

**Town of Montville Water and Sewer Commission
Special Meeting Minutes – August 7, 2019 – 6:00 p.m.
Town Council Chambers – Montville Town Hall**

1. Water and Sewer Commission

a. Call to Order

Chairman Rogers called the regular meeting of the Water and Sewer Commission to order at 6:00 p.m.

b. Pledge of Allegiance

All stood and pledged the flag.

c. Roll Call

Present were Commissioners Shawn Jinkerson, Chuck Longton, Anthony Siragusa, and Chairman/Town Councilor Jeff Rogers. Also present was WPCA Chief Operator/Superintendent Derek Albertson. Commissioner Brian Quinn and Mayor Ronald McDaniel were absent. A quorum was present.

d. Alterations to the Agenda -- *None*

e. 1. To consider and act on a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 1, 2019.
Motion by Commissioner Longton; seconded by Commissioner Siragusa to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 1, 2019. Discussion: none. Voice vote, 4-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

2. To consider and act on a motion to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of July 22, 2019.

Motion by Commissioner Siragusa; seconded by Commissioner Longton to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of July 22, 2019. Discussion: none. Voice vote, 4-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

f. Communications pertaining specifically to matters which concern the Commission -- *None*

g. Remarks from the Public Regarding Items on the Agenda with a three-minute limit

Chairman Rogers asked three (3) times for remarks. There were none.

h. Report from Operations/Administration Division

WPCA Chief Plant Operator/Superintendent Albertson submitted an Operations Report for July 2019 as follows:

1.0 Compliance/Process

1.1 Wastewater Treatment

Overall, wastewater treatment continued to improve in July--no effluent quality parameters were exceeded to date. Elevated BOD influent levels were detected--levels inconsistent with typical residential influent wastewater. Waste sludge was thickened to approximately 5.5% solids. Approximately 54 lbs/day of Total Nitrogen were discharged in the treated effluent--well below the CTDEEP general permit limit of 118 lbs/day.

Rand Whitney has begun its typical summer draw of recycle water (approximately 800,000 gpd) which is significantly higher than their winter draw. No problems have been reported associated with the increase in our supply of recycle water.

Communication failures (within the WPCF and collection system) were noted on July 20 and 21 due to the extreme heat. Additionally, a lightning storm on July 22 resulted in power surge alarms. A power loss was experienced on July 28 causing the plant to use the emergency power generators temporarily. No damages were noted for the incidents.

CTDEEP personnel were onsite for formal CMOM review/inspections on July 24 and 25. Previously prepared reporting for the collection system were provided to the regulatory team:

- August 2009 URS *Phase I Infiltration/Inflow Study*
- February 2012 URS *Phase II Infiltration/Inflow Study*
- March 2013 Woodard & Curran *Staffing Report*

The *Superintendent* prepared documents (prior to the regulatory visit) to address an adequate (future) response to the CMOM requirements:

- 2019 *Capacity, Management, Operation and Maintenance Program*
- 2019 *Capital Improvement Plan*
- 2019 *CCTV Inspection Program*
- 2019 *Phase I Collections System Jet/Camera Work Plan*
- 2019 *Manhole Inspection Program Summary*
- 2019 *Inverted Siphon Work Plan*
- 2019 *Fats, Oils and Grease Program*
- 2019 *Cross-Country Sewer Inspection Program*
- 2019 *Sewer Overflow and Backup Response Plan*

The CTDEEP investigation indicated non-compliance of accepted O & M practices for the Town's collection system--lack of dedicated staff (one full-time collections operator and one full-time collections maintainer), lack of annual CCTV work and annual cleaning, lack of response to the I/I issues identified in the URS reporting. Recent backups, a large pipe failure in 2007 and a large overflow in a cross-country sewer were noted.

1.2 Water Supply

The water supply met required standards. Routine water supply (line) flushing was completed in July with no reported concerns. Additional (pending) state testing (for copper and lead analysis) will require more work time for the water supply operators in the coming months.

