



## **Colchester Sewer and Water Commission**

### **Minutes of the December 11, 2013 Regular Monthly Meeting**

**Municipal Office Complex  
Colchester, Connecticut**

**Members Present:** R. LeMay, R. Jones, S. Coyle, R. Silberman (7:15), R. Peter  
**Members Absent:** T. Tripodi, K. Fargnoli  
**Others Present:** J. Paggioli (Public Works), 2 Students from Bacon Academy  
Civics

1. **Call to Order**- Chairman LeMay called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.
2. **Additions to the Agenda** – None
3. **Approval of the Sewer and Water Commission October 9, 2013 Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes** – Motion to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2013 regular monthly meeting as submitted, by R.Peter, second by S.Coyle; Motion approved 4-0.
4. **Citizen's Comments** - The Civics students some general questions regarding the Sewer and Water Extension to the Lake Hayward Road Area and the general duties of the Commission. The Commission members gave a brief answer for each of the inquiries.
5. **Subcommittee Reports**  
**A. Finance – Transfers, Monthly financial reports, Quarterly billing, Disputes, other**  
Transfers – None

Monthly Financials – Monthly financials were distributed and discussed. Mr. Paggioli raised a concern regarding those properties that have abandoned their right of reserved capacity space within the Colchester Water and Sewer System as per the Connection Policy as adopted. He recommended that a Caveat be placed upon the land records in order to alert title searchers that the premises has forfeited the right to capacity within the system and that a Connection Fee would

be due prior to reconnection/reactivation of service resumes. The Commission agreed that the filing of Caveats would be the prudent means to handle such circumstances where the Connection Policy capacity rights and forfeiture was encountered and directed Mr. Paggioli to the Connection Fee Caveats where applicable/

Quarterly Billing –As of 11/30/13 we have collected 47.15% of the projected budget and we have billed out 50.7% of the “projected”.

Disputes: A tenant at 72 Windham Avenue has discovered several leaking fixtures within their unit, and has made the land lord aware of the issues, however the landlord has not made timely repairs. They are requesting an unspecified credit towards their bill.

After discussion it was determined that a credit was not in keeping with precedent of the Commission. A motion was made by R.Peter and seconded by R. Jones that the Commission not provide a credit for water use due to leaking fixtures and unspecified leaks at 72 Windham Avenue. Motion passed 4-0-1 (R. Silberman abstained due to late entry to the meeting).

## 6. Water Activities

### A. Water Activities Report -

- 1) Service Work: Mark outs, Finals.
- 2) New Developments: Phase IV connections completed to street line, Northwoods.
- 3)Taintor Hill Treatment Plant: Coordination of Plant operations.
- 4) Distribution enhancement work, Inline valve Broadway and hydrant replacement plan work. Planned not completed.
- 5) **Elmwood tanks- Inspection of 40’ Tank. Completed. 60’ Tank Completed and being brought back on line.**
- 6) Backflow inspections town and school properties.
- 7) Staff development of budget.
- 8) Hydrant replacement – on but then lead abatement regulation delayed.
- 9) 50% complete mapping project for Well 3A potential site at plant.
- 10) Monthly Water Quality Sampling- **No issues.**
- 11) Mainbreaks: 0 Shutoffs: 0

### B. Water Projects Status –

- 1) Operations were normal.

## 7. Sewer Activities

**A. Joint Facilities Report** – The Rotary Drum Thickener: The Town of East Hampton and Colchester received letters denying the STEAP grant request. Joint Facilities will address funding options at future meetings in October. U/G tank red flagged by DEEP and replacement.

**B. Sewer Activities Report** – Flatbrook Odor control station repair of compressors and piping.

**C. Sewer Projects Status –**

- 1) Proposed Lebanon Portion of the Amston Lake sewer extension- The Town of Lebanon has begun to direct flows into the system. No issues are being encountered.
- 2) The Flat Brook Odor Control Station – repair of compressors occurring. Not funding still assigned to Flat Brook odor control station within Sewer Capital Budget – approx.250K.

**8. Old Business**

**A. STEAP Grant** –The Pump station is operational as of 10/10/13. Grant close out paper work being prepare by staff.

**B. I&I Study Discussion**– No further work conducted this month.

**C. Colchester Courtyard Update** – Meeting held at DPH to review draft of Courtyard Capital Improvement plan and cost comparison to legal interconnection for 10 year time frame on 2/8/12. Final plan received and reviewed 4/9/10. Prepared materials clearly document that the cost for interconnection and service is over 4 times the cost of operation as a satellite system by the owners of the system. DPH meeting was delayed to 6/5/12 due to death of employee at DPH. DPH on June 5, 2012, report comments from DPH arrives at 1600hrs on 6/4/12. Meeting occurs, question if cost of water should be included in 10 year analysis, but otherwise productive. Plan has sent to 3<sup>rd</sup> party review by GeoInsight. DPH would like Town's position on the report for 9/25/12 meeting. Meeting delayed by DPH at the request of GAIA legal counsel. Rescheduled for Nov 27. 2012 Meeting was held. DPH agrees with Town of Colchester position. Final legal documents being prepared for consent order and vacating of interconnection order being prepared. Next scheduled hearing 5/23/2013. No further work conducted this month. Extension for review was granted by DPH & PURA until after 7-31-13. See packet.

Technical meeting between staff and DPH, Atty. General, and GAIA representatives regarding DPH inspection of GAIA system and legal documents preparation by Atty. General

UPDATE:Received draft from Atty General. Town issues addressed. GAIA Atty has revisions. Vacating of the Order is requested by all parties; State, Town, Private. Meeting next in December. Note of Atty.Howlett issues.

**D. Capital Planning Update.-** In response to presented opportunity for long-term lease possibilities, evaluation of 3 locations were conducted. The most advantageous location is presently owned by the Town of Colchester. Further research investigation is being conducted in order to plan for required regulatory approvals. No further work conducted this month other than preparation of existing mapping for location and potential Well 3A site at plant. Staff and Director have prepared an RFP for redevelopment Well 5A. After consultation with S. Klobukowski, the priorities of the system are 1) Redevelopment of Well 5A (**Completed 4/2013**) ; 2) Begin Well 3 replacement project and combine with

test drilling on potential sites for future source and diversion permit; **3) Recoating of Interior of Elmwood Tanks.** Occurring. BOS awarded and appropriated funding for project and authorized First selectman to sign contract. Work started and the first (40') tank is completed and brought back on line. The 60' tank is completed and being brought back on line. No additional issues with the 60' tank.. There was one issue with the 40' tank in regards to the upper hatch requiring replacement once paint was removed, corrosion was discovered. Replacement was authorized. Extra work required resulted in a Change order amount of \$10,000 to be added to the contract. Vendor states the coating placed should last 30 years. Motion was made by R. Silberman and seconded by S. Coyle to recommend to the Board of Selectmen to appropriate an additional \$10,000 from the Water Capital Fund for the Elmwood Heights Tank Recoating Project.

**E. Stream Flow Regulations -** The DEEP has classified the Thames River water shed streams into 3 categories, Subsurface supplies (Wells) are still not considered within the regulation. However, there are issues regarding the classifications that staff will comment upon prior to the 12-31-13 deadline for public comment.

**F. Energy Performance Contract –** Installation of the Transformer upgrades are completed at the Filtration Plant. O&M Building Sealing is completed. Lighting is complete. Building Automation system is being installed.

9. **Adjourn** - Motion to adjourn, by R. Silberman , second by R. Jones; Motion approved 5-0. Chairman Le May adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
James Paggioli, L.S.