so he can track usage better and not have the high bill every three months?
There was general discussion on each of these questions – the first two items will be taken into consideration at budgeting time, the third is not possible until all meters have been replaced with radio read style then options for quarterly and monthly billing will be evaluated.
Mr. Piechta thanked the Commission for consideration of these issues and believes them to be reasonably wide spread among multi-family building owners.

4. **Subcommittee Reports**
 - A. **Finance – Monthly financial reports, Quarterly billing, other**

Monthly reports were reviewed. M. Decker indicated the 1 October bill resulted in user fees totaling just over 26% of the annual projection. As of 2 quarters, the total user fees are 50.6% for water and 52.9% for sewer compared to the projected annual total.

A meeting with the Finance Review Committee has been requested by a customer – a date was set and will be forwarded to the customer

5. **Water Activities**
 - A. **Water Activities Report –**

Activities included last minute clean-up and site work at plant, ceremonial grand opening on 18th which was reasonably well attended and generally impressed everyone in attendance

Meter readings; work on well 3 pump ratchet mechanism; continued meter change outs; meter installations at North Woods, Quizno's, and Benton Farms; CO inspections at Quizno's and Amston Road day care; project work at Dunkin Donuts and Federated Church; water quality service on Jaffe Terrace
 - B. **Water Projects Status –** Dunkin Donuts – scheduled for water service next week; Federated Church, relocation of service lines, new tap line; meter installations on various projects as described above

6. **Sewer Activities**
 - A. **Joint Facilities Report –** HVAC improvements – considering heat pump technology, planning to install a second channel monster in primary building, inter-municipal agreement update signed, no action on union contract negotiations; roof painting contract let. Next meeting 20 October
 - B. **Sewer Activities Report –** replaced all the overhead lights and ballasts at PHPS – one of the two circuits was creating short. Replacement was performed in conjunction with the CL&P energy conservation incentive program - will result in \$350 credit on the bill
 - C. **Sewer Projects Status –** Dunkin Donuts and Federated church projects on-going – no specific sewer work at this time

7. **Old Business**
 - A. **Taintor Hill Road Treatment Plant Improvements –** final work scheduled for 19th October to include final programming issues, training, replacement part and manual delivery
 - B. **Flatbrook Sewer Booster Station –** obtained proposal from Weston & Sampson for I&I evaluation and build-out study to determine supply/capacity needs prior to the next step in design of a pump station evaluation. It will be necessary to evaluate the proposed work to see if it will or will not dovetail with STEAP grant (below)
 - C. **UST Fund Application –** continued work on preparation of the background portion of the application
 - D. **Lyman Viaduct –** road work project began on 5 October and is nearly

complete – should finish by the 16th

E. Streamflow Regulations – there will be a presentation at the SECCOG meeting on the 21st and at the SCWA Advisory Board meeting on the 15th. M. Decker indicated he has discussed this issue with the CBA Chairman and Representative Orange. Depending on the outcome of the first two meetings, a local meeting may still be appropriate.

- 8. New Business – STEAP Grant** – The Town has been awarded a \$130,000 grant (with 10% local match) to make improvements to the municipal water and sewer system by for planning purposes for extension of water and sewer mains to the currently unserved business and commercially zoned areas. Over the next month, the desire is to have the scope and agreement with DEP finalized and to prepare an advertisement requesting qualifications for consultants. Director of Planning Adam Turner requested the opportunity to come before the Commission at the November meeting to discuss the grant and program.

The Town of East Hampton has been working with Applied Geographics to institute a GIS program. They have indicated a desire to integrate their work with Marlborough, Hebron, and Colchester so the full regional system is available. This will be discussed further at the Joint Facilities meeting next week. Colchester's IT coordinator was meeting with Applied Geographics to discuss maintenance of the Town's system.

- 9. Citizens Comments** - none

- 10. Adjourn** – *Motion to adjourn, by T. Tripodi, second by R. LeMay; Motion approved 6-0.* Chairman Tarlov adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
M. Decker