

**Town of Montville Water & Sewer Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 7, 2021-- 6:00 PM
Town Council Chambers – Town Hall**

Hybrid Meeting via GoToMeeting and In-Person

The Town of Montville will be utilizing a hybrid GoToMeeting service and In-Person Attendance for this meeting.

Please register to attend the meeting at:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/310698133>

After registering you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

or by **telephone** or **VoIP: +1 (646) 749-3122** at the time of the meeting
Access Code: 310-698-133

Applicable toll charges may apply if connecting via telephone.

On May 20, 2021, Governor Ned Lamont issued an Executive Order 7B suspending in-person open meeting requirements, and to hold such meetings or proceedings remotely by conference call, videoconference, or other technology. Additionally, In-Person Attendance is allowed following the proper masking and distancing protocols.

Link: <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Office-of-the-Governor/Executive-Orders/Lamont-Executive-Orders/Executive-Order-No-7B.pdf>

For all publicly broadcasted meetings, public comment on agenda items or topics in accordance with the Town Charter may be submitted in writing in advance or by live audio via GoToMeeting.

Written comments must be emailed to the Town Clerk's Office at townclerk@montville-ct.org at least **1 working day in advance (if the meeting is on a Monday the questions must be submitted by close of business the previous Friday).**

Written comments may not be read in their entirety, but rather similar messages may be aggregated or paraphrased for submission to the Water & Sewer Commission.

Live audio comments may be made via GoToMeeting registering at the web address or calling from your telephone or by computer mic and speakers, VoIP, noted above.

Comments will only be accepted at times designated for public comment by the Chair of the meeting. The Water & Sewer Commission Rules of Procedure, decorum, timeliness, and suitability shall be followed and enforced in the same manner as if the meeting were held in person.

1. Water and Sewer Commission

a. Call to Order

Chairman Longton 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 Timothy May, Anthony Siragusa and Chairman Chuck Longton in chambers. Absent were Commissioners Brian Quinn and Commissioner Shawn Jinkerson. Also present were WPCA Chief Operator/Superintendent Derek Albertson and Mayor Ronald McDaniel. A quorum was present.

d. Alterations to the Agenda

Motion by Commissioner May; seconded by Commissioner Siragusa to add New Business, Item L.2, to request a formal bid waiver for repair of a manhole at Route 32 and Gallivan Lane. Discussion: None. Voice vote: 3-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

e. To consider and act on a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 5, 2021

Motion by Commissioner May; seconded by Commissioner Siragusa to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 5, 2021. Discussion: None. Voice vote: 3-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

f. Communications pertaining specifically to matters which concern the Commission

Mayor McDaniel reported receipt of an email from State concerning a grant and bond funding set to expire June 30, 2021, for which he requested an extension for one (1) year. The extension awaits the signature of the Attorney General.

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

Chairman Longton asked three (3) times for remarks from the public. There were none.

h. Report from Operations/Administration Division

Superintendent Albertson submitted an Operations/Administrative Report for May 2021 as follows:

1.0 Compliance/Process

1.1 Water Pollution Control Facility

Effluent from the Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) met state and federal action levels. Process has improved due to warmer conditions and the diligent work of the operators. Total Nitrogen (TN) loading was discharged in the treated effluent--almost 60% under the CTDEEP permit limit.

Waste sludge thickening was improved (4% solids) with fewer truck hauls as compared to last year leading to lower trucking costs. The weekly analysis of sludge samples continued to show no detectable amounts of mercury, allowing for a once per month sampling frequency instead of once per week sampling frequency. The MDC incinerator was closed from May 21 to May 23 and June 4 to June 7. Appropriate measures were taken to ensure proper solids management.

The volume of recycle water sold (20% increases in revenue) to Rand-Whitney has continued to increase due to their production expansion. The Superintendent met with Rand-Whitney on May 17 and June 2 to discuss the upcoming shut-down, quality of recycle water and process control. The next scheduled outage for Rand-Whitney is a 5-day annual outage beginning on June 14 at 5 a.m. which allows extensive plant cleaning and maintenance activities.

