



RECEIVED
COLCHESTER, CT
2010 JAN 14 PM 2:09

Nancy A. Bray
NANCY A. BRAY

Colchester Sewer and Water Commission

Minutes of the 13 January 2010 Regular Monthly Meeting Municipal Office Complex Colchester, Connecticut

Members Present: R. LeMay, R. Jones, D. Ferrigno, S. Boyden, T. Tyler
Members Absent: T. Tripodi, A. Pelletier
Others Present: R. Tarlov (BOF Liaison), M. Decker (Public Works Director)

1. **Call to Order** – Chairman LeMay called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
2. **Additions to the Agenda** – none
3. **Approval of the Sewer and Water Commission 9 December 2009 Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes** – *Motion to approve the minutes of the Colchester Sewer and Water Commission 9 December 2009 regular monthly meeting as presented, by T. Tyler, second by R. Jones; Motion approved 2-0 (D. Ferrigno and T. Tyler abstained – S. Boyden arrived after the vote)*
4. **Citizen's Comments** - none
5. **Subcommittee Reports**
 - A. **Finance – Monthly financial reports, other** – monthly financials reports were reviewed and discussed
M. Decker presented one transfer:
\$4,000 from 2403207-50900 Sewer Op-Cont. to 2403207-46224 Sewer Op-Eq. Repair a copy of which is attached and made part of these minutes; *Motion to approve a transfer of \$4,000 from sewer operating contingency to sewer operating equipment repair, by D. Ferrigno, second by R. Jones; motion approved 5-0*
 - B. **Draft Budget Presentation** – The draft sewer and water operating budgets for fiscal year 2010/2011 were presented and discussed. Highlights of the discussion included:

- revenue has continually dropped as water sales decrease (due to environmental conditions – wet or cooler weather; mechanical efficiencies – toilets, low flow devices, high efficiency washing machines; personal use habits, etc.) therefore need to conservatively estimate revenue
- must continue to fund significant capital needs such as equipment preventative maintenance and the ultimate infrastructure replacement needs
- reductions in spending possible due to decreased loan costs, electrical efficiencies, chemical cost reductions,
- upgrade of existing part-time staff to full time; preparation of a new individual water supply plan in conformance with DPH requirements, possible inclusion of water standpipe interior inspections, and replacement of a 13 year old pick-up truck
- sewer joint facilities cost increases due to increased proportionate flow between Colchester and East Hampton shares
- efforts should be made to keep rate increases minimal given the current economic conditions while still adequately funding the required components of the operation

The consensus is a budget workshop should be held at 7:00 p.m. on 27 January 2010 to finalize a draft budget for presentation at the 10 February budget public hearing.

6. Water Activities

- A. Water Activities Report** – M. Decker reported activities included completion of meter reading, completion of cross-connection survey and testing, water main break on Stollman Road on 12-23, plan reviews, meter replacement program starting up again
- B. Water Projects Status** – no new activities at existing construction projects

7. Sewer Activities

- A. Joint Facilities Report** – no December meeting – next meeting is 19 January
- B. Sewer Activities Report** – control board replacement at PHPS is complete
- C. Sewer Projects Status** - observed installation of sanitary services at North Woods; M. Decker also reported he received a call from a potential buyer expressing interest in the Balaban Road Apartments. He was aware of the water main interconnect project and the obligation of the owner for that expense. He questioned if the Town would be interested in extending sewer service to the property as well. M. Decker informed him, a decision of that magnitude was beyond his authority but issues of concern include:
 - the Town fought to ensure there would be no expense to the Town for extension of the water main,
 - the area is not within the Town's designated sewer and water service area,

- there are some limitations on the capacity of the sewer system and the Town has previously expressed a desire to dedicated that capacity to the commercial properties rather than residential ones,
- the point of connection of the sewer would not be the same location as the water as there is not sewer service at that location (it would be about an additional 1,500 ft.), and lastly,
- while from a connection elevation to discharge elevation, it could flow by gravity, there will be a low point where it crosses under the water body presenting some additional design issues that are somewhat unique.

After a very brief discussion, the consensus of the Commission members present was there was no interest in modifying the service area limits, no interest in allocating existing system capacity to the residential property, no interest in assisting with funding of the extension of services to the property, and that opinion would likely not change as long as there is no mandate to serve the property.

8. Old Business

A. Taintor Hill Road Treatment Plant Improvements – S. Klobukowski is partially through the close-out documents. Upon completion, they will be reviewed by operations staff.

B. Streamflow Regulations – BOS and BOF have both drafted letters to be submitted to the DEP (with copies to the Governor and legislators). The public hearing is the 21st at the DEP offices – M. Decker will present oral testimony if desired by the Water Works Association

9. New Business/Additions to Agenda

A. Disability-based fees: A question was presented by a customer who has been on disability since 2003 wondering if the new account set up charge can be waived for persons with disability status. M. Decker reported he checked with the DPUC to see if there is any State Statutes (CGS) or Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA) addressing this situation. According to the representative for the DPUC, there are no statutes or regulations and she was not aware of such a release being incorporated into a rate setting case. Based on the lack of any State standards for such situations, the consensus of the Commission was there is no basis to adopt such a waiver policy.

10. Citizens Comments - none

11. Adjourn – *Motion to adjourn, by T. Tyler, second by S. Boyden; Motion approved 5-0.* Chairman LeMay adjourned the meeting at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
M. Decker

Sewer and Water Commission
2009/2010 Transfer or Appropriation Request Form

Date: 13 January 2010

The following is a request for:

A transfer X Dollar Amount \$4,000.00
An Appropriation _____

from Account No. 2403207-50900 Sewer Operating – Contingency

to Account No. 2403207-46224 Sewer Operating – Equipment Repair

Explanation: boards in the control panels that identify voltage input and regulate operation of the motors failed – was inaccurately identifying the voltage as much higher than actual so it would shut down everything as a protective measure. Actual cost was \$6,500

Action by Commission: Approved X
Denied _____
Tabled _____

Date: _____