

**WPCA Minutes
Tuesday June 10, 2014**

Present: Donna Bednar, Rob McCarthy, Frank Chan, Dimitri Tolchinski, Rich Prendergast, Doug Wilkinson, Chairman Kurt Zemba; Tom Risom joined the meeting in progress; First Selectwoman Bonnie Reemsnyder; Sanitarian Sonia Marino; Consulting Engineer David Prickett

Absent: Ernest Lorda, alternate Andrea Lombard

Also present: 10 residents, including Selectwoman Mary Jo Nosal

1 Call to Order

Chairman Kurt Zemba called the meeting to order at 7:34pm.

2 Approval of the Minutes – May 13, 2014

Kurt reminded members that once minutes have been submitted, they cannot be edited, corrected, clarified or revised until they are reviewed at the next public meeting of the board. He stated that it is improper to submit minutes to a board chair for revision before submitting them to the board members.

A motion was made by Dimitri Tolchinski, seconded by Doug Wilkinson, to approve the minutes of May 13, 2014. Motion passed.

3 New Business

Kurt explained that he had moved New Business up in the Agenda order in case Gary Yuknat of Shoreline Sanitation was present to explain recent changes at his company. Gary will continue providing curbside trash and recycling collection to the Town, but has sold the septic hauling portion of his business. Kurt said he expects that Gary will attend a future meeting to discuss.

- **First Selectwoman Bonnie Reemsnyder**

First Selectwoman Reemsnyder thanked the WPCA members for their hard work, acknowledging that the decision made by the WPCA at their May meeting was a difficult one. She updated members on her recent meeting with Governor Dan Malloy at which she expressed her respect for the current WPCA and her desire to heal the Town/DEEP relationship and Town/ shoreline association relationships which, in the past, had been contentious. Bonnie asked for the Governor's assistance in reminding the DEEP of their obligation to work together with the Town and in acquiring additional funding for the Town's wastewater project. She emphasized that the Town needs the State as a partner on the project and believes the Governor will advocate for the Town where he can.

4 Chairman' s Report

- **Upcoming Meetings**

On Wednesday, June 11, Denise Ruzicka and Carlos Esquerra from the DEEP will be at Town Hall to meet with Bonnie, Kurt, Dave Prickett, Sonia and Andrew Lord to discuss the next steps in the project.

A meeting will be scheduled for June 25 at 1pm with Town, DEEP, and shoreline association representatives to map out a preliminary timetable for the project. Tom Risom indicated he could attend to represent the WPCA.

Kurt stated that notes from those meetings will be forwarded to WPCA members. He indicated that communication to community members will be vital as the project moves forward.

The Town is moving forward to hire a WPCA Administrative Assistant, to be supervised by Sanitarian Sonia Marino. Kurt stated this new position will become critically important as the project progresses.

- **Sewer Avoidance Testing for 2014 and 2015**

Kurt stated that he has asked Brian Curtis of Jacobson Engineering to discontinue sewer avoidance testing. Funds budgeted for the testing can be used to cover project expenses. Members did not object

- **WWMP Attorney Update**

Attorney Andrew Lord has advised that he is leaving the firm of Murtha, Cullina for a new opportunity. Kurt will schedule further discussions on the topic on future WPCA agendas. He expressed the need to seek an attorney with similar expertise.

- **Software - Programming Update**

Former WPCA member Mike Dickey, who set up the current septic pumping program used by the Town Health Dept, has agreed to assist with updating the program. Kurt will contact him again after the summer.

- **WPCA July Meeting**

The WPCA's July Meeting will be on July 8 at 7:30 PM in the Meeting Hall

The Town Sanitarian's Report was deferred to the July 8th meeting

- **Determination of Need for an August WPCA Meeting - Action Required**

Kurt stated that the WPCA has not typically met in the months of August and December. He added that a Special Meeting can always be called if necessary. A motion was made by Tom Risom, seconded by Donna Bednar, to cancel the scheduled August 2014 meeting of the WPCA. Motion passed.

6 Shoreline Project – Woodard & Curran - Dave Prickett

Dave Prickett will continue working on the Wastewater project as a sub-contractor with Woodard & Curran. He reiterated his professional commitment to the project.