.....
Septic receiving continues to increase in monthly volume (10% increases in revenue) as compared to last year at this time.

1.2 Water Supply

The Montville Water Supply (WS) met required standards. The casino is drawing more water from the Montville Water Supply due to their increased attendance. The water operators have prepared the annual CCR which was distributed to ratepayers. An audit of water purchases indicated a COVID-related drop in demand with less water purchased in 2020 than 2019, and lost water is within range of last year's calculation. Groton Utilities (GU) supplied their summer flushing schedule on May 24.

1.3 Health Crisis/Cybersecurity/Spill Reporting/Wipes

The Superintendent is monitoring available health data to be informed on the local status of SARS-CoV-2 infections particularly those associated with new (more contagious) variants.

The United States' largest fuel pipeline had been mostly shut down on May 7 after a cybersecurity attack. Increasingly, water infrastructure has also been under attack by malware. The NSA has advised managers of water infrastructure to improve controls to combat intrusion. And detailed maps of utilities should not be made public. New "firewalls" have been installed for the WPCA business and operational internet connections. Additionally, a network protection agent was established for a secure connection SCADA firewall (login is required for remote access). Secure logins are now required to view utility data (i.e., sewer, water) on the GIS maps.

Under new *Right-To-Know* requirements the Health Director and Mayor will now be required to provide public information of a sewage spill (bypass). The Superintendent will ensure that descriptive mapping is available on the WPCA website to provide public information about releases.

A backup occurred (no bypass) on May 26 near 24 Wyndwood Lane (in the Hillcrest development) due to clogging from sanitary wipes. Of note, the *National Association of Clean Water Agencies* recently congratulated the Charleston Water System for its settlement with Kimberly-Clark Corporation regarding Cottonelle flushable wipes. Under this first ever settlement of its kind, Kimberly-Clark has agreed to ensure that its flushable wipe product will meet stringent standards set forth by the *International Water Services Flushability Group*. This is a significant achievement in ensuring "flushable" products actually perform as advertised and do not cause blockages in sewer systems.

1.4 Weather

According to the *Connecticut Interagency Drought Workgroup*, there are no drought designations currently. The *Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security* maintain a list of the municipal drought liaisons (MDL) for each municipality which includes the WPCA Superintendent. The MDL role was established in the *Connecticut Drought Preparedness and Response Plan* to enable better communication and coordination among state, regional and local government agencies during drought events. Although the area received close to 4 inches of rain over the holiday weekend, drier conditions could be expected stress municipal sources for adequate water production.

May 10 began *National Hurricane Preparedness Week* and June 1 signaled the beginning of hurricane season. As previously indicated, it is predicted that a large number of hurricanes will be generated. Routine checks of the plant and collection system (and water supply) emergency supplies promote preparedness.

2.0 Staff

2.1 Personnel

The *Seasonal Environmental Engineering Associate* began work on May 17. It is expected that a summer help position will be filled to assist with lawn mowing and related yard maintenance. The Maintainer, Mike Mateo gave notice on May 21; appropriate advertising for his replacement will be conducted. A previous WPCA staffing report indicated the crew was 2.5 members short of a full staff. In addition, the Superintendent has also completed duties of the Administrator position. Therefore, annual labor savings are considered significant.

A review of all (seasonal) safety equipment was conducted by the Superintendent. New safety clothing (yellow/reflective vests/t-shirts) was purchased for the summer season and due to the increased field work now being conducted.

Rich Huntley from Rand-Whitney will retire at the end of summer. On June 2, the Superintendent met with his replacement at the WPCF to establish rapport and extend contact information for staff.

2.2 Response to Health Crisis

OSHA reports that current (wastewater) disinfection techniques have been proven adequate to prevent transmission--extra measures are not needed and (water/wastewater) operator occupational risk of infection is considered low. The USEPA reports that the COVID-19 virus has not been detected in U.S. drinking water supplies.

