



## **Colchester Sewer and Water Commission**

### **Minutes of the March 13, 2014 Regular Monthly Meeting**

**Municipal Office Complex  
Colchester, Connecticut**

**Members Present:** R. LeMay, S. Coyle, Robert Peter, T. Hochdorfer, K. Frantzen  
**Members Absent:** T. Tripodi, R. Silberman  
**Others Present:** J.Paggioli (Public Works), Pam McCann

1. **Call to Order-** Chairman LeMay called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.  
**NOTE New Member (s) Mr.** Tom Hochdorfer appointed by BOS. Mr. Kurt Frantzen has been appointed by BOS .
2. **Approval of the Sewer and Water Commission February 20, 2014 Special Monthly Meeting Minutes** – Motion to approve the minutes of the February 20, 2014 Special monthly meeting as submitted, by S. Coyle, second by R. Peter; Motion approved 3-0 ( The 2 new members abstained)
3. **Citizen's Comments** - None.
4. **Subcommittee Reports**
  - A. **Finance – Transfers, Monthly financial reports, Quarterly billing, Disputes, other**  
Transfers – None

Monthly Financials – Monthly financials were distributed and discussed. Next Month transfer of unexpended FY 2103 audited amounts and excess revenue to respective Capital Funds.

Quarterly Billing –As of 2/28/14 we have collected 71.9% of the projected budget and we have billed out 74.8% of the “projected”.

Disputes: 1) A request waiver 79 Elmwood Heights. The issue involves the large sum of water that is the result of the homeowners ability and knowledge to correct

or afford plumbing services in regard to a substantial leak that was continually occurring within the basement of their premises. Staff had previously telephoned the owners about a leak in the previous quarter; however the owners did not have the repair conducted. In the current quarter the interior water lines burst and flowed directly to the basement sump pump which was found to directly discharge into the sanitary sewer lateral. The staff again contacted the owner, and then upon her discover of the actual basement leak, contact the office and a shut off was conducted. The leak accounted for over 150,000 gallons of water use. The water was confirmed to be exited from the premises via the sanitary sewer system. After discussion the general motion was not to grant the waiver due to the actions of the owner was the source of the issue and the department had previously warned the owner of the occurring leak.

## 5. Water Activities

### A. Water Activities Report -

- 1) Service Work: Mark outs, Quarterly Readings, Finals. Profiles, Dye test, Cross Connection, Service Calls.
- 2) New Developments. None.
- 3) Taintor Hill Treatment Plant: Coordination of Plant operations. Assist with mapping information for well 3a project.
- 4) Distribution enhancement work, Inline valve Broadway and hydrant replacement plan work. On hold for season.
- 5) Elmwood tanks- all tank work completed, and documentation provided to DPH and certified from DPH
- 6) Resolve issue with a NOV, found to be not applicable
- 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 (Alexander) Shutoffs: 0

### B. Water Projects Status –

- 1) Operations were normal.
- 2) Elmwood Heights Tank Recoating Project is completed and all certification has been obtained from the Department of Health. – Discussion commenced regarding the work conducted. The issue will be address in Item 7C below.

## 6. Sewer Activities

### A. Joint Facilities Report – Meeting to be held next Tuesday 3/18/14

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

### C. Sewer Projects Status –

- 1) 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. Total cost 13,948. All bills submitted.

## 7. Old Business

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

**B. Colchester Courtyard Update –**

Meeting report held at DPH on 2-26-14. Atty. Howlett was told of the need to ensure future source supply land shown on their Cost Benefit analysis to have the property under control of GAIA, in order to preserve future well sites availability, ie either through easement, water rights or acquisition. After consultation with GAIA, GAIA agrees to do so. Final documents are being prepared by Attorney General's office to include the agreed to stipulation.

**C. 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. Existing mapping for location and potential Well 3A site at plant 90% complete. 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 (Project Completed 3/2014)**. Final Payment per contract specifications processed. Pit Filling up to 55% wall thickness was included within scope of work. Mr. Paggioli handed out an email response to the contractor, detailing the contract specification and the need to have measurement data that verifies if the cost extra work exceeded the contract specification.

The final cost of work performed was \$356,000. This included the roof wall seal being filled with Sika Flex, and the finials of each tank (exterior, top of roof) being repainted. These two extra items were unforeseen condition and outside of the original scope the contract respectively. Initial contract amount was \$337,000 and the Commission authorized an additional \$10,000 previously, and concerning the remaining \$9,000, Mr. Paggioli recommended that the Commission should pass a motion to authorize the remaining \$9,000 due. Motion was made by R. Peter and seconded by S. Coyle to authorize and additional \$9,000 from the undesignated Water Capital fund to the Interior Coating of the Elmwood Heights Water Tanks project. Motion passed 5-0.

**D. Stream Flow Regulations -** No new issues to report.

**E. 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 Building Automation to occur. Initial analysis for electric use shows that the plant is exceeding electrical savings, (with exception of tank recoating project drain/fill/etc use) due to the “non-degree day” influence on the plant overall.

**8. Budget Discussion.** Proposed spreadsheets of the FY 14-15 budget were provided, there has been three changes on the expenditure side: 1) The separation

of cost sharing on those line items that are utilized both by Water and Sewer Services, 2) the addition of one employee to health coverage that was previously covered outside of the budget (i.e. spouses coverage) and 3) correction of the split on Municipal Insurance (previously shown as 100% on the water side and 0% on the sewer side last month, i.e error on original calculations). On the water revenue side: There are 4 options were shown and the resultant Budget Summary pages. The options were: 0%, 1.0%, 1.5%, and 2.0%. There is no change proposed on the sewer side of revenue.

After a full discussion by the Commission, with emphasis of the future capital needs of the water system, a motion was made to propose a raise to the revenue portion water system, by an increase of the water rates by the 1.5% option presented, by S. Coyle and seconded by K. Frantzen, motion passed 5-0. The next motion was to prepare the revenue and expenditure portions of the depicting the 1.5% water rate increase for the FY 14-15 Sewer and Water Commission Operating Budget for a public hearing. Said Motion was made by R. Peter and seconded by K.Frantzen. Motion passed 5-0.

9. **Adjourn** - Motion to adjourn, by S. Coyle, second by K.Frantzen; Motion approved 5-0. Chairman LeMay adjourned the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
James Paggioli, L.S.