He identified short-term milestones as the scheduled administrative meeting between the Town and the DEEP, and the subsequent administrative meeting with the Town, DEEP, and shoreline associations.

Dave expressed the need to plan for anticipated expenditure milestones and suggested that flexibility from the DEEP may be needed regarding the June 2016 consent order deadline. DEEP Director Denise Ruzicka has indicated that it would be appropriate to extend the deadline(s) based upon the cost efficiencies now included in the project.

Dave stated the immediate primary objectives for the Town as:

1. Confirming the level of grant funding available
2. Starting to explore the dynamics of inter-municipal agreements with East Lyme, Waterford, New London
3. Starting to explore the apportionment of costs among participating associations

The Town will proceed with plans for the neighborhoods under its jurisdiction. Planning for the pumping facility and main pipe will require coordination with the three associations under consent order.

Kurt interjected that funding from the Town will be required initially but user fees will reimburse the Town for any funds expended on the project. The cost to non-users of the wastewater system will be net zero.

Dave distributed draft materials showing the framework for the planning phase of the regional project, cash flow projections through December 2020 and preliminary cost sharing projections. That document is attached as part of these minutes.

WPCA members asked that future cost projections make it clear that non-participating residents that will not incur any expense for the project by illustrating how/when the Town will recover any funding it provides.

Initial assumptions on cost to residents in the 5 participating sub-areas are based on EDU (equivalent dwelling units) in those areas. For the small number of homes with systems that may be compliant in the areas, there appear to be three possible options: owners could be assessed on infrastructure but not charged a user connection fee; it might be determined by the Health Dept. that their system is not compliant; the DEEP could issue an order requiring them to connect to the regional system.

Kurt restated the importance of being prepared to communicate all of this information to residents at a Town meeting. Bonnie said that she has already had preliminary discussions with East Lyme about an inter-municipal conveyance agreement, and confirmed that the other Towns prefer to have one agreement with one entity.

Point O' Woods is already connected to the regional facility in New London, but the Town will make certain capacity for POW is included in the Town plans. Bonnie stated that although the Town of Old Lyme has no authority over POW, it is willing to be open-minded and work with them to solve any problems as necessary.

Budget Update - Current and Next Fiscal Year

Kurt distributed and reviewed a working WPCA budget document (attached), indicating where funding will come from for the wastewater project legal and consulting costs. He confirmed that funds for a mailing to residents have been included in the approved budget. Kurt requested a motion for the WPCA to continue to engage Woodard & Curran and Dave Prickett as project engineers. That motion was made by Frank Chan, seconded by Dimitri Tolchinski. Motion passed.

7 Old Business

- **Stormwater Compliance Status**

Sonia explained that Brian Curtis of Jacobson Engineering was engaged to bring the Town current and into compliance with the State's MS4 (municipal stormwater) permitting requirements. As reported at a previous WPCA meeting, the Town received permission from

the State to combine stormwater data from 2009 through 2011 into a single report. The cost of that work is \$15,500. If we remain out of compliance, the Town faces a \$30,000 fine.

At the suggestion of the Finance Director, the WPCA will ask the Board of Finance to allocate the \$15,500 needed to bring Stormwater current. Stormwater funding was not previously listed as a line item in town budgets. Going forward, a stormwater allocation, including any necessary annual expense for sampling and updating, will be part of the WPCA budget.

Correspondence

Prior to the meeting Kurt shared via email correspondence received from Steve Dix with suggestions for the wastewater project. Kurt advised him that, while his recommendations have merit, the WPCA has moved on and the DEEP has made a final determination.

Public Comment

Selectwoman Mary Jo Nosal shared an article published in The Day in 2010 in which DEEP engineer Dennis Greci indicates that the DEEP was just beginning to study the potentially harmful effects of pharmaceuticals, caffeine, and other residues in wastewater that are emptied into the Thames River from regional wastewater facilities. She believes the Town and WPCA need to continue to discuss the issue of contaminants that remain post-treatment.