The CDC reported on May 19 fully vaccinated Americans can now gather with other individuals without masks indoors and outdoors, even if some in their group are unvaccinated. Connecticut has demonstrated a high vaccination rate thus lowering the potential for transmission. Specific CDC recommendations for businesses were reviewed and incorporated into the operation of the WPCF. None of the current Montville WPCF team has indicated symptoms of COVID-19 or tested positive since the pandemic began. Public interaction continues to be minimal; appropriate controls are employed, if required. Staff was encouraged to test at the free clinics if a concern (potential exposure) arises. WPCF staff activity is in accordance with local guidelines and adherence to the CDC's directives.

2.3 Training

The Superintendent and staff continued to receive online (virtual) training to meet CTDEEP and CTDPH requirements for training credits. On May 11 and 12, staff received login training for the GIS mapping to access utility location information. Additional GIS (editor) training was conducted on May 19 to enhance the use of the new HMI (iPads) for field crews. Refresher training will occur for the existing Trimble R2 GNSS Receiver (GIS Transponder unit) for improving the GIS mapping for water and sewer. The Superintendent attended the CTWEA Executive Meeting on May 13 and the USEPA webinar *New England Water Sector Cybersecurity Forum* on May 26. A Barnes pump demo was provided at the plant on May 18 to showcase new cutter options to combat ragging issues. C.N. Wood of Connecticut, LLC will provide training (June) on the jet/vacuum truck in preparation on June 9 for summer sewer cleaning operations. Mock scenarios for emergency conditions were reviewed with call staff.

3.0 Equipment

3.1 WPCF

Disinfection (chlorine) of plant effluent began on May 1. The new chlorination system (installed in 2020) is working well (in coordination with the new recycling pumps) to establish a consistent and effective residual chlorine level within permit-required ranges. Confirmatory (biological) sampling results indicate effective kill rates for target organisms. Rand-Whitney has a scheduled outage allowing for the cleaning of the chlorine contact chamber.

The influent distribution box is failing due to erosion of concrete and rebar by hydrogen sulfide. This gas is a result of anaerobic conditions promoting bacteriological production of sulfuric acid. Initial study detailed elevated levels of the gas in this enclosed area. An engineering review (FY 2021 CIP) indicated eminent failure without immediate reconditioning. Woodard & Curran personnel are preparing a bid package for the in-situ rehabilitation of the concrete structure. It is expected that existing grant monies will be used for this project. Formal engineering inspections are proposed for the week of May 30.

Limited pesticide application for clover mites was conducted in and around the main building on May 18. The MTUA Sandy Desert PS was bypassed on May 19 for improvements; appropriate coordination was made with WPCA staff. For security purposes, a review of all exterior cameras (and associated monitors) was conducted. The security monitor in the operator room was replaced due to failure. The grinder pump inventory was completed. Additional new pumps were ordered

.....
in May. The Trimble R2 Transponder was inspected for future use in defining GIS data. The CCTV camera software was reviewed to adapt file saving from .avi to a more useable .mp4 format.

Sullivan's Northeast Hills provided a quote on May 25 for the FY 2022 CIP purchase of a working truck. Additional work (i.e. safety lights, lettering) will be conducted to make the truck appropriate for WPCA work.

Atlas Copco representatives were met on May 25 to confirm the delivery of the turbo blower (FY 2022) and the configuration for piping as well as SCADA control.

The hard drive for the Administrative Office desktop computer was replaced on June 1 due to failure. Additionally, a new monitor for one of the workstations in the operators' room and a new 32-inch monitor for view of the GBT Room were replaced.

3.2 Collection System

All pump stations were inspected during the month as well as CCTV sewer inspections in prioritized areas. The Chesterfield PS inspection/assessment was conducted with costing information expected in June. Formal manhole evaluations will begin in July. The CTDOT was met on May 21 to define permit requirements for working along Route 32. A manhole cover was replaced on Georgia Avenue on May 18. Following the replacement, an inventory of spare manhole covers was made to ensure adequate inventory. A pump failure occurred at the Kitemaug PS during the week of May 16; a RFP was received from Carlsen Systems for (in kind) replacement.

4.0 Projects

Please see the engineering summary table for information about WPCA projects. FY 2022 projects are not included.

