

**EAST LYME WATER & SEWER COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 25th, 2021
MINUTES**

The East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, May 25, 2021. Acting Chairman Seery called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:04 PM immediately following the previously scheduled Public Hearing.

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

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

ABSENT: Mark Nickerson, Chairman

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

Acting Chairman Seery called the Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission to order at 7:04 PM immediately following the previously scheduled Public Hearing. .

The Pledge was previously observed.

He asked that they add Item 6.a. to the agenda – Acquisition Program

****MOTION (1)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to add Item 6.a. Acquisition Program to the Agenda.

Mr. Murphy seconded the motion.

Vote: 9 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

2. Approval of Minutes

▪ **Special Meeting Minutes - March 16, 2021**

Mr. Seery called for a motion or any discussion on the Special Meeting Minutes of March 16, 2021.

****MOTION (2)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve the Special Meeting Minutes of March 16, 2021 as submitted.

Mr. Zoller seconded the motion.

Vote: 9 – 0 - 0. Motion passed.

▪ **Regular Meeting Minutes – April 27, 2021**

Mr. Seery called for a motion or any discussion on the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 27, 2021.

****MOTION (3)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 27, 2021 as submitted.

Mr. Zoller seconded the motion.

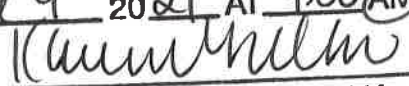
Vote: 9 – 0 - 0. Motion passed.

3. Delegations

Mr. Seery called for delegations.

There were none.

FILED

June 4 2021 AT 9:00 AM/PM

EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

4. Consider Adoption of Proposed Supplemental Sewer Assessments

Mr. North noted that the seven (7) were noticed in the paper.

****MOTION (4)**

Mr. Zoller moved to adopt the Supplemental Sewer Assessments as presented.

Mr. Murphy seconded the motion.

Vote: 9 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

5. Billing Adjustments/Disputes

There were none.

6. Approval of Bills

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

****MOTION (5)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve the following Well 1A/6 Treatment Project bill: Tighe & Bond Inv. #052190004 in the amount of \$15,675.35.

Mr. Zoller seconded the motion.

Vote: 8 – 0 – 1. Motion passed.

Abstained: Mr. Bond

****MOTION (6)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve the following Well 1A/6 Treatment Project bill: RH White Inv. Appl. #13 in the amount of \$201,017.52.

Mr. Zoller seconded the motion.

Vote: 8 – 0 – 1. Motion passed.

Abstained: Mr. Bond

Mr. Seery called for a motion on the Meter Replacement Project bill.

****MOTION (7)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve the following Meter Replacement bill: Robinson & Cole, Inv. #50338240 in the amount of \$14,097.15.

Mr. Spencer seconded the motion.

Vote: 9 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Mr. Seery called for a motion on the Niantic Force Main Conditions Assessment bill.

****MOTION (8)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve the following Niantic Force Main Conditions Assessment bill: Weston & Sampson, Inv. #4211235 in the amount of \$4,925.00.

Ms. Russell seconded the motion.

Vote: 9 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Mr. Seery called for a motion on the CT I-95 Interchange Project.

****MOTION (9)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve the following CT I-95 Interchange Project bill: Weston & Sampson, Inv. #5211251 in the amount of \$650.00.

Mr. Murphy seconded the motion.

Vote: 9 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

6. a. Acquisition Program

Ms. Johnson explained the two (2) vehicles that are approved for FY 2021/2022 through the acquisition program noting that bond counsel wants a motion to approve them. Payment for the items has been included in the 2021/2022 water budget.

****MOTION (10)**

Mr. Murphy moved to authorize the Water & Sewer Commission Chairman to include the above captioned vehicles (\$112,000 – Ford F350 w/utility body (2) – water dept.) for a value of \$112,000

in the Town authorization process for the 2021/2022 Acquisition Plan and to sign all the necessary agreements and documents to move this forward.

Mr. DiGiovanna seconded the motion.

Vote: 9 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

7. Finance Director Report

Ms. Johnson reviewed her report noting that revenues were up slightly from last year.