Resident Doug Whalen introduced himself as the chief elected official of Old Colony Beach and said he looks forward to the meeting on the 25th. He stated that past Town administrations and WPCAs had ignored the shoreline associations, pushing them into independent action. First Selectwoman Reemsnyder responded that she has extended an olive branch from the beginning of her administration, and that previous administrations had acted in the best interests of the Town. She said she hopes this is the last time the past will be revisited, and reiterated her commitment to working together with the shoreline associations to do what is "best for the community and for this earth." Kurt added it was time to move forward and preserve our environment.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Dimitri Tolchinski, seconded by Rich Prendergast to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 9:14pm.



Cathy Frank

6/12/14

Thames

Millions of gallons of wastewater is not what you think

By Judy Benson

Publication: The Day

Published 09/06/2010 12:00 AM

Updated 09/06/2010 03:25 AM

For most of southeastern Connecticut, every flush of the toilet, drain of the shower and final rinse of the laundry is destined for the Thames River.

Between its beginnings in Norwich and its mouth in New London, the 16-mile estuary serves as the bottomless sink at the end of the plumbing systems for all or part of 13 communities. The five sewage treatment plants that serve these communities empty about 21 million gallons a day of wastewater into the river.

With the exception of the Norwich plant, which is in the process of a major overhaul, the plants that empty into the Thames are releasing water that's "cleaner than the river water it's going into," said Dennis J. Greci, supervising sanitary engineer for the state Department of Environmental Protection.

Greci said that even the best of treatment plants are still facing future upgrades so that pollutants not even considered a few years ago will be removed. Phosphorous is one target, along with the residues of all the medicines, other pharmacy products and even some foods people consume every day that end up getting passed through the human excretory system or dumped down the sink or toilet. Even caffeine is showing up in wastewater.

Some of these residues are being shown to be endocrine disrupters that can have harmful effects on developing marine life.

"We're just starting to study this," Greci said. "We've gotten all the really gross pollutants out, and now we're finding this other stuff. But we don't understand yet how much is too much. We don't really know yet which ones to worry about, or which ones are settling out in the sludge or being broken down."

Thames River sewage plants:

Sewage treatment plants that empty into the Thames River:

New London plant:

Communities served: New London, Waterford, East Lyme, and portions of Old Lyme

Flow: 8.28 million gallons per day

Upgrades needed: \$8.2 million to improve sewer system

Montville plant:

Communities served: Montville and Mohegan

Flow: 4.5 million gallons per day

Upgrades needed: \$2 million in sewer extensions

Norwich plant:

Communities served: Norwich and portions of Franklin, Sprague, Lisbon and Preston

Flow: 5.34 million gallons per day

Upgrades needed: \$89.89 million in projects, the largest to improve the treatment process and create separate wastewater and stormwater systems

Groton City plant:

Community served: Groton City

Flow: 2.11 million gallons per day

Upgrades needed: no current identified needs

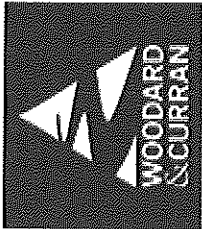
Groton Town plant:

Communities served: Town of Groton and Naval Submarine Base

Flow: 2.99 million gallons per day

Upgrades needed: \$3.92 million to improve pump stations

Source: Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection. Flows from 2009.