4.1 WPCF

In a February 17 letter, the CTDEEP authorized the WPCA to construct the new grit classifier, grit separator, and the plant water modifications under the existing Grant (in accordance with the plans prepared by Martinez Couch & Associates (MCA)). The RFP due date was May 7 and the low bidder was awarded to O & G Construction. A zoning permit was never received in 2017 when the project was initiated and is outstanding at this point. The Engineer organized a meeting to review what the Planning department will require for review and approval of the project-- Administrative Approval will be made for the zoning plan and coastal site plan.

The RFP for the SBR-4 aeration improvement (diffuser/piping replacement) was advertised with a bid opening on April 27. The bid was prepared by the WPCA Engineer (Wright-Pierce) and awarded to Holzner Electric Company (DBA Holzner Construction). A project timeline is forthcoming.

The main building roof was inspected on May 25 to determine the cause of leakage near the administration offices. The leaking has increased and will require remedial action in the near future. The gravel lined portion of the roof appears to be the source of the mite infestation.

The SWPPP inspection occurred on May 27. Of note during the annual inspection, the emergency generator AST may need replacement, tote labelling and containment area for chlorine tote filling. The tote labelling has been completed and the containment area will be expanded.

The Superintendent planned a June bench scale analysis for the application of peracetic acid for disinfection after approval from the CTDEEP.

4.2 Regulatory Oversight

New WPCA sewer mapping consistent with the Connecticut *Conservation and Development Policies Plan* and the CTDEEP *Development of a Water Pollution Control Plan and Sewer Service Area Map* document has been completed and will be provided to the WPCA for approval and then to the Planning and Zoning Department and the CTDEEP and the State OPM. The updated sewer service area (SSA) map defines geographic areas designated for sewers.

.....
The effective date for the new *General Permit for Discharges from Miscellaneous Industrial Users* (MIU GP) was October 31, 2020. The expected changes to the MIU GP will require local (Superintendent) authority to regulate and enforce non-significant industrial users (non-SIUs) Modifications to current sewer regulations will be required related to the MIU GP. The Superintendent met with the CTDEEP in April to define record requirements at the plant relative to inspections.

The CTDEEP is upgrading the existing sewer bypass (spill of untreated wastewater) reporting system beginning October 2021. The current system requires an update to meet new state and federal requirements. To meet USEPA's *Cross-Media Electronic Reporting Rule* requirements, the CTDEEP will require a new subscriber agreement for e-reporting from the Signatory Authority (Mayor) to authorize a Subscriber (Superintendent) to submit electronic filings. Reporting responsibilities are now required for the chief elected official and the local public health official. Appropriate mapping will be imbedded on the WPCA website to accommodate the requirement. The Health Director and the Mayor were met on May 20 to discuss the reporting requirements and the proposed descriptive mapping.

The CTDEEP has proposed to sample and analyze 34 domestic treatment plants for the presence of a suspected carcinogen (PFAS, fire-retarding agent). This effort will include sampling of the receiving stream (Horton Cove/Thames River) along with fish by the selected consultant, Weston & Sampson Engineers. The effort is to assist the CTDEEP to evaluate PFAS into sanitary sewers and determine the extent and degree of PFAS at WPCFs at various points in the treatment train. Per CGS Section 22a-6(a)(6) (statute), the Commissioner may undertake any studies, inquiries, surveys or analyses deemed relevant, through the personnel of the department or in cooperation with any public or private agency, to accomplish the functions, powers and duties of the Commissioner.

4.3 CMOM

CAI Technologies (Town GIS contractor) rescued the extensive geographic information data from the stagnant URS files held at another engineering firm (AECOM). The URS Phase I and Phase II digital databases and graphics were recovered on May 11 from a software program. The extensive software program was determined to have failed to some degree, but some collections system images/camera footage was recovered and exported to the new GIS mapping. Previous camera images from the URS 2010 and 2011 reports were accessed for baseline comparisons to current images.

