

**EAST LYME WATER & SEWER COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 25th, 2022
MINUTES**

The East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, October 25th, 2022. Chairman Seery called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:40 PM immediately following the previously scheduled Public Hearings on the proposed new water and sewer rates.

PRESENT: Kevin Seery, Chairman, Dave Bond, Steve DiGiovanna, Dave Jacques, Dave Murphy, Carol Russell, Roger Spencer, Dave Zoller, Joe Mingo (by Zoom)

ALSO PRESENT: Joe Bragaw, Public Works Director
Ben North, Municipal Utility Engineer
Anne Santoro, Deputy First Selectman

ABSENT: No One

RECEIVED FOR RECORD
EAST LYME, CT
2022 NOV - 1 A 10: 04
Town Clerk

1. Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Seery called the Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission to order at 7:00 PM and led the assembly in the Pledge.

2. Approval of Minutes

▪ **Regular Meeting Minutes – September 27, 2022**

Mr. Seery called for a motion or any discussion on the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 27, 2022.

Ms. Russell said that she wanted to clarify her comments under Item 7 and Item 10, then submitted the language (attached to minutes).

****MOTION (1)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 27, 2022 with the attachment submitted by Ms. Russell.

Mr. Murphy seconded the motion.

Vote: 8 – 0 - 1. Motion passed.

Abstained: Mr. Zoller

3. Delegations

Mr. Seery called for delegations.

There were none.

4. Consider Adoption of Proposed Water Rates

Mr. Bragaw noted that he had just received the information on the revenues and that while they are a bit better, he feels that they should stay the course with what was presented.

****MOTION (2)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve the Water rates/fees as proposed.

Mr. Zoller seconded the motion.

Vote: 9 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

5. Consider Adoption of Proposed Sewer Rates

Mr. Bragaw noted that the revenues were also a bit better on the sewer side and said that he would hold with the rates as presented as just about all of the increase was going to the New London fees.

****MOTION (3)**

Mr. Murphy moved to approve the Sewer rates/fees as proposed.

Mr. DiGiovanna seconded the motion.

Vote: 9 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

6. Billing Adjustments/Disputes

There were none.

7. Approval of Bills

There were none.

8. Finance Director Report

Mr. Gervais was not able to be present and there was no report.

9. Project Updates

▪ Meter Replacement Project

Mr. North reported that meter replacements are at 54% with 229 added to the system.

10. Correspondence Log

There were no comments.

11. Chairman's Report

Mr. Seery noted that they would be using some sewer assessment funds to purchase some supplies.

He also said that on October 27, 2022 at the High School at 6 PM there would be a presentation by the State on the Rte. 161 project.

12. Staff Updates

a. Water Department Monthly Report

Mr. North noted that they are finally seeing the water usage coming back down; and also the precipitation that they have been seeing lately is starting to help. They are starting to send flow back to New London.

b. Sewer Department Monthly Report

Mr. North said that they are looking to do some sewer assessments at the end of the year and also some in January such as The Norton at 185 Main.

Mr. Murphy asked about the pump station at Rocky Neck.

Mr. North said that the State is still working on their design.

Mr. Murphy said that he is interested in discussion on the water that is being used for lawns and feels that they should be looking into this.

Mr. Bragaw said that they could discuss this in the coming months but now the meter replacement project needs to be completed first.

Mr. Bond commented that sub-metering does have a real benefit and thinks that they should look into it.

Mr. Seery noted that two people had come to the meeting and had missed Delegations – He asked if they wished to speak –

Mindy Horner and Phillip Jordan of 18 Cedarbrook Lane said that they have had an awful time with leaks in their water lines. She synopsised the events noting that she had received a call from the Water & Sewer office informing her that her water usage was way up. At this time she also asked about the

new meters and if she could sign up to get one. She signed up and then received a letter that it could not be installed because her old meter was too deep and that she as the homeowner would be responsible for having it pulled up for replacement. She asked who allowed the water lines to be on top of other lines.

Mr. North said that for some unknown reason the 1 ft. riser was put over the existing meter pit. Also, all meter pits are the responsibility of the homeowner and always have been.

Mr. Jordan asked when they build the riser up if there would be a problem with frost and freezing.

Mr. North said that the meter sits below the frost plate.

They agreed to further discuss this in the office with Mr. North.

13. Future Agenda Items

- Rate Analysis Subcommittee

14. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Seery called for a motion to adjourn.

****MOTION (4)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to adjourn this Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission at 7:14 PM.

Mr. Murphy seconded the motion.

Vote: 9 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Zmitruk,
Recording Secretary

October 25, 2022

To: East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission

Fr: Carol Russell

Re: Proposed ^{clarifications} Corrections to Regular Meeting Minutes for September 27, 2022

1. Agenda Item # 7, under the discussion for Motion (2) on page 3 the statement attributed to me should be corrected as follows: Ms. Russell questioned if we could partner with another community for chemical purchases.
2. Agenda Item # 10, under the Niantic Pump Station Hazard Mitigation discussion at the top of page 4 the statement attributed to me should be corrected/clarified as follows: Ms. Russell asked if the potential flood risk is as serious as stated by FEMA, should we be looking to build a back-up station for sewage flow to by-pass the Niantic Pump Station should a catastrophic flooding event occur. In other words, do we need to focus more on redundancy rather than resilience?

Submitted by Carol Russell
to clarify her statements

10/25/22