

**EAST LYME WATER & SEWER COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 24th, 2021  
MINUTES**

The East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, August 24, 2021. Acting Chairman Seery called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:02 PM.

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

**ALSO PRESENT:** Joe Bragaw, Public Works Director  
Ben North, Municipal Utility Engineer  
Anna Johnson, Finance Director

**ABSENT:** Mark Nickerson, Roger Spencer

**1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance**

Acting Chairman Seery called the Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission to order at 7:02 PM and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

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

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

**\*\*MOTION (1)**

Mr. Zoller moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 27, 2021 as submitted.

Mr. DiGiovanna seconded the motion.

Vote: 6 – 0 - 2. Motion passed.

Abstained: Mr. Spencer, Mr. Mingo

**3. Delegations**

Mr. Seery called for delegations.

There were none.

**4. Billing Adjustments/Disputes**

There were none.

FILED

Aug 31, 20 21 AT 10:01 AM PM  
Brooke Horan ATC  
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

**5. 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 bills: Tighe & Bond Inv. #082190002 in the amount of \$6456.27; and RH White Inv. Appl. #16 in the amount of \$126,745.12.

Mr. Zoller seconded the motion.

Vote: 7 – 0 – 1. Motion passed.

Abstained: Mr. Bond

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

**\*\*MOTION (3)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve the following Meter Replacement Project bills: EJ Prescott, Retainage on Invoices #5649589 & #5653903 in the amount of \$24,463.00; EJ Prescott, Retainage on 502991 Sensus iPERL 6' TRPL Sensors in the amount of \$1800.00 and Professional Meters Inc. Inv. #191038.RET in the amount of \$1886.04.

Mr. Zoller seconded the motion.

Mr. DiGiovanna noted that the Prescott invoices needed sign-off and asked about them.

Mr. North said he would sign them and explained that it was in line that in order to get out of the contract they would take the 5% retainage and end the contract.

Vote: 7 – 0 – 1. Motion passed.

Abstained: Mr. Bond

**6. Finance Director Report**

Ms. Johnson reviewed her report noting that they would continue to pay bills from the previous year thru the end of August. She said that the cash position improves each year on the water side and sewer shows improved operations. During the month of July they paid \$35,845 for water treatment system fees.

**7. Project Updates**

▪ **Meter Replacement Project**

Mr. North reported that they had negotiated the end of the contract with PMI for the retainage. He said that they had decided to take another route using in-house people. They are looking to see how things shake out with his assistant who is coming on in late September. They are looking to take a controlled approach to the project.

Mr. Bragaw further explained that this is from March of last year and that it is not an East Lyme issue – it is a State issue and they just happened to be the ones who were made an example of. He noted that Town employees are exempt from being plumbers, etc. He wants them to be on-board as they are coming up on a meter reading again and they are looking at October sometime to gear up again. Covid has thrown them many curve balls.

Mr. Murphy said if they are looking at late October that there are a lot of seasonal places that will not be here to let them in. He also asked for a comparison on what it would cost for our people to do it.

Mr. Bragaw said that it was \$340,000 for PMI to do the straight installation; he would provide some numbers for the September meeting on costs with our employees. He added that there are less seasonal people now than there were in the past so they will have to see what happens with that.

Mr. Mingo suggested getting trade school people and using it as an apprenticeship program for them.

Mr. Seery asked for better information for their September meeting on what the costs and necessary personnel would be.

▪ **Well 1A and 6 Treatment Plant Modifications and Upgrades – revised schedule for substantial completion and; plant start-up status**

Mr. North updated everyone that they were still running primarily Well A and doing testing on Well 6. They are doing the punch list items and are about 95% complete.

Ms. Johnson asked about the builder's risk policy that they have on the project.

Mr. North said that he would discuss where they are on the project and the policy with her.

▪ **Tri-Town Negotiations Update**

Mr. Bragaw said that they are in the 'home stretch' on this now. They do have the subcommittee looking for a final draft from all three (3) Towns so they will be holding a subcommittee meeting soon to review the draft.

Ms. Russell asked about a projected time line.

Mr. Bragaw said that the agreement is a 20-year agreement and that all three (3) Towns are looking for the September – October time frame.

Mr. Bond noted that the Tri-Town agreement is our agreement with Waterford and New London and that Old Lyme is not included in that.

Mr. Bragaw said that was correct. Old Lyme negotiated separately with New London.

Mr. Murphy said that the capacity that Old Lyme bought comes from New London.

Mr. Jacques asked if there was any schedule for the Point O'Woods work.

Mr. Bragaw said that it has gone back out to bid as it came in way too high.

## **8. Correspondence Log**

There were no comments.

## **9. Chairman's Report**

Mr. Seery reported that all in all they came out well from storm Henri – about 300 people in East Lyme lost power and they had people come in, in the event that it was much worse.

He also reported that there is a Town Meeting on September 1, 2021 at 7 PM for some of the American Rescue dollar items. The Oyster Fest will be held on September 25, 2021 behind the church on Main Street to benefit the Miracle League. He noted the Toyota Supra fundraiser that they held for the Miracle League – Maryann Salvatore was the winner of the car.

Mr. Jacques suggested putting together a list of items that they might want to obtain some of the American Rescue dollars for to help them out with their projects.

## **10. Staff Updates**

### **a. Water Department Monthly Report**

Mr. North said that he is still working on how to do the sodium levels by well.

Mr. Bragaw said that his water staff will be working on shut-offs in September as they have not done shut-offs since way before Covid. They need to tighten up the money that they are supposed to get in.

Mr. North noted that the roof is leaking at the Niantic station and that they found this out during the storm.

Mr. Murphy asked about the water to and from New London.

Mr. North said that there is no roll-over one way or the other – last year they spent \$100,000 on water. He said that they are looking to send water to New London.

### **b. Sewer Department Monthly Report**

There were no comments.

## **11. Future Agenda Items**

There was no discussion.

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Seery called for a motion to adjourn.

**\*\*MOTION (4)**

**Mr. Mingo moved to adjourn this Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission at 8:10 PM.**

**Mr. Murphy seconded the motion.**

**Vote: 8 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Zmitruk,  
Recording Secretary