Mr. Zoller asked if the sewer operation was the New London payment.

Mr. Bragaw said yes adding that they sent it earlier this year for payment.

8. American Rescue Funding

Mr. Bragaw said that Water & Sewer has a rough amount of potentially \$300,000 as the Board of Selectmen has not come up with any definite allotments.

Mr. Kargl said that potentially this could be for the Bridebrook pump station design - \$300,000 would be 17% of the total amount.

Mr. Mingo suggested that in light of the recent fire at the Orchards that they could look into a fire pump as that area is high above sea level.

Ms. Russell suggested new wells and sodium.

Mr. Mingo said that there is grant money available for the wells.

9. Sewer Pump Station Controls and Communications Upgrade Project – Discussion and possible action

Mr. North said that he brought this before them some three to four months ago noting that they have about 16 pump stations that could all benefit from the upgrades (radio transmitting units). He said that they would move the current SCADA system and make it dedicated to water. The motion would cover four (4) of the pump stations and ultimately they want to do all 16 of them.

****MOTION (11)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to appropriate and transfer up to \$83,589 from the sewer assessment fund to an account titled, “Sewer Pump Stations Controls and Communications Upgrade Project” for the installation of Sewer Pump Station Controls and Communications Equipment. Mr. Zoller seconded the motion.

Ms. Russell asked Mr. North over what period of time he sees this happening.

Mr. North said that it would be over a couple of months adding that there is also work that would be done by Town employees. He said tht he expects completion by the fall.

Ms. Russell asked how this fits into the budget.

Mr. Bragaw said that it is fine as it is coming from assessments and not operating.

Mr. Mingo suggested bonding it as then the people who use it will pay for it.

Ms. Johnson said that it is a rather small amount for bonding.

Mr. Bragaw added that there is a lot of work putting together a bond package and they have upcoming projects that would be ideal for bonding. Also, they typically bond in June with the process to go to bond in August.

Mr. Bond asked Mr. North if he had come up with a number for all 16 stations.

Mr. North said that it is roughly double.

Vote: 9 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

10. Project Updates

- Well 1A and 6 Treatment Plant Modifications and Upgrades

Mr. North said that they have a letter in their packets from RH White looking for a 42 days extension on the completion of this project due to Covid. He said that he expects to hear more back from them soon on this.

Mr. Seery said that it does violate the terms of the contract and that it does involve dollars being spent as we have to take water from New London at this time which is earlier than usual.

Mr. Kargl explained that with Well 1A not operational that they have had to start taking water from New London this weekend instead of at their usual time which is the fourth of July weekend.

▪ **Taste and Odor Investigation**

Mr. North said that he is still working with Tighe & Bond on this. It is an aesthetic concern and not a health concern. There will be more to follow.

▪ **Bride Brook Pump Station Relocation**

Mr. North said that he discussed this with the CT DEEP and the Park Service and the DEEP seemed in favor of moving the station back. The National Park Service has to be involved in this also.

Mr. Spencer asked about the new meters and any legislative update.

Mr. Kargl said that he heard from Mr. Formica who said that it seems that any legislation is falling short.

11. Correspondence Log

Mr. DiGiovanna asked when they were going to start the project to run the line from Old Lyme.

Mr. Kargl said that he thinks it will be in the fall and would be complete by next year some time.

12. Chairman's Report

Mr. Seery said that the Memorial Day parade would be held at 2PM and would have fire trucks, bands and marching groups.

Ms. Russell asked about the Tri-Town agreement and when they would have an update on it.

Mr. Bragaw said that he expects one before the next meeting. The full Commission would probably have an update at the June or July meeting.

13. Staff Updates

a. Water Department Monthly Report

Mr. Murphy said that they only shipped 60% to New London; he asked if they would be okay with that –

Mr. Kargl said that they may be able to make that up and that they have enough time to make the goal.

b. Sewer Department Monthly Report

There were no comments.

14. Future Agenda Items

No comments.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Seery called for a motion to adjourn.

****MOTION (12)**

Mr. Spencer moved to adjourn this Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission at 8:12 PM.

Mr. DiGiovanna seconded the motion.

Vote: 9 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Zmitruk,
Recording Secretary