The URS mapping work was used to create the GIS map for the sewers along with the formal SSA map submitted to the CTDEEP. One of the primary goals was to prepare a map that more accurately defined the location of assets as well as the extent of sewers. The as-built plans provided insight into pipe sizing, material, direction of flow, and connectivity between the identified structures. CCTV is being used to confirm information where it was recommended for identification of I/I. The mapping has now been improved and finalized so now data editing and tracking will be done to record work. Additional work was completed so that new spill (bypass) reporting requirements are made.

On May 19, the Superintendent met with CAI personnel about using a combination of AxisGIS Editor and the ESRI ArcGIS Online to allow for future data edits, video/plan linking and cleaning/inspection (and other CMOM data) tracking to satisfy regulatory CMOM requirements. Real time changes to data can occur now with this software and a compatible HMI (computer pad). All CCTV (.avi) files have been converted (to .mp4) and uploaded for safekeeping. Training for staff about software manipulation of GIS imaging was conducted on the new HMI units. There have been additions to include inspection forms to track cross country clearing, cleaning and camera work; lines that were cleared will show as a big thick green dashed line, purple dashed indicates CCTV inspected lines and yellow indicates cleaned lines. Spill reporting will be shown as a red dot.

As indicated, a critical manhole was identified which requires rehabilitation. The WPCA Engineer (Wright-Pierce) provided final design for the in-situ rehabilitation work for the damaged asset at the intersection of Norwich-New London Turnpike (Route 32) and Gallivan Lane. As-built drawings were located on May 18 and provided to the Engineer. The CTDOT has requested formal

.....
drawings which is unusual for a manhole replacement in-kind. The CTDOT is not going to mill and pave this section of Route 32 this year as previously indicated. Additional research was conducted in an attempt to conduct in-situ remediation of the manhole. Meetings were held on May 26 and June 3 to define construction options.

The *Montville Sewer Easement Improvements Project* (CIP FY 2020, Contract 1) is complete and the budget will support the additional work. Suchocki & Son, Inc. (clearing contractor) indicated there has been some ATV/dirt bike damage to hydro-seeded areas. The police were notified of the vandalism. Wright-Pierce and WPCA personnel inspect the job site often and have found appropriate sediment and erosion control measures. The project provides access to a large sewer main which had surcharging in the past. A final walk-through inspection occurred on May 25. The holiday rain event did not adversely affect the cleared areas.

The 2011 URS Phase II inflow and infiltration reporting (to sewers) was reviewed. The WPCA Engineer (Wright-Pierce) recommended focused work to identify key infiltration and inflow (I/I) areas to consider for remediation (comparison of costs for correcting conditions to the total costs for transportation and treatment). In general, the work recommended was significantly more streamlined than that previously proposed by URS. Specifically, the project consists of inspecting 50 to 60 manholes and providing field oversight and guidance on the closed caption television (CCTV) of approximately 11,000 linear feet of pipelines. Cleaning and CCTV work continued in May--cleaning and inspection work will total 2.25 miles; a larger production total when compared to last year. A total of 37 camera events were recorded in The Manor (an area considered to be a priority I/I problem location). Some structural concerns have been identified in sewer lines and access manholes.

Previously identified (paved over) manholes were uncovered for sewer pipe access. Previously, a number of manholes had been inspected, but additional manhole inspections will occur in July. A manhole located on California Circle (The Manor) was determined to be failing during CCTV work on May 26. Immediate action was taken for remediation of the manway to prevent cave-in. FOG inspections were suspended due to the pandemic, but Class III and IV food establishments will be inspected later in 2021 upon re-opening.

Woodard & Curran personnel were met onsite on May 13 for work on the FY 2021 CIP Pequot and Hillside PS work.

4.4 Water Supply

The volume of water purchased from Groton Utilities (GU) continues to be lower than normal--approximately 30% less than prior to the Covid-19 pandemic. It was noted that MTUA purchased a significant amount of water the weekend of May 15 and 16 due to venue attendance.

CAI Technologies (Town GIS contractor) will be provided information for the development of accurate mapping for the Town's water infrastructure using a combination of existing (CLA Engineers) mapping and improvements. The priority is sewer infrastructure mapping.