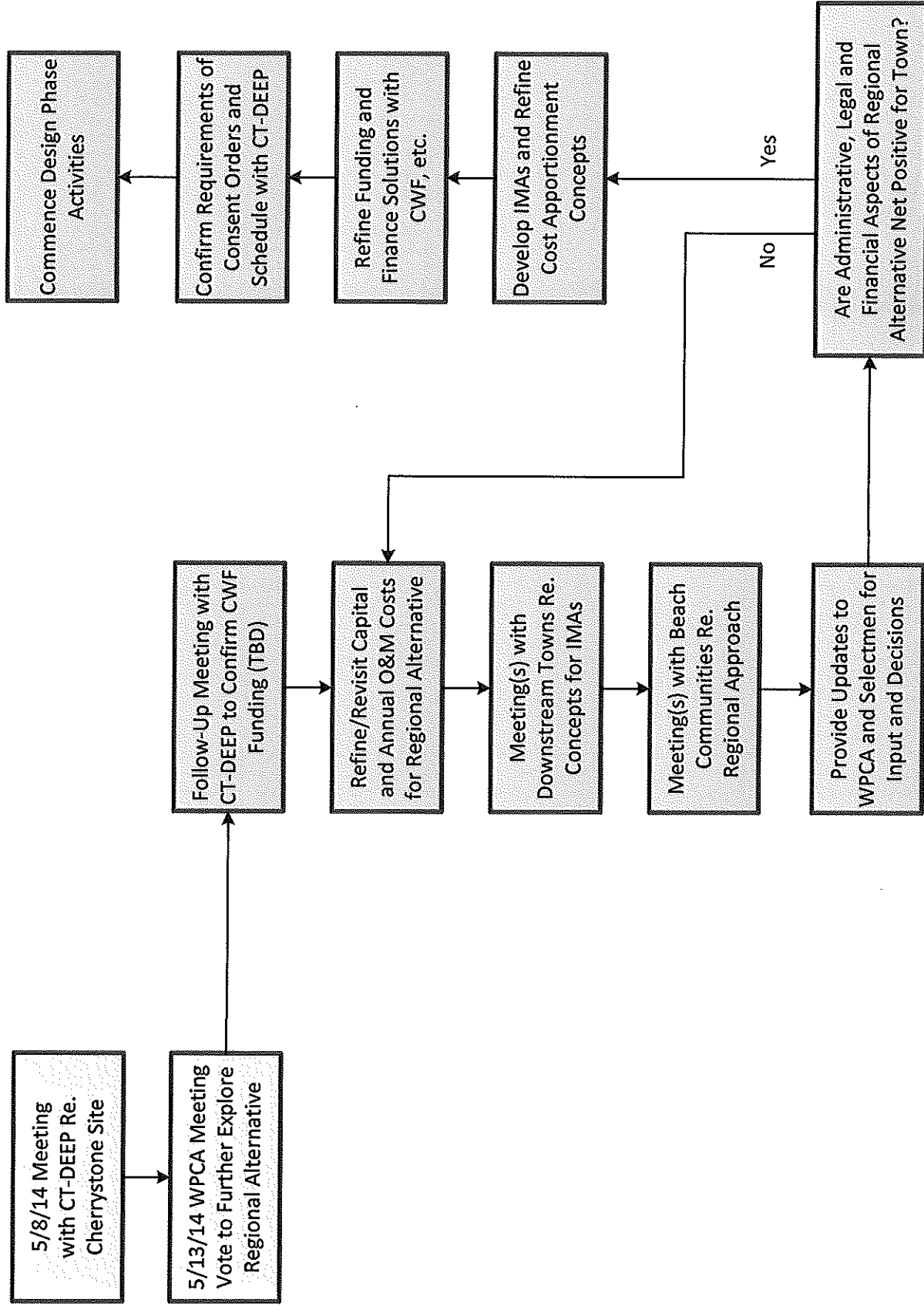
Issued on May 30, 2014

Figure A: Framework for Planning Phase Approach to Regional Alternative

Coastal Wastewater Management Plan

Town of Old Lyme, Connecticut

DRAFT



Cash Flow Projections

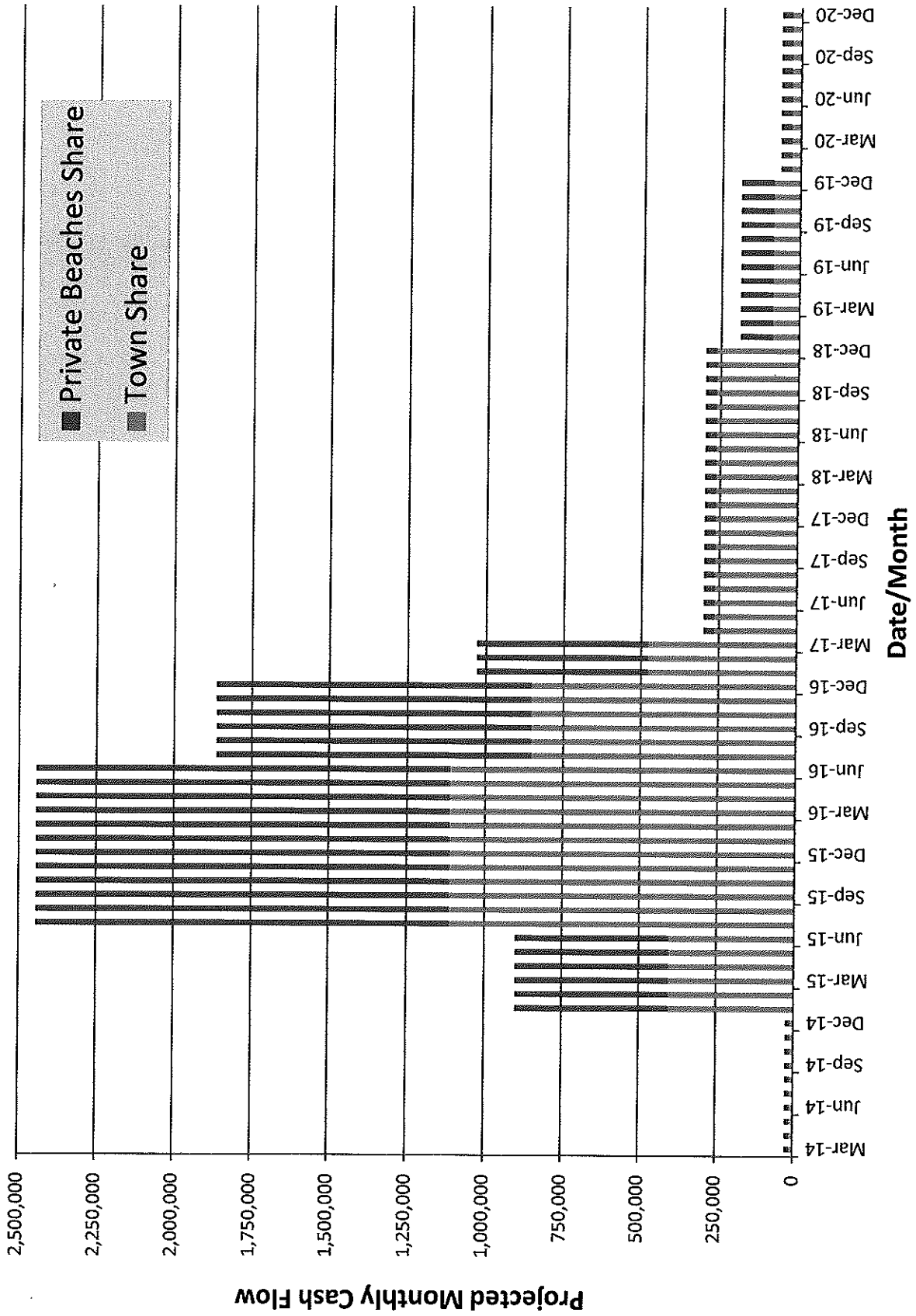


Table 1 - Preliminary Cost Projections and Cost Sharing Concept

Project Phase	Opinion of Probable Cost	Anticipated Start Date	Anticipated Completion Date	Anticipated Duration (Months)	Approximate Town Share	Approximate Share by Private Beaches
Planning & Preliminary Design Phase	\$ 269,000	03/01/14	12/30/14	10	\$ 121,000	\$ 148,000
Old Lyme's Buy-In Costs for New London Capacity	\$ 6,955,000	07/01/15	06/30/16	12	\$ 3,129,000	\$ 3,826,000
Old Lyme's Share of Upgrades in East Lyme and Waterford	\$ 10,476,000	01/01/15	12/30/16	24	\$ 4,714,000	\$ 5,762,000
Common Sewer In Old Lyme	\$ 11,125,000	01/01/15	12/30/16	24	\$ 5,006,000	\$ 6,119,000
Private Sewers in Old Lyme Shores (Sub-Area 8)	\$ 2,479,000	07/01/15	04/01/17	21	\$ -	\$ 2,479,000
Private Sewers in Old Colony Beach (Sub-Area 7)	\$ 4,895,000	07/01/15	04/01/17	21	\$ -	\$ 4,895,000
Town Sewers in Sound View (Sub-Area 6)	\$ 5,904,000	07/01/15	04/01/17	21	\$ 5,904,000	\$ -
Private/Town Sewers in Miami Beach and Hawk's Nest (Sub-Area 5)	\$ 6,970,000	07/01/15	04/01/17	21	\$ 3,485,000	\$ 3,485,000
Town Sewers in White Sands Beach (Sub-Area 2)	\$ 4,927,000	04/01/17	12/30/18	21	\$ 4,927,000	\$ -
Old Lyme's Share of New London WPCF Upgrades	\$ 1,500,000	01/01/19	12/30/19	12	\$ 675,000	\$ 825,000
Totals =	\$ 55,500,000	03/01/14	12/30/19		\$ 27,961,000	\$ 27,539,000

