

**EAST LYME WATER & SEWER COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 22nd, 2015
MINUTES**

FILED IN EAST LYME
CONNECTICUT

Sept 29 2015 AT 10:00 AM/PM

Wesley A. Blaes
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

The East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, September 22, 2015 at Town Hall, 108 Pennsylvania Avenue, Niantic, CT. Chairman Nickerson called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PRESENT: Mark Nickerson, Chairman, Dave Bond, Steve DiGiovanna, Dave Jacques, Dave Murphy, Joe Mingo, Carol Russell, Roger Spencer, Dave Zoller

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney Edward O'Connell, Town Attorney
Joe Bragaw, Public Works Director
Brad Kargl, Municipal Utility Engineer
Anna Johnson, Finance Director

ABSENT: No One

1. Call to Order

Chairman Nickerson called the Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission to order at 7:00 PM and led the assembly in the Pledge. He introduced David Jacques, the new member of the Commission.

2. Approval of Minutes

▪ **Public Hearing Minutes – August 25, 2105**

Mr. Nickerson called for a motion or any discussion or corrections to the Public Hearing Minutes of August 25, 2015.

Mr. Murphy asked that he be removed from being listed as present on these and the next minutes as he was unable to attend the meeting.

****MOTION (1)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve the Public Hearing Minutes of August 25, 2015 as amended.

Mr. Zoller seconded the motion.

Vote: 7 – 0 – 2. Motion passed.

Abstained: Mr. Jacques, Mr. Murphy

▪ **Regular Meeting Minutes – August 25, 2015**

Mr. Nickerson called for a motion or any discussion or corrections to the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 25, 2015.

Ms. Russell asked that on Page 4 at the very bottom of the page that the first sentence be changed to more accurately say what she wanted to convey. It should read: *'Ms. Russell asked if alternate filtration methods are assessed, are there additional water quality issues that could also be addressed.'*

****MOTION (2)**

Mr. Zoller moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 25, 2015 as amended.

Mr. DiGiovanna seconded the motion.

Vote: 7 – 0 – 2. Motion passed.

Abstained: Mr. Jacques, Mr. Murphy

3. Delegations

Mr. Nickerson called for anyone who wished to speak under Delegations.
There were no delegations.

4. Finance Director Report

Ms. Johnson said that she had provided them with a copy of her report and that things were moving.

Mr. Zoller asked about the 45% expenditure of the water and sewer budgets at this time in the year.

Ms. Johnson said that is due to encumbrances.

Mr. Zoller asked if what she is saying is that some items are front-loaded.

Ms. Johnson said that is correct.

5. Billing Adjustment Requests – Attachment A

Mr. Kargl said that there were none.

6. Approval of Bills – from Attachment B

Mr. Nickerson called for a motion on the Regional Interconnection bill.

****MOTION (3)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve payment of the following Regional Interconnection bill:
Tighe & Bond, Inv. #081593114 in the amount of \$1,022.93.

Mr. Zoller seconded the motion.

Vote: 9 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Mr. Nickerson asked that they add a third item under Item 10 – Water Project Updates – Bride Brook Pump Station Upgrade, to the agenda.

****MOTION (4)**

Mr. Zoller moved to add under Item 10 – Water Project Updates – Bride Brook Pump Station Upgrade.

Mr. Mingo seconded the motion.

Vote: 9 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

7. Cardinal Road Water Main Extension Update

Mr. Kargl presented a draft survey to be sent to all of the residents of Cardinal Road for review by the Commission.

Mr. Zoller suggested that a line be added stating that the property owner is responsible for paying for the line from the curb to the house.

The commissioners agreed that should be added.

Mr. Nickerson said that they are only looking for interest at this time and with this survey.

Mr. Bragaw noted that they are also looking at the potential for installing a hydrant on the West side of Route 161 so that the hose would not have to be run across the street. This would be a short term solution.

Attorney O'Connell noted that the Court has ruled that while it would not be mandatory to hook up that when the line runs in front of your home you would be assessed for it as it adds value to your property.

The Commissioners asked that the survey results be presented at the next meeting of the Commission.

8. Park Place Sewer Update

Mr. Kargl reported that he is still waiting for the update from the developer on this and the signed easements.