2.0 Staff

2.1 Staff

No reports of employee injury this month. Staff identification cards are being prepared. An updated employee list (with phone numbers) was provided to the Police Dispatch on July 29. CT DOT *Flagger Training* was completed by staff on July 23. Bruce Kelly and Marcel Antonini completed CTDEEP *Spill Notification Training* on July 23. Mike Mateo (Maintainer) began CDL (B) training/testing in July. Kaustubh Bhasme (Master in Environmental Science student at the *University of Hartford*) began work as *Seasonal Environmental Engineering Associate* on July 29. The *WPCF Staffing Report* suggests the facility is understaffed by 2.5 full-time employees.

3.0 Equipment

The existing (unused) truck water tank was sold to *Service Station Equipment, Inc.* (Uncasville, CT) for \$10,000. A communication board was replaced at the Paintbrush Pump Station, and a new pump was installed at the Derry Hill Pump Station due to equipment failure. The former Holly Pump Station generator will be sold via an online auction service for government agencies (i.e., Municibid). The composite sampler was replaced at the MTUA Sandy Desert Pump Station- the older unit had failed. A review of land clearing equipment is being completed for the large cross-country clearing project.

4.0 Projects

4.1 Grit Chamber

MCA personnel were onsite on July 19 to confirm the plant water recycle feed for the proposed grit removal unit. Contractor bidding will begin in September.

4.2 Chlorination System/Recycle Water Pumping

The project will be completed in August 2019. The new equipment will allow better control of chlorine dosing (thus disinfection) and more effective recycle water delivery to Rand Whitney.

4.3 Emergency Power

The new generator and ATS were installed at the Holly Hill on July 22. The Pheasant Hill generator/ATS were installed on July 29. Twenty of the 24 pump stations now have standby power.

5.0 CIP Projects

5.1 Main Pump Replacement

An Influent Pump (new style, passable) was put online on June 19- this pump has reduced energy usage and water demand. An existing (old style, non-passable) pump was installed on July 19. A second pump (new style, passable) installation is scheduled for installation on August 8.

5.2 Cross Country Clearing

As part of the FY 2019 CIP, a land survey was completed. The data indicated the sewer line (from Colchester Road to Fellows Road) is outside of the easement in some areas- four properties near Fellows Road appear to be affected and Town legal council should be sought regarding this issue. For budget reasons, the clearing project will be abbreviated to make the access a narrower utility driveway.

6.0 Development

The former Faria property is proposed for residential development (72-unit apartment complex). The developer was provided the 2016 *Nathan L. Jacobson & Associates, Inc.* and the 2019 *Wright-Pierce* (utility connection) reports at July 18 and 30 meetings with the Town Engineer. Hydrant (flow) testing was completed on July 24.

A data center has been proposed for a property adjacent and north of *St. Bernard's High School*. A cursory review of plans at the Planning and Zoning Department indicated a 12-inch water delivery pipe and a 10-inch sewer lateral. No formal discussion has been received from the developer.

A *Wentworth Engineers, Inc.* site plan for *Lindo Construction, LLC* residential development at 90 Maple Avenue was received on July 23 and forwarded to the WPCA Engineer for review.

A WPCA *Special Meeting* was completed on July 22 to authorize the Mayor to enter into agreements with Eversource Energy and VFS Energy in conjunction with development of the co-generation plant to be installed at the WPCF. Mr. Walter Bonoal, Installation Manager for Doosan Fuel Cell America, Inc. was met onsite on July 30.

