



Town of Colchester Sewer and Water Commission

Minutes for the November 9, 2011 Regular Monthly Meeting

**Municipal Office Complex
Colchester, Connecticut**

Members Present: R. LeMay, R. Jones, S. Coyle, R. Silberman, S. Boyden

Members Absent: T. Tripodi, K. Fagnoli

Others Present: J.Paggioli (Public Works)

1. **Call to Order-** Chairman LeMay called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **Additions to the Agenda** – None
3. **Approval of the Sewer and Water Commission October 2011 Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes** – Motion to approve the minutes of the 12 October 2011 Sewer and Water Commission regular monthly meeting as submitted, by S.Coyle, second by R. Silberman; Motion approved 3-0 (2 abstained)
4. **Citizen's Comments** - None, no citizens present.
5. **Subcommittee Reports**
 - A. **Finance – Transfers, Monthly financial reports, Quarterly billing, Disputes, other**

Transfers –None

Monthly Financials – Monthly financials were distributed and discussed. There was a desire to include the labor costs to the Water portion of the reports. Mr. Paggioli responded that it could be added to these reports in the future. There is one account that should be referred to the Sub-Committee regarding a non-payment that our Attorney believes is uncollectable. Mr. Paggioli researched the ability to utilize the same Collection Agency as the Tax Collector for similar issues when collecting delinquent automobile taxes from people who have left the state. The Agency is willing to have this account turned over for collection should the Commission wish to pursue this route. Mr. Paggioli recommends that this would be the best alternative since there is not an upfront cost, and any moneys

received are better than a write off. The Commission agreed to turn this account over to the agency for collection.

Quarterly Billing – The second quarter billing has been sent out. We have presently billed 50.3% of the “projected budgeted” total.

6. Water Activities

A. Water Activities Report – J. Paggioli reported activities performed since the last meeting include:

- 1) Service Work: Mark outs, Finals, Meter Installations-- meter pits/changeouts under evaluation, Raise covered water curb stop Dr. Foote Road, 361 Linwood Cemetery Road coordinate for correction of illegal collection.
- 2) New Developments: Flom Subdivision (Jordan) - No activity; Northwoods- Preparation of Service Tap Bills –Inspection Costs, 37 one inch taps and 1 two inch tap and copper costs. Two applications for new homes on Phase 3 have been submitted. Storm Alfred has delayed work on the bill this past month.
- 3) Taintor Hill Treatment Plant: General
- 4) Well No. 4- Pilot Filter installed and monitoring.
- 5) Storage Tank Mixer-De-stratification Tank Modification-Stratification Sampling Equipment- Installation complete – collecting of data occurring.
- 6) Storage Tank Inspections-See Capital Improvement Plan Below.
- 7) O&M Facility: No issues this month
- 8) Monthly Water Quality Sampling,
- 9) Mainbreaks: 264 Westerly Terrace – repaired on regular time, work beneath sidewalk area. Main Break Trailer was instrumental on having all necessary equipment on hand and available to save time in repair. From start of excavation to backfill was 4.5 hours. The break was first noted to be possible due to a continuous operation of the High Pressure zone on 10/30/11. The area was difficult to isolate due to a significant amount of customers leaving faucets running in response to being without power, a “frozen pipe” burst at a Highland Farm condominium unit and the fact that the break did not provide any signs of visual surface damage. Any water exiting the break was traveling in a drainage culvert trench and outletting at the same endwall in the wood as the melting snow. Cost above regular time labor: 120 sq.ft of sidewalk replacement to be conducted by highway crew. Approx. \$300. There were also two “pipe damage” situations (after the meter) one at Norwich Ave, and the other at Highland Farms.
- 10) Review of Plans: 361 Linwood Cemetery, Norwich Ave. – see below.
- 11) Winter Storm Alfred Update – The Taintor Hill Filtration Plant was operating on Emergency Generator from early Sunday 10/30/11 until late on Tuesday 11/2/11. Staff was on-duty 24 hours while operating on generator power. No loss of pressure or capacity of the system occurred. The State Department of Public Health was kept informed of the situation. No “Boil Water” notifications were required. The “Emergency Trailer” was also utilized for cot delivery for the activation of the Shelter at Bacon Academy, and for mutual aid in cot delivery to the Town of Willington when the Bacon Academy Shelter was closed.

B. Water Projects Status –

- 1) The Water Supply Plan- Lenard Engineering is continuing to prepare the plan.
- 2) The correction to 361 Linwood Cemetery Road is scheduled to occur in the next week. This involves the correction of an illegal water connection between two homes on the same lot and the connection of each home to the sewer system. Appropriate connection fees are being charged to the owner in conjunction with the work that they are required to perform. The premises have been shut off until the correction work is completed.
- 3) Norwich Avenue – Former Hub Ford site. As noted above, a lateral break beyond the meter occurred at the premises. This service is similar to the

situation above, in that one lateral services 3 buildings on the premises, each being occupied by a different use or abandoned home. Unfortunately, the services originates through the abandoned home and then to the other buildings. As such, Mr. Paggioli's comments in regard to the proposed Meineke Muffler site plan will require the installation for individual services and laterals for each of the buildings.