9. General Permit Modification – Regional Interconnection

Mr. Kargl explained the request to modify the New London Regional Interconnection diversion permit water sending and receiving time frames to better coincide with the water supply availability and system demands. He noted that New London has signed off on this request.

Attorney O'Connell noted that they would need to do a side letter to this effect at a later time.

10. Water Project Updates

o Meter Replacement Program

Mr. Kargl said that the DPH has this item on a priority list for eligible DWSRF funding. The technology has been constantly changing and the meters now have 20 year battery life and non-moving parts. He said that they have considered the fixed base system versus the drive by system.

Mr. Bragaw said that they also have an opportunity here in line with the new meters that Gateway has installed that capture the data. They are the Flexnet meters. He noted that doing nothing is not an option.

Mr. Jacques asked if the numbers were based on quarterly billing and if they could move to monthly billing.

Mr. Kargl said that it is based on the bi-annual billing that they currently have and that they could move to quarterly. He noted that they would need authorization from the Town on this as the DWSRF is holding the funding.

Ms. Johnson recalled that when they discussed this in the past that they had agreed that sewer would also benefit from this and that they should share in the cost also. They would just need to determine what that share would be.

Mr. Nickerson asked what the next step is.

Mr. Kargl said that it would be to have Sensus make a presentation and that he would look into having them come to the next meeting to do one.

o Jockey Pump Installation – Chesterfield Pump Station

Mr. Kargl said that he is still waiting for quotes and proposals on this.

o Bride Brook Pump Station Upgrade

Mr. Kargl said that this is a request for the wetland flagged survey items to be put on a plan and that they need another \$4000 from the sewer assessment fund to complete this report for the DEEP.

****MOTION (5)**

Mr. Murphy moved to authorize staff to utilize \$4000 from the sewer benefit assessment fund for completion of the base survey map for the DEEP Rocky Neck Pump Station Project.

Mr. DiGiovanna seconded the motion.

Vote: 9 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

11. Saunders Point Sewer Update

Mr. Kargl reported that he had received a letter from Denise Ruzicka at the DEEP authorizing \$85,366.95 for the scope of work to be done. He said that they would need to make a motion authorizing this wastewater facility planning for Saunders Point.

****MOTION (6)**

Mr. Murphy moved to approve an appropriation in the amount of \$85,366.95 for Sewer Operations from the Sewer Assessment Fund 3 for the purpose of engineering services for the Town of East Lyme Wastewater Facility Planning for the area known as Saunders Point as described in an application to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) for funds from the Clean Water Fund. Subject to approval of the application, 55% or \$46,951.82 of the project will qualify for a grant and shall be designated as such in the Sewer Assessment

Fund. This appropriation is subject to the submission and contingent on the approval of an application from the Clean Water Fund by the DEEP. The Chair of the Water & Sewer Commission is authorized, in the name and on behalf of the Commission, to execute and deliver any documents that may be required in connection with said application.

Mr. Zoller seconded the motion.

Vote: 9 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

12. Communications

▪ See Communications Log

There were no comments.

13. Chairman's Report

Mr. Nickerson said that due to the time that he would pass on this.

14. Staff Updates

▪ Water Department Monthly Reports

Mr. Murphy remarked on the 9% increase in usage in July.

Mr. Kargl said that July did have high usage. They also had Gateway usage between the people living there and trying to get the ground areas to grow grass and get the plantings established. There was also the flushing due to the problem on West Main Street with discolored water getting into the system.

Mr. Murphy asked if Gateway had paid for the water from their station malfunction.

Mr. Bragaw said that had been paid shortly after the incident.

Mr. Murphy asked about the contractor caused water issue on West Main Street and if the contractor had paid for the water from the break and the man hours spent on it by our staff flushing the system.

Mr. Kargl said that he had not and that he was waiting to hear from the businesses that were affected in that area.

Mr. Murphy said that he would like them to come back to the Commission with an estimate on the cost so that the contractor could be billed as we should not be absorbing this expense.

Mr. Bragaw said that he would put the information together so that they could bill the contractor.

▪ Sewer Department Monthly Reports

There were no comments.

▪ Staffing Matter

This item was not discussed.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Nickerson called for a motion to adjourn.

****MOTION (7)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to adjourn the September 22, 2015 Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission at 8:33 PM.

Mr. Zoller seconded the motion.

Vote: 9 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Zmitruk,
Recording Secretary