Chief Operator/Superintendent Albertson summarized his report for the Commission. Chairman Rogers stated Chief Operator/Superintendent Albertson's efforts have saved the Town money concerning the CT DEEP and CMOM deficiency issues identified by the DEEP in 2009, 2011, and 2013 reports that were not addressed. Chief Operator/Superintendent Albertson explained to Commissioner Longton about the Town's 7-mile long water system with its 24 pump stations and maintenance of it stemming from the Flint, MI issue. He said the State DEEP inquired years ago as to why two (2) staff persons were not hired to be in charge of the water system that he said he would bring to the attention of the Commission next month. Chairman Rogers commented on the recent purchase of a camera to check for breaches in the water system. Information from the camera can be viewed at 360 and 180 degrees and the data from it is downloadable. Chief Operator/Superintendent Albertson said up to this point, the water system had not been photographed or cleaned--10% and 20% annually, respectively--that could result in fines up to one million dollars. He addressed a question from Commissioner Siragusa concerning the cross country clearing and the water line and easement issue discussed at last month's meeting and his question as to why the Town's water needs to be tested if it is provided by Groton. Chief Operator/Superintendent Albertson explained that DPH requires source testing of 20 home residences. Further, he explained homes built prior to 1983 have copper piping that contain lead thus it must be assured that water from the system is not leaching lead. He also stated the Town

water lines are fairly new responding to Commissioner Longton concerning PH in the water and responded to his question regarding money saved on the generator commending staff persons John Lilly and Bob Fish for their efforts on the same. Chief Operator/Superintendent Albertson responded to additional questions of Commissioner Siragusa as to whether water rates should be increased given a recent action by SCWA and the loss of funds in the water budget last month by stating everything is “in good shape” and “doing just fine.” A question from Commissioner Siragusa regarding the lack of reporting on a diffuser generated a question from Chief Operator/Superintendent Albertson on the intent of his questions. Chief Operator/Superintendent Albertson clarified for Commissioner Jinkerson the purpose of CMOM, a non-funded band aid founded in standard EPA directives. He said it was unlikely the Town would be fined or held to executive order because of the same adding that the DEEP reports of 2009, 2011, and 2013 previously referred to should have brought before the Commission. He also said that the WPCA CMOM was written by him on his own time prior to State DEEP visits on July 23 and 24th. Chairman Rogers asked Commissioner Siragusa had there been any discussion by the past WPCA administration about CMOM, given his 10 years on the Commission but there had not been. Chief Operator/Superintendent Albertson then responded to questions regarding the cost of additional water tests which he said would be minimal but said collection system operators will require certifications at a cost of \$200. He proposed the transfer of an Operator 1 position to an Operator 2 position which he said would satisfy the State and then begin a plan to camera and report the water system. Chief Operator/Superintendent Albertson his development of the CMOM saved the WPCA \$100,000 in consulting costs and \$150,000 in engineering costs.

i. Report from Mayor -- *None*

j. Report from Engineers

Chief Operator/Superintendent Albertson discussed the grit chamber (which is now the facility conference room) installation and CMOM and reported the State was not notified when it was taken offline. He also reported the State was surprised there was not one in Town stating non-grit removal causes build-up and increases deterioration. Chief Operator/Superintendent Albertson stated any key equipment that goes offline must be reported to the State. Chairman Rogers commented that he wanted to investigate the same. Chief Operator/Superintendent Albertson updated the Commission on the affordable housing units on the former Faria property, the 87-unit property off Maple Avenue, and data center north of St. Bernard’s. He said the three (3) projects would close nearly one million dollars in connection fees and the Eversource/Cogen project will save \$50,000 per year in costs. Chief Operator/Superintendent Albertson also discussed expectations for water supply for the data center project stating he has no communication from the developers but said the plans call for a 12-inch water line going into a 16-inch. Discussion of the same will be added to the September meeting agenda. As to the cross country clearing and the misplacement of the water pipe, he originally said it would affect 16 properties but that number has been reduced to only four (4) properties, per a meeting he sat in on.

k. Executive Session

1. To Consider and Act on a Motion to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of providing the status update on a Personnel Matter and WPCA Audit.