WPCA BUDGET

MONTHS / YEAR	New Fiscal Year 2014-2015	Budget 2013- 2014	Current Year Expenditures	Carry Over	Adjustments	2013-2014 Remaining	Current	
							Pending	Adjusted
EXPENSES								
01-202-0220-0000-000 Advertising / Legal Notices	\$1,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00			\$0.00		\$0.00
01-202-0220-0002-000 WP Clerk WWM Project	\$2,400.00	\$1,763.00	\$600.00			\$600.00		\$600.00
01-202-0220-0003-000 WPCA Clerk	\$600.00	\$200.00	\$67.97	\$200.00		\$1,163.00		\$1,163.00
01-202-0220-0005-000 Supplies	\$2,000.00	\$400.00	\$601.00			\$332.03		\$332.03
01-202-0220-0006-000 Postage-Mailing Preparation	\$15,000.00	\$5,000.00	\$4,570.19	\$5,000.00	\$2,064.59	\$7,494.40	\$5,000.00	\$2,494.40
01-202-0220-0010-000 Consultant / Testing	\$17,000.00	\$16,500.00	\$14,918.59	\$3,806.00	\$1,535.31	\$6,922.72	\$10,000.00	-\$3,077.28
01-202-0220-0020-000 Storm Water Consultant	\$500.00	\$0.00				\$0.00		\$0.00
01-202-0220-0010-001 Waste Water Project - TF	\$2,000.00	\$750.00	\$788.90			\$400.00		\$400.00
01-202-0220-0012-000 Printing	\$0.00	\$0.00				-\$38.90		-\$38.90
01-202-0220-0020-000 WP Clerk	\$14,000.00					\$0.00		\$0.00
01-202-0220-0000-000 WWM Consultant	\$0.00					\$0.00		\$0.00
01-202-0220-0000-000 Data Processing Costs	\$0.00					\$0.00		\$0.00
01-202-0220-0000-000 WWM Wages	\$22,204.00					\$0.00		\$0.00
01-202-0220-0000-000 WWM Wages Overtime	\$0.00					\$0.00		\$0.00
01-202-0220-0000-000 WWM Taxes Employee Benefits	\$3,474.93					\$0.00		\$0.00
01-202-0220-0000-000 WWM Contracted Services	\$0.00					\$0.00		\$0.00
01-202-0220-0000-000 WWM Construction Projects	\$0.00					\$0.00		\$0.00
01-202-0220-0000-000 Bond Interest	\$0.00					\$0.00		\$0.00
01-202-0220-0000-000 Prior Year Refunds - Usage	\$0.00					\$0.00		\$0.00
01-202-0220-0000-000 Transport & Septage Disposal	\$100,000.00					\$0.00		\$0.00
01-202-0220-0000-000 Permitting	\$500.00					\$0.00		\$0.00
01-202-0220-0000-000 Town Contracted Services	\$400.00					\$0.00		\$0.00
01-202-0220-0000-000 Other Expenses MISC						\$0.00		\$0.00
Total Budget Expenses	\$181,078.93	\$25,713.00	\$21,646.65	\$9,006.00	\$3,599.90	\$16,672.25	\$15,000.00	\$1,672.25

Orange - Indicates Septage Transfer Numbers
 Blue indicates Wastewater Mgmt Project Costs
 Green Indicates Carryover Prior Year