

**EAST LYME WATER & SEWER COMMISSION
(ZOOM) REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17th, 2020
MINUTES**

December 15, 2020

December 15

The East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, ~~November 17, 2020~~ via Zoom Meetings. Acting Chairman Seery called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

PRESENT: Kevin Seery, Acting Chairman, Dave Bond, Steve DiGiovanna,
Dave Jacques, Dave Murphy, Carol Russell, Roger Spencer,
Dave Zoller

FILED

ALSO PRESENT: Joe Bragaw, Public Works Director
Brad Kargl, Municipal Utility Engineer
Ben North, Asst. Municipal Utility Engineer
Anna Johnson, Finance Director

Dec 22 2020 AT 10:00 AM/PM

Wendy Helm
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

ABSENT: Mark Nickerson, Chairman, Joe Mingo

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Seery called the Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission to order at 7:01 PM. The Pledge was observed.

2. Approval of Minutes

- Regular Meeting Minutes – November 17, 2020

Mr. Seery called for a motion or any discussion to the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2020.

****MOTION (1)**

Mr. Murphy moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2020 as presented.

Ms. Russell seconded the motion.

Vote: 7 – 0 – 1. Motion passed.

Abstained: Mr. Seery

3. Delegations

Mr. Seery called for delegations.

There were none.

4. Approval of Bills

Mr. Seery called for a motion on the Well 1A/6 Treatment Project bills.

****MOTION (2)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve the following Well 1A/6 Treatment Project bill: Tighe & Bond Inv. #122090016 in the amount of \$19,963.29.

Mr. Zoller seconded the motion.

Vote: 8 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

****MOTION (3)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve the following Well 1A/6 Treatment Project bill: RH White, Inv. Appl. # 8 in the amount of \$215,781.38.

Mr. Murphy seconded the motion.

Vote: 7 – 0 – 1. Motion passed.

Abstained: Mr. Bond

5. Finance Director Report

Ms. Johnson said that they had received her report and the lateness was due to the fact that they have now straightened out the prison billing. The cash on the sewer side is low as they had not transferred it by the end of the month.

6. Project Updates

▪ Meter Replacement Project Update

Mr. Kargl reported that as he had previously informed them; they reached out to CT Waterworks on the legal aspect of this project and he discussed with Betsy, the CWA Director, the issue they are having. It was noted that another Town is having the same issue and is awaiting a response from the DPH on it. They are waiting to see what happens there.

Ms. Russell asked if the proposed language that they are considering is put into effect – would it be retroactive and help them.

Mr. Kargl said that they would have to wait to see what happens.

▪ Well 1A and 6 Treatment Plant Modifications and Upgrades

Mr. North reported that this project continues to move along and that they have received the correct trusses. The water piping has been installed and the gas lines also are all set.

▪ Niantic Sewer Pump Station Flood Resiliency FEMA Grant

Mr. North recalled that this had to be done by 11/30/2020. He and Mr. Gilberti worked with Weston & Sampson on this to get it done by that time. It went to the State and they received a few comments which they will address for submission to FEMA in January. If awarded they will share more on the design. The reimbursement is at 75% of the project.

Ms. Russell asked what degree of protection there would be for the pump station if this were to be put in place.

Mr. North said that they hope to meet the 500 year flood one done.

Mr. Spencer asked if there is a way to get into the station when the plates are bolted down.

Mr. North said no; adding that there would be water outside anyway.

Mr. Spencer asked if they would have cameras inside so that they could see what is happening.

Mr. North said yes.

▪ Bridebrook Sewer Pump Station Alternatives Analysis Update

Mr. Kargl said that they had an analysis prepared by Weston & Sampson on moving it further back into Rocky Neck State Park. The DPH asked for various alternatives; one of which is actually private property and not viable. Another site is on DOT property and the DOT said that they would not allow a pump station on it so it all goes back to the Rocky Neck State Park site. The report is what they need to get the DEEP to move forward.

Mr. Bond asked if this would be a show stopper to tying into Old Lyme.

Mr. Kargl said no; the DEP feels that they can run parallel and that the pumps could handle it. The Old Lyme contribution would be based on their design flow – their percentage of it.

▪ Niantic Sewer Pump Station Force Main Condition Analysis (Discussion and Possible Action)

Mr. Kargl said that they have this agreement by Weston & Sampson in their packets. They have discussed this before. The proposal is for \$25,500 to do this analysis and it would come from the sewer assessment fund.

****MOTION (4)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to authorize Weston and Sampson to develop a Condition Assessment Strategy for the Niantic Pumping Station Force Main in the amount of \$25,500 in accordance with their proposal dated December 10, 2020. In addition, move to appropriate and transfer

\$25,500 to an account to be established titled, "Condition Assessment Strategy NPS Force Main" in the Sewer Assessment Fund.

Ms. Russell seconded the motion.

Vote: 8 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

7. Correspondence Log

Mr. Seery noted that they had this in their packets.

There were no comments.

8. Chairman's Report

Mr. Seery reported that the Town Buildings are closed to the public and that they would probably be closed through at least mid-January. Meetings would probably continue on Zoom until May. He also asked that they be careful and keep their cars locked as there is a rash of car break-ins etc going on. Lastly, the Light Parade was a great success with over 1400 cars that went through it. It was rough going at times but it worked out. They collected three (3) truckloads of food for Care & Share and \$4000 in donations.

Ms. Russell asked about the six-month Tri-Town extension and if it was approved by all the Towns.

Mr. Seery said that it did and that they are making some good progress before involving any attorneys with the final product.

Mr. Murphy asked about the Old Lyme progress.

Mr. Bragaw said that they have not heard much as they have been working on the design. We will know more when that is settled.

9. Staff Updates

a. Water Department Monthly Report

Mr. Murphy asked about the New London water and if we were shipping to them or still taking from them.

Mr. Kargl said that we are not taking from them as the recent amounts of rain have eased our demand situation. Now, for us the issue is on how we are going to send water for the upcoming year. This will be a challenge as Well 1A is still being worked on. Well 6 is okay. We will gear up after the holidays and hope to be able to do it.

Ms. Russell asked about the incident on the water report with the accident at the Rocky Neck Village site where they hit the water main. It said that our insurance carrier was notified – she asked why.

Mr. Kargl said that it was done in the event that employees were without work and filed a claim.

Mr. Jacques asked if the contractor's insurer had also been notified.

Mr. Kargl said not to his knowledge; adding that he will communicate with them about it.

Ms. Russell asked if the POCD had been approved.

Mr. Kargl said yes.

Ms. Russell asked if anything was in place for the treatments used during storms on the roads to mitigate the impacts.

Mr. Seery said that the Town tries to use as little as possible however the merchants and the schools are especially concerned over liability if someone slips and falls.

Ms. Russell asked about the upcoming storm and power outages.

Mr. Bragaw said that they would know more tomorrow.

b. Sewer Department Monthly Report

There were no comments.

10. Future Agenda Items

No discussion.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Seery wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and called for a motion to adjourn.

****MOTION (5)**

Mr. Murphy moved to adjourn this Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission at 7:48 PM.

Mr. Bond seconded the motion.

Vote: 8 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Zmitruk,
Recording Secretary