



Colchester Sewer and Water Commission

Minutes of the 8 December 2010 Regular Monthly Meeting

Municipal Office Complex
Colchester, Connecticut

Members Present: R. LeMay, T. Tripodi, Steve Coyle, D. Ferrigno, R. Silberman
Members Absent: R. Jones, S. Boyden
Others Present: R. Tarlov (BOS liaison)

1. **Call to Order-** Chairman LeMay called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.
2. **Additions to the Agenda -** none
3. **Approval of the Sewer and Water Commission 10 November 2010 Regular Monthly Meeting** *Motion to approve the minutes of the 10 November 2010 Sewer and Water Commission regular monthly meeting as presented, by T. Tripodi, second by S. Coyle; motion approved 4-0 (D. Ferrigno abstained)*
4. **Citizen's Comments -** none
5. **Subcommittee Reports**
 - A. **Finance –**
Transfers – none
Monthly financial reports – reports were distributed – revenues and expenses are as anticipated for this point of the fiscal year
Disputes – none
other
 - B. **Benefit Assessment – schedule Finance Subcommittee Meeting –** The Finance subcommittee will arrange a meeting date to discuss a Benefit Assessment issue
 - C. **2011/2012 Operating Budget Expense presentation –** M. Decker presented the expense side of the sewer and water operating budgets giving an explanation of how projections were made for the balance of the current fiscal

year; what each of the line items of the upcoming budgets represent and the level of certainty of those numbers and his goal of trying to keep expenses as close as possible to the current fiscal year budgeted expenses. M. Decker also identified his schedule for refinement of the expense estimates and the timeline for revenue estimates, presentation of revenue and expenses at the January meeting and public hearing at the February meeting.

6. Water Activities

A. Water Activities Report - M. Decker reported activities since the last meeting included – various mark-outs, final reads, continued meter replacement work;

New turbidity meters at the plant received, installed, and functioning;

Well 3 redevelopment – discussed below

Preparation for installation of the well level sensor is in progress

Other activities - Monthly Water Quality Sampling;

O&M Facility-Cleanup/organization-ongoing;

Continued training part-time employees;

Station winterization-Complete;

Elmwood Booster Station-Piping Repainted-Substantially complete

Three main breaks – Route 85 and Beechwood; Old Hartford Road near Upton; and Dara at Kennedy

B. Water Projects Status - Flom Subdivision (Jordan Alley) - Main installation/brook crossing

7. Sewer Activities

A. Joint Facilities Report – Chairman LeMay reported topics included: update on new HVAC unit – is working great at this point consuming much less oil compared to previous years;

Emergency generator - circuit breaker replacement through insurance claim completed;

Nitrogen reduction full-scale study - there is some noticeable nitrogen improvement since work by The Water Planet began, but the reduction in septage might be contributing to that – evaluation will continue;

Budget – reduced revenue associated with septage disposal;

Snow guards for the roof arrived and were scheduled for installation;

2011 meeting schedule dates approved;

Sludge handling evaluation and disposal contract;

Air handling system – additional work – will be rebid per purchasing policy

B. Sewer Activities Report – new interior oil tank installation at PHPS completed and functioning – oil from old UG tank transferred into the two new 275s

Meter malfunction – main meter at PHPS not accurately recording during all flow level situations resulting in registering lower than actual flows leaving the PHPS – this impacts the percentage of Hebron flows as well as the percentage of Colchester to East Hampton – the meter has been recalibrated and is functioning for the time being – analyses will be performed to establish the most appropriate proportioning of flows to be used for the 11/12 FY budgets

- C. Sewer Projects Status** – Town Health Department and PW will be hosting a meeting for food preparation services in need of meeting the DEP’s Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) retrofit requirements - scheduled for 5 January; Met with DEP, Lebanon, Hebron, E. Hampton, and Colchester regarding Amston Lake system – Hebron will need an intermunicipal agreement with Lebanon – the Colchester-Hebron IMA will not need to be altered; flows anticipated from Lebanon will be incorporated into the build-out analysis being performed by Weston & Sampson, Lebanon will be proportionately responsible (approx. 10%) for improvements even if they have not come on line by the time improvements occur.
- 8. Old Business**
- A. STEAP Grant** – Weston & Sampson submitted their draft preliminary engineering report just prior to the SWC meeting. The study will be used as a basis for a discussion with potential developers at a summit scheduled for 15 December. The report outlining the financing plan for funding the infrastructure improvements will be presented at a later date; W&S submitted their proposal for design of the primary infrastructure expansion leg of the water and sewer lines south on 85 from the intersection with 354 to Lake Hayward Road including a sewer pump station will be reviewed by the Planner, Town Engineer, Water Supervisor, and PWD. It will then be negotiated with W&S and brought to the Board of Selectmen for action
- B. Stream Flow Regulations** – The DEP submitted their latest version of their Revised Stream Flow Regulations. It has several beneficial changes but not all that were requested by the water industry. From Colchester’s perspective, the most significant change is ground water wells have been removed from the regulation. The Association is meeting on the 10th to discuss all the changes and comparing them to those recommended by the Association in an effort to establish their position and for discussion topic with legislators. The Regulations Review Committee must vote on the submittal at their 21 December meeting.
- C. Well 3 Redevelopment** – Well No. 3 redevelopment – completed – but not without problems – during redevelopment, started noticing some gravel pack material in the pumped water, camera used and found a split in the casing at the screen interface. Ended up being able to install a sleeve to bridge over the split and seal it off. Concern the pump wouldn’t be able to go back in because of the slightly reduced inner diameter as a result of the sleeve but fortunately, that did not happen and the pump was able to be reset at the original depth. While the redevelopment did not go as far as it likely could have if the defect did not exist, there was still significant improvement and the well is functioning nicely. There is a slight vibration in the pump that is being evaluated. Given the condition of the screen, casing, and pump and motor, it is likely a replacement well will be required within the next several years. This will be added to the capital project list and the timing noted for 2013/14.
- D. Colchester Courtyard** – To date, there have been no further communications with the Town. The DPH/DPUC has issued a letter to the new owners and to the current owners regarding unresolved issues associated with

their sale of the complex and the associated water system and land. The Town's position continues to be suspension of the Order, but not elimination of the Order. The DEP/DPUC also recognizes the existence of an Agreement between the Town and the owners.

9. New Business/Additions to the Agenda

A. Director resignation – M. Decker reported, as previously presented, he has accepted a position with Norwich Public Utilities effective 10 January. He will continue to work with Colchester to bring the SWC budget to adoption and attend the January and February meetings as well as the BOS presentation and the Joint Facilities and Finance subcommittee meetings. He will also continue to work with the Town Planner on the STEAP grant project, the next phase of the Flatbrook Booster Station project (I&I and storage capacity study). The First Selectman has not provided him with details of the replacement plan.

10. Citizens Comments - none

11. Adjourn – *Motion to adjourn, by D. Ferrigno, second by T. Tripodi; Motion approved 5-0.* Chairman LeMay adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
M. Decker