The cost-benefit analysis showed that the GFTS (Glass-Fused-To-Steel) tank replacement would be a viable option for Cook Water Storage Tower. The WPCA approved the replacement during the January 4 meeting. The Town Council approved the application for funding on March 8. The preliminary engineering report was approved by the CTDEEP on April 5. CTDEEP comment on the RFQ was received on April 16. After reviewing the CTDEEP input, a formal RFQ was advertised with a due date June 8. The CTDEEP case manager was reached on May 24 and 26 to discuss the project schedule (i.e., RFQ, Design, Schedule).

5.0 Development

Other than incidental single-family home construction, no significant requests for information were requested.

6.0 Finances

The FY 2022 WPCA Sewer and Water Budgets (which include the CIPs) were approved at the April 12 Town Council Meeting. The budgets provide transparency to rate payers about the

WPCA priorities. The WPCA annual report narrative and delinquent account report were submitted to the Mayor's Office in January for the Town's annual report.

Blum Shapiro (Town Accountants) will begin a formal review of the WPCA during the second week of June.

6.1 Accounts Review

Budget sheets and account balances are included within the WPCA meeting materials. The WPCA Accountant and the Superintendent meet daily to review expenditures and revenues for wastewater and water supply operations with respect to the approved FY 2021 budget as an Enterprise Fund established to meet goals. Most utilities have seen a tremendous dip in their revenues during the pandemic. Here in Montville, there has been an increase in revenues (due to increased septic receiving volumes and recycle water sales). Additionally, savings have been significant. Larger expenditures are organized by FY CIP or WPCA-approved budgets. Prior to the end of the FY, the budget sheets will be balanced (no deficit spending) and may include the fund balance (to or from). Note that assigned monies for CIP continue on to the project to which they were assigned. All said, FY 2021 has been a successful year.

6.2 Assets

The WPCA asset listing was improved for FY 2020 and FY 2021 and will be instrumental in the asset management program to be completed in 2022. The Superintendent along with the GIS contractor and WPCA Engineer will assist in identifying appropriate software support for managing assets. Previous engineering reports/software from 2010 are considered resources for condition assessments of sewer assets. Funds in the water and sewer accounts have been appropriately reserved for capital improvement with the development of a 5-year projection. Some bonds, a grant and a proposed grant are considered for current and future asset financing.

6.3 Pandemic Response

The executive orders established during the course of the COVID-19 pandemic were extended (*Declaration of a Health Emergency*). The declaration authorizes the Governor to order certain actions that will help expedite potential reimbursement funding to municipalities. Reimbursable items would include PPE.

6.4 Grants

President Biden unveiled a more than \$2 trillion infrastructure package, which includes \$111 billion for U.S. water infrastructure over the next 10 years. The American Jobs Plan includes \$56 billion in grants and low-cost flexible loans to states for upgrading drinking water and wastewater systems.

Some current wastewater projects are funded by State funds including two bonds and one grant (CTDEEP \$5 million *Grant-in-Aid for Sewage Treatment Facility Infrastructure Improvements and Upgrades at the Montville WPTF- State Grant Agreement 2017-170491*, approved via March 2014 Town of Montville Resolution No. 2014-25). The bonds were for infrastructure improvements within the plant. The grant money is being used for the new chlorine system, new recycling pumps, and grit removal system. The Mayor requested an extension for the Grant (due to expire in June 2021). On June 1, the Mayor was notified that the extension has been drafted and routed for all the signatures of approval from CTDEEP. Once received, the Town will provide signature followed with a Town Resolution. The Town can continue to reference the original March 18, 2014 meeting with updated/signed documents by the Town Clerk with a current date, confirming as stated within, that "such resolution has not been modified, rescinded or revoked, and is, at present, in full force and effect." An incumbency document will be prepared to let the State know the person sending the invoices is the correct person in charge. Once the Town signs the contract, gets the State Attorney General approval, the remaining monies (> \$1 million) will be available to fund work within the WPCF. The monies may be used to replace all the remaining air diffusers in SBRs No. 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6.