Motion by Commissioner Longton; seconded by Commissioner Siragusa to forego the Executive Session for the purpose of providing the status update on a Personnel Matter and WPCA Audit. Discussion: Chairman Rogers stated he had nothing new to report. Voice Vote, 4-0, all in favor. Meeting carried.

l. Old Business -- *None*

m. New Business

1. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve year end budget transfers:

Transfer \$56,342.92 from account 99402000-54015 (Maintenance & Upkeep)

To account 99401000-52010 (Sodium Hypochlorite) \$10,506.40
To account 99401000-52040 (Polymer) \$45,836.52

Transfer \$35,000.00 from account 99403000-53010 (Electricity)
To account 99405000-57085 (Sludge Removal)

Motion – Discussion – Roll Call

**SAR-NO. 2020-01 THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION
HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve year end budget transfers:

Transfer \$56,342.92 from account 99402000-54015 (Maintenance & Upkeep)

To account 99401000-52010 (Sodium Hypochlorite) \$10,506.40

To account 99401000-52040 (Polymer) \$45,836.52

Transfer \$35,000.00 from account 99403000-53010 (Electricity)

To account 99405000-57085 (Sludge Removal)

Motion by Commissioner Longton; seconded by Commissioner Siragusa. Discussion: At the request of Chairman Rogers, Superintendent Albertson explained what he described as unexpected uses of sodium hypochlorite and polymer used in the past. He said there would be more controlled use of chemicals and less sludge removal. He said the line items transfers were to balance accounts for the fiscal year ending 2019. Roll Call vote: *In favor*, Commissioners Longton, Jinkerson, Siragusa, and Chairman Rogers. *Opposed*, none. Motion carried, 4-0.

n. Reports/referrals from Planning & Zoning -- *None*

o. Payment of Bills -- *None*

II. Water Commission

a. Report from Engineers

Chief Operator/Superintendent Albertson reported he would talk with engineers concerning water and lead discussed earlier.

b. Old Business -- *None*

c. New Business

1. **THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY
RESOLVES** to approve year end budget transfers:

Transfer \$22,216.81 from account 66402000-54070 (Meterline Replacement)

To account 66405000-57090 (Engineering Service)

Motion – Discussion – Roll Call

**SAR-NO. 2020-02 THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION
HEREBY RESOLVES** to approve year end budget transfers:

Transfer \$22,216.81 from account 66402000-54070 (Meterline Replacement)

To account 66405000-57090 (Engineering Service)

Motion by Commissioner Siragusa; seconded by Commissioner Longton. Discussion: Chief Operator/Supervisor Albertson explained the transfer was for additional costs concerning the pressure relief valve. Roll Call vote: *In favor*, Commissioners Longton, Jinkerson, Siragusa, and Chairman Rogers. *Opposed*, none. Motion carried, 4-0.

d. Remarks from the Public

Chairman Rogers asked three (3) times for remarks. There were none.

e. Remarks from Commission Members

Commissioner Jinkerson asked about the number of personnel on staff. Chief Operator/Supervisor Albertson said there 13 total with 10 full-time staff, one (1) summer help; and two (2) administrative staff. Commissioner Jinkerson then praised Chief Operator/Supervisor Albertson for his clarifications of points and his request for a bullet-format operations report. Chief Operator/Supervisor Albertson said the plant crew was the best he had worked with and the effort put into the CMOM was “to get ahead of it” as it was “not going away.” He explained that he “signs all documents that go to the State on behalf of the Commission and himself asserting the application of all regulations that he does not take lightly.” Chairman Rogers commended Chief Operator/Supervisor Albertson for getting ahead of the game on CMOM, for always standing behind his crew, and said “more savings affords the ability to do other things better”—sale of the trailer and the purchase of the camera.

f. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Longton, seconded by Commissioner Siragusa to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. Discussion, none. Voice Vote, 4-0, all in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Gloria J. Gathers
Recording Secretary, Town of Montville

AN AUDIO RECORD OF THE MEETING IS AVAILABLE ON THE TOWN WEBSITE.