7. Sewer Activities

A. Joint Facilities Report – November 15 meeting : Progress/ (dare I say Final) update on the final design plans for the Rotational Drum Sludge Thickener. Final plans are anticipated at the November 2012 Joint Facilities meeting.

B. Sewer Activities Report –Normal maintenance issues regarding monitoring of PHPS. Loss of power at Flatbrook Odor Control station during Storm Alfred, but no other issues. Bacon Academy Pump station- both pumps became air bound on 10/24/11 which cause an overflow at the manhole preceding the pump station. Spillage was “contained” on site and JF personnel responded and placed the station back in working order.

C. Sewer Projects Status –

1) Proposed Lebanon Portion of the Amston Lake sewer extension. Mr Paggioli reviewed an easement document for Deepwood Drive and had corrections returned to the design engineer. No further correspondence from the design engineer,

8. Old Business

A. STEAP Grant – The October 28, 2012 State of Connecticut Bond Commission Meeting approved the funding to construct the Sewer and Water Expansion. Mr. Paggioli, Sal Tassone and Adam Turner will meet with DOT in order to go from design to construction phases of the project. The remaining portions of the grant will be utilized to retain Sampson and Wesson for any design conversion and for submittal review during construction should such be required. Adam Turner is preparing the Change Order for DEEP in regard to the change in scope.

B. I&I Study Discussion– The I/I study proposal has had initial contact made with DEP, (now D.E.E.P.) to begin the funding portion. The representatives of DEEP have forwarded funding applications for the study and have requested that the Town utilized a RFQ process for selection of a consultant. The DEEP has no objection to funding mechanism proposed. The 2008 Earmarked funds for the Flatbrook Booster have been rescinded by Federal Congressional action. Alternative funding will be investigated. The application will have to be accompanied with sufficient detail to depict the scope and inter-town benefit. Such documentation is a portion of 3 different planning reports. Mr. Paggioli reported that no work on this item occurred this last month.

C. Colchester Courtyard Update

A hearing has been scheduled for November 29, 2011. Written Testimony must be submitted by November 9, 2011. As part of testimony to be submitted by the Town of Colchester, it is recommended that as part of the transfer of ownership to GAIA Gardens, the name of the private system be changed as well. There was a good deal of confusion during the power outage by the public as to what system was under a “boil water” order when the Colchester Courtyard system lost pressure during the aftermath of the storm. Mr. Paggioli and Atty. Johnson have been on written testimony to be submitted at the time of the hearing to advocate for the final vacating of the inter-connection order. Mr. Paggioli believes that sufficient technical data has been obtained by the operator of the system. GAIA Gardens has also paid all of Atty. Johnson’s outstanding legal fees. Atty. Johnson and Mr. Paggioli also have requested a technical meeting between all parties prior to the hearing in order that all information is “on the table” prior to a formal hearing.

D. CDS Associates – Old Hebron Road – Sewer Benefit Assessment – See below.

E. Capital Planning Update.- Open discussion. Mr. Paggioli noted that 3 of the Hydraulic Capacity projects are available to be “rolled over” into the requests for DWSRF funding. Since these projects could be scheduled at a “funding available” priority, the Commission determined to submit the roll over request. Other items on the list were discussed, with significant attention in regard to “Water Supply items.”

F. FEMA Reimbursement Tropical Storm Irene- Mr. Paggioli and other members of the Town, met with FEMA representatives on 10/17/2011. Mr. Paggioli described the reimbursement of water facilities OT (75% eligible), Equipment (FEMA Rates 100% -pick up trucks), Generator run time (FEMA hourly calculation includes fuel), and Emergency Water distributed/provided at Fire Company One. All items were deemed at face value as eligible. Submittal will be incorporated with Town submission. Preliminary totals are scheduled for 11/18/2011.

Note Winter Storm Alfred – It is unlikely that New London County will qualify for aid due to threshold monetary amounts not being reached throughout the entire county for storm response.

G. Stream Flow Regulations - No further updated information since last meeting.

9. New Business / Additions to Agenda. None.

10. Executive Session: Motion was made by S. Boyden and seconded by R. Silberman to enter into Executive Session at 8:40 p.m. to address potential litigation. Motion carried. Mr. Paggioli was invited to the Executive Session. The Commission exited Executive Session at 9:30 p.m. Upon exiting the Executive Session, a Motion was

made by S. Boyden and seconded R. Jones to recommend approval of a proposed settlement agreement, with a proper clarification of the definition of the WPCA in accordance with the Town of Colchester Charter and correction of the signature title block, in regard to a Benefit Assessment account on a property identified by Assessor's Map 5-8 Lot 3. Motion Passed 3-0, (2 abstained.)

- 11. Adjourn** - Motion to adjourn, by R. Silberman, second by S.Coyle; Motion approved 5-0. Chairman LeMay adjourned the meeting at 9:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
James Paggioli, L.S.