

Water Pollution Control Authority
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 7, 2014

The Town of East Hampton Water Pollution Control Authority regular meeting of October 7, 2014 was held at 5:30 P.M. at the Town of Colchester–Town of East Hampton Wastewater Treatment Plant, 20 Gildersleeve Drive, East Hampton, CT. All members were in attendance:

Mark Barmasse, Chairman
Ralph Nesci
David Kelsey

Daniel Valentine
John Suprono

Also attending was Vincent F. Susco, Jr., Public Utilities Administrator.

Call to Order

Chairman Barmasse called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M. and appointed Mr. Susco as Recording Secretary for these proceedings.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Barmasse called for the approval of the minutes of the Public Hearing for Edgewater Hill held on August 5, 2014. Upon motion from Mr. Suprono, seconded by Mr. Kelsey the minutes of the meeting were approved 5-0.

Chairman Barmasse called for the approval of the minutes of the Public Hearing for Sewer Use Rates held on September 2, 2014. Upon motion from Mr. Valentine, seconded by Mr. Nesci the minutes of the meeting were approved 5-0.

Chairman Barmasse called for the approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held on September 2, 2014. Upon motion from Mr. Suprono, seconded by Mr. Valentine the minutes of the meeting were approved 5-0.

Public Remarks

There was no public in attendance.

Review of Correspondence

The correspondence list is attached and made part of these minutes. No questions were presented by the members

Joint Facilities Committee

Chairmen Barmasse called upon management to present the Joint Facilities meeting of September 16, 2014.

The new members of the Colchester WPCA were introduced.

Mr. Wagner, CDMSmith, presented the amendment that would finalize the design and prepare bid packages for the replacement of the Dissolved Air Flootation thickener with Rotary Drum thickener technology. The members voted to move forward with the improvements to the thickener building and related systems at a cost not to exceed \$36,100.00.

Superintendent, Scott Clayton, presented the July and August Report of Operations.

During the month of July the plant operated within parameters and dewatering occurred for 19 days. Work continued on the removal of the underground fuel oil tank that serviced the building. Plant personnel continued to address the issue of Digester foam. Staff prepared for the State wastewater treatment plant operator certification tests. Hebron experienced a weather related bypass that pointed out the need for better communications. Mr. Clayton has requested that issues in Hebron be reported to the Joint Facilities in a timelier manner to avoid a repeat occurrence. A Demand Response exercise was conducted during the month.

Numerous plant operations required attention during the month including but not limited to: DAF top collector, filter press feed pump, DAF plunger pump #1, waste pump #2 and sludge pit pump #1. In preparation for the winter all generators were serviced.

During the month of August the plant operated within parameters and dewatering occurred for 19 days. The DMRQA-33 study was completed and submitted to the State. All flow meters were calibrated and the new VFD was installed for waste pump #1. Management determined it was better to repair the 32 year old fork lift rather than to replace it. One member of the staff successfully completed the operator's exam. The plant for the first time has two Class III operators.

Numerous plant operations required attention during the month including but not limited to: the plant water strainer, chlorine contact tank, the DAF (again), the VFD for press feed pump #2, and the Ford F-250.

Management presented the first look at 14/15 expenses. Account #5430 *Bldg & Equip Maint Repair* will be the place holder for the recently approved pump repairs at the plant. Account #5742 *Vehicles* will be the place holder for the recently purchased F-250. The approved transfer for the pumps and vehicle will not be made at this time.

Mr. Barmasse presented agenda item #6 A, Succession Planning.

The members adopted a policy that would allow the position of Superintendent for the Colchester/East Hampton Water Pollution Control Facilities to accrue compensatory time on a 1:1 basis as required to keep the plant in compliance with permit and avoiding by-passes in all towns served by the Colchester East Hampton Joint Facilities.

At the request of the new members, management discussed the Capital Budget's funding source and how it is used to maintain the operations of the Joint Facilities.

This concludes the Joint Facilities Committee report.

Operations, Management & Budget Committee Report

Mr. Barmasse called for the current fiscal year budget status of the WPCA and Community Water systems. Management presented the first look at 14/15 expenses and indicated no line item is out of budget at this time in any of the budgets.

Public Water Systems

The Village Center Water System continued to run within parameters during the period. System wide flushing will take place the last week of October, newspaper releases and a legal notice have been prepared. Management indicated Hungerfords Pump Services will replace the failed pH probe and pre-amp for the pH recorder at a cost of \$1,200.00.

The Royal Oaks system presented several maintenance issues during the period. During the replacement of well pump #3 the annual "Aqua Gard Service" was performed. Subsurface Technology required a subsequent visit that established the drop pipe was plugged. It was purged at no cost to the Town.