The 2020 CTDEEP Draft *Integrated Water Quality Report* was prepared to satisfy statutory reporting requirements pursuant to the Clean Water Act (CWA) to assess designated uses established by the State's *Water Quality Standards* (CTWQS). Relative to the document, the treatment plant is a point source of discharge and is available for federal funding (grants and low

.....
interest loans) for wastewater infrastructure improvement projects. Additional CTDEEP grant monies were applied for via the *Connecticut Clean Water Fund Request to Place Project on Priority List* for monies for constructing a (sewer) collection system asset management plan. A public hearing will be held for the Draft FY2021 *Clean Water Fund Priority List* on March 30.

Potential water grant needs were sent to the CTDPH via their *Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Project Eligibility Application*. Specifically, grant monies would help pay for the replacement or painting of the Cook Tower water storage facility. A WPCA FY 2021 CIP project allowed for an engineering report to determine a course of action for the water facility and FY 2022 CIP allowed for \$1 million to be financed through the grant program. Project meetings have been held with Raul Tejada on May 24 and 26, CTDEEP *Sanitary Engineer 3* to discuss project scope and an engineering RFQ. The *DWSRF Project Rollover Application* was updated on May 27 to move the project along- note the costing and the budget are not binding.

On January 13th, 2021, a disaster declaration was made for the August 2020 *Tropical Storm Isaias* in Connecticut (DR-4850-CT). This declaration will provide federal funding to state and eligible local governments on a cost-sharing basis for emergency protective measures in all counties of the state. In response to this disaster declaration, Wright-Pierce (WPCA Engineer) to conduct a cursory evaluation of flooding and storm resiliency of the water and sewer assets owned and operated by the Montville WPCA. Currently no qualifying assets have been identified, but new FEMA mapping will likely change flood zones to incorporate one or more pump stations.

In late April, the U.S. Senate overwhelmingly approved the first major infrastructure bill in this Congress that would authorize over \$35 billion to upgrade the country's drinking and wastewater systems, a rare bipartisan show of support as the lawmakers remain divided over other infrastructure investments. *The Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act*, which passed 89-2, would give the EPA funding for grant programs and revolving loan funds to help communities upgrade aging infrastructure, invest in new technologies and support disadvantaged communities.

6.5 Energy

The Doosan *PureCell Model 400* Fuel Cell unit began producing power in June 2020 at near 100% capacity resulting in a large drop in grid power demand. The onsite generation has led to significant savings by reducing the transmission costs. Maintenance for makeup water (i.e., resin bottle change out) was not required for almost one (1) full year of continuous operation and is exceptionally good (typically require monthly change-outs).

Superintendent Albertson summarized the report stating processes are going well and the plant has met all federal and state guidelines. Also, Rand-Whitney has increased its water usage volume and septic volume has increased 10% compared to this time last year. The new *Right-to-Know* requires providing public information on sewage spills that Superintendent Albertson will take the lead on and provide feedback to Mayor McDaniel. Commissioner Siragusa commented on an email he sent about a blockage on Hillcrest Lane on May 26th.

i. Report from Mayor

Mayor McDaniel remarked the Town budgets for the upcoming fiscal year have passed and the Town Council also approved the funding for the Cook Water Tower replacement. Commissioner May asked about the progress on the Administrator position. Mayor McDaniel remarked the Commission agreed to move ahead and advertising had been done. He agreed to notify Commissioner May of the associations the information was sent to. Superintendent Albertson reported on ten (10) calls received about the position.

j. Report from Engineers

Superintendent Albertson referred the Commission to the engineering summary included in the meeting packet for status on those projects. CIP and other projects are moving along including the near completion of the chlorine recycle pump project. Part One of the crossway project is complete and was delayed due to permitting.

k. Old Business -- *None*

l. New Business

1. To consider and act on repurposing CIP monies.

THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES hereby resolves to repurpose FY 2020 (RAS Meter: \$50,000) and 2021 (SBR Level Meter: \$10,000) CIP monies to comply with new *Right-to-Know* requirements regarding public disclosure of a sewage spill (bypass). The money will be used to ensure that descriptive mapping is made available on the WPCA website (by the Town/WPCA GIS contractor and WPC Webmaster) to provide public information about releases.

