



Colchester Sewer and Water Commission

Minutes of the January 8, 2014 Special Monthly Meeting

**Municipal Office Complex
Colchester, Connecticut**

Members Present: R. LeMay, S. Coyle, R. Silberman, Robert Peter
Members Absent: T. Tripodi
Others Present: J. Paggioli (Public Works), P. McCann (Colchester Water Dept.)
T. Hochdorfer

1. **Call to Order-** Chairman LeMay called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

2. **Approval of the Sewer and Water Commission December 11, 2013 Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes** – Motion to approve the minutes of the December 11, 2013 regular monthly meeting as submitted, by S. Coyle, second by R. Peter; Motion approved 4-0 (0 abstained)

3. **Citizen's Comments** - None

4. **Approval of Meeting Dates for Calendar Date 2014.** –Discussion was made in order to move the standing date of the second Wednesday of the Month for Regular Meetings of the Sewer and Water Commission, in order to attempt to ensure that a quorum of members are available to meet. A motion was made by R. Peter to hold the Regularly Scheduled Meetings of the Colchester Sewer and Water Commission on the second Thursday of each month with the exception that no regularly scheduled meeting will occur in August of 2014. Motion was seconded by R. Silberman. Motion was approved 4-0. Mr. Paggioli will deliver a revised meeting schedule to the Town Clerk's office for posting.

5. **Subcommittee Reports**
A. Finance – Transfers, Monthly financial reports, Quarterly billing, Disputes, other
Transfers – None

Monthly Financials – Monthly financials were distributed and discussed.

Quarterly Billing –As of 12/31/13 we have collected 50.3% of the projected budget and we have billed out 50.7% of the “projected”. Third quarter bills were sent out on January 2, 2014

Disputes: None

6. Water Activities

A. Water Activities Report -

- 1) Service Work: Mark outs, Finals. Profiles.
- 2) New Developments. None.
- 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. Pitting on surface of tank extra 38 sq.ft.
- 6) Backflow/ cross connection 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: 1 Shutoffs: 1

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.. U/G fuel oil tank red flagged by DEEP and replacement work is commencing.

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

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 completed. Note funding still assigned to Flat Brook odor control station within Sewer Capital Budget – approx.250K. Bills will be paid out of fund.

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 3rd 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. Meeting postponed again for Atty Howlett health 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. The second payment application has included extra work on pitted areas. The issue is that 38 sq. ft. of these were on a tank that was submitted on application number one as being 100% complete. Discussion was had on the

contractual obligations the Town and Vendor have in to have additional work approved. The general opinion of the Commission was that the vendor should be paid those monies that are due under the contract bid scope, and to request the vendor to provide those measurement required to verify that the work charged as pit filling did indeed reach the 55% of wall depth that is required by the contract before being considered extra work.

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. Staff submitted comments regarding the regulations on 12-31-13.

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. Still awaiting Automation.

- 9. New Business – Budget Discussion.** Previous meeting have mentioned the need for a small rate increase. Staff has begun to prepare a budget with a 1.5% increase to the existing rates. This represents the first rate increase in three years. Discussion commenced for the need to have the full budget presented and reviewed by the Commission prior to any rate increase request being formalized.
- 10. Adjourn** - Motion to adjourn, by R. Silberman, second by S.Coyle; Motion approved 4-0. Chairman LeMay adjourned the meeting at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
James Paggioli, L.S.