The backwash pump for the greensand filters failed during the period and was replaced at a cost of approximately \$1,000.00.

On September 26, 2014 the Department of Public Health (DPH) Drinking Water Section DWS determined that the Phase 1B application for Hampton Woods meets the regulatory requirements. The Application now goes to the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) for financial analysis before the final decision on the Phase 1B can be made. Mr. Susco explained all "water quality issues" and the Developer's attempt to circumvent the need for a Diversion Permit, RCSA Section 16-262m-3(b)(3) have been addressed.

On September 10, 2014 the Department of Public Health (DPH) approved the first step of the Community Certificate for Public Convenience and Necessity, Phase 1-A for the "Villages at Long Crossing" now known as Pond Village. The approval of the well site suitability for the three (3) wells include several conditions that must be addressed by the Developer. All wells must be completed by March 15, 2015. Mr. Susco explained this approval is not the final approval of the Certificate for Public Convenience and Necessity as they must seek and obtain Phase 1-B and Phase II before construction may begin. All of which will require input from the WPCA.

Mr. Barmasse updated the members on the Water Development Task Force held on September 11, 2014. Ms. Carla Sylvester, Chairperson of Brownfields Redevelopment, provided an overview of Brownfields' current projects including Epoch Arts renovations, 13 Watrous re-development and an active watch of 10 Summit whose renovations are being impacted by the lack of water. Ms. Sylvester also expressed interest in this task force's activities and any potential impacts on Village Center water and will be sharing findings from an assessment they are currently performing of the Village Center ground water.

The members discussed the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) letter dated 9/4/14 outlining the balance of funds in the amount of \$493,871 that still exists from the FY2006 STAG Earmark Grant that was appropriated to the Town of East Hampton for water

infrastructure improvements. Mr. Susco explained that the original Grant amount was \$1,146,900 and included a 45% match from the Town. The task force discussed and agreed that there is not an opportunity at this time to utilize the balance, given the town does not have \$400,000 to cover their 45% local share.

Mr. Peter Hughes, Town Planner for the Town of Marlborough, joined the meeting to share his Town's experience attempting a partnership with Connecticut Water Company (CTWC). The result of this attempt was CTWC pulling out during final stages and the Town will be moving forward on their own as the Exclusive Service Area (ESA) provider.

Sewer Development

Work on the sewer installation at Edgewater Hill is nearly complete. Management expects the Developer will be before the members at the next meeting to reduce the construction bond.

Old Business

The members discussed the progress of replacing the Public Utilities Administrator. Chairman Barmasse expressed disappointment that the recommended job description forwarded to the Town on September 18th had not resulted in the job being advertised. He explained that both the JFC and WPCA desired some overlap with the new person before Mr. Susco departed and this delay will prevent that. The members discussed the need for a contingency plan and requested Mr. Susco to be prepared to discuss such at the next meeting.

Management continues to receive updates on the loss at the Hawthorne Road Lift Station. Currently the deductible (\$10,000.00) is being subrogated by the insurance company. A subrogation specialist has been in communication with the responsible party and a payment arrangement is being worked out.

New Business

The members continued the discussion of the current non-residential connection charge of \$1.00/square foot, minimum of \$2,500.00, as compared to the EDU charge for a building begun in the fall of 2013. Management presented the current *Sewer Use-Schedule of Units (Exhibit A)* and explained how the purpose of the connection charge (offset future plant upgrades) is not related to the sewer use charge (offset current operational costs).

The members discussed several ambiguities in the sewer use charges that management indicated could be changed only after a Public Hearing. He recommended this be done in May when all fees, including the connection charge levied by the WPCA are reviewed. The members agreed.

Chairman Barmasse requested that two additional items of new business be conducted. The members agreed.

Mr. Susco presented the Town of East Hampton's procedures related to purchasing agreements and contracts, and related forms of commitments for acquiring Federal Grants. After the members took a few minutes to read the document (made part of these minutes)

the following motion made by Mr. Nesci, seconded by Mr. Valentine was unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED: The Town of East Hampton Water Pollution Control Authority does hereby authorize the Public Utilities Administrator to execute "The Purchasing Policies and Procedures For Federal Grants" of the Town of East Hampton substantially in the form as presented at this meeting.

Mr. Susco indicated Joint Facilities employee David Clark had suffered a catastrophic loss as a result of a fire that destroyed his home. Management challenged the employees to support Dave both emotionally and financially. All financial commitments would be matched by the Joint Facilities up to \$500.00. Management reported the Clark family received a \$1,000.00 contribution.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Authority, Mr. Kelsey motioned and Mr. Valentine seconded to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 P.M. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,



Vincent F. Susco, Jr.
Recording Secretary

Approved by unanimous vote of the Water Pollution Control Authority on November 4, 2014.