Motion – Discussion – Roll Call

SAR No. 2021-17 THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES to repurpose FY 2020 (RAS Meter: \$50,000) and 2021 (SBR Level Meter: \$10,000) CIP monies to comply with new *Right-to-Know* requirements regarding public disclosure of a sewage spill (bypass). The money will be used to ensure that descriptive mapping is made available on the WPCA website (by the Town/WPCA GIS contractor and WPC Webmaster) to provide public information about releases. Motion by Commissioner May; seconded by Commissioner Siragusa. Discussion: Commissioner Siragusa questioned whether budget was being changed. Superintendent Albertson said the funds were being shifted from one CIP line item to another. Mayor McDaniel explained the CIP Plan has various items under it with and this funds shift will not have a specific number. There are no general item numbers for specific CIP Projects said Chairman Longton. Commissioner Siragusa thought the Town GIS provided day-to-day updates, but Mayor McDaniel explained there is an overlay on the Town System that is not always accurate. Roll Call vote: *In favor*: Commissioners Longton, May, and Siragusa. *Opposed*: none. Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

2. To consider and act on a request for a formal bid waiver.

THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES to waive the bid process for the repair of the manhole at Route 32 and Gallivan Lane at a cost not to exceed \$70,000 as it is in the best interest of the Town Montville.

Motion – Discussion – Roll Call

SAR-No. 2021-18 THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES to waive the bid process for the repair of the manhole at Route 32 and Gallivan Lane at a cost not to exceed \$70,000 as it is in the best interest of the Town Montville. Motion by Commissioner May; seconded by Commissioner Siragusa. Discussion: Superintendent Albertson reported on the manhole that has been inspected periodically but upon inspection on Friday, June 4 by Savoy & Son, a State-approved company, was deemed to be near failing with the potential for causing a sinkhole, damage to sewer lines and a water main in addition to being a traffic hazard. He explained the work could be completed in six (6) 10-hour days beginning Monday, July 12 at a cost of \$68,999.27. Commissioner Siragusa inquired about other manholes in need of repair; Superintendent Albertson spoke of a force main in really bad condition that is continually monitored, and the review of others scheduled for July. Commissioner May spoke of the discussed Town Charter and the waiving of the bid process. Mayor McDaniel spoke of a newly drafted purchasing policy and said its guidelines would be discussed at the next Commission meeting concerning State bids. Roll Call vote: *In favor*: Commissioners Longton, May, and Siragusa. *Opposed*: None. Vote 3-0. Motion carried.

Commissioner Siragusa asked about the contractor that was available for emergency response. Superintendent Albertson said this matter was a specialty item and said there are only three (3) companies in New England that does this type of work.

m. Reports/Referral from Planning & Zoning

Commissioner Siragusa reported no meeting was held this month.

II. Water Commission

a. Report from Engineers

Superintendent Albertson said he had nothing to report other than the hydrant flushing by Groton, He was the Town would do the same in June. Commissioner May reported on the 130 building permits issued, new business, and water expansion that he asked Superintendent Albertson to include in his report next month.

b. Old Business – *None*

c. New Business -- *None*

d. Remarks from the Public

Chairman Longton asked three (3) times for remarks from the public. There were none.

e. Remarks from Commission Members

Commissioner Siragusa spoke of a neighbor who had issues trying to request a permit to build a porch and who spent an hour on his computer without success. Commissioner May spoke of the Everidge system and surveys funded about that concern. He said the Town is working with the vendor. Mayor McDaniel also added the problems are being worked but said individuals can still come into the office to complete a request for permit.

f. Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner May; seconded by Commissioner Siragusa to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m. Discussion: none. Voice vote: 3-0, all in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Gloria J. Gathers
Recording Secretary, Town of Montville

**AN AUDIO RECORDING OF THE MEETING IS AVAILABLE ON THE TOWN OF
MONTVILLE WEBSITE.**