

**EAST LYME WATER & SEWER COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, JUNE 23rd, 2015
MINUTES**

The East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, June 23, 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 Murphy, Joe Mingo, Carol Russell, Dave Zoller

ALSO PRESENT: Brad Kargl, Municipal Utility Engineer
Attorney Mark Zamarka, Town Counsel
Anna Johnson, Finance Director

ABSENT: Roger Spencer

FILED IN EAST LYME
CONNECTICUT
June 29 20 15 AT 2:45 AM/PM
Bradley D. Thorne
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

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 asked that they move Executive Session up to the next item on the agenda as Mr. Zamarka had to leave early this evening.

2. Executive Session – Pending Litigation

****MOTION (1)**

Mr. Mingo moved that they move Executive Session up from Item #12 to #2.

Ms. Russell seconded the motion.

Vote: 7 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

****MOTION (2)**

Mr. Mingo moved to enter Executive Session at 7:02 PM for the purpose of discussion on pending litigation inviting Mr. Kargl, Ms. Johnson and Mr. Zamarka to join them.

Ms. Russell seconded the motion.

Vote: 7 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

****MOTION (3)**

Mr. Mingo moved to return to Regular Session at 7:18 PM with no action taken in Executive Session.

Ms. Russell seconded the motion.

Vote: 7 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Mr. Nickerson said that Mr. Mingo had asked that they add: Discussion: Redundancy to the agenda as Item 13. and move everything else down.

3. Approval of Minutes

▪ **Regular Meeting Minutes – May 27, 2015**

Mr. Nickerson called for a motion or any discussion or corrections to the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 27, 2015.

Mr. Zoller asked that on the bottom of Page 1 that .07 be changed to 0.7.

****MOTION (4)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 27, 2015 as amended.

Mr. Zoller seconded the motion.
Vote: 7 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

4. Delegations

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

5. Billing Adjustment Requests – Attachment A

Mr. Kargl said that he was working on them and that there were none at this time.

6. Approval of Bills – from Attachment B

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

****MOTION (5)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve payment of the following Regional Interconnection bill: D'Amato Construction, Payment Appl. 13 in the amount of \$21,095.40.

Mr. Zoller seconded the motion.

Vote: 7 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Mr. Nickerson called for a motion on the Pattagansett PS Electrical bill.

****MOTION (6)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve payment of the following Pattagansett PS Electrical bill: Prime Electric, Invoice #28605 in the amount of \$20,127.00.

Mr. Murphy seconded the motion.

Vote: 7 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

7. Project Updates

▪ **Columbus Avenue Bridge Water Main**

Mr. Kargl reported that Amtrak would be shutting down the track from 11 PM to 4 AM tonight to do the change.

Mr. Bond asked if this would make this project a done deal now.

Mr. Kargl said yes.

▪ **Village Drive Booster Station Upgrade**

Mr. Kargl said that they were looking for approval to move forward with the Village Drive upgrade. He noted that the CIP program has \$35,000 in it for this year and next year for this item. He noted that they are starting to get reduced pressure complaints.

****MOTION (7)**

Mr. Murphy moved to approve up to \$33,250 from the Water Construction Account to pay for the Village Drive Booster Station Upgrade to include two new pumps, VFD controls, valves and related work.

Mr. DiGiovanna seconded the motion.

Vote: 7 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

****MOTION (8)**

Mr. Murphy moved to transfer \$6,000 from Account #62-70-006-500-013 (Bedrock Well Development) and \$6,100 from Account #62-70-006-500-015 (Stream augmentation) to Account #62-70-006-500-016 (Booster Station Upgrades).

Mr. DiGiovanna seconded the motion.

Vote: 7 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

8. Finance Director Report

Ms. Johnson said that she had provided them with her report. She noted that cash flow has improved for both water and sewer operations as the May bills went out.

9. Appropriation for 2015/16 Vehicle Acquisition Program

Ms. Johnson explained that historically they have made the water and sewer vehicle acquisitions part of the vehicle acquisition program and that they need to make a resolution for the financing package.

Mr. Nickerson noted that they are not adding a vehicle but replacing a 14 year old vehicle.

****MOTION (9)**

Mr. Zoller moved, RESOLVED, to approve an appropriation in the amount of \$60,520 for Water Operations for the purpose of acquiring by way of lease or purchase a vehicle as evidenced by an agreement for the acquisition of the vehicle by lease or purchase or a combination thereof, for a total price of \$58,000 plus interest at the rate of 1.66% per annum, payable in annual installments of \$12,104 (\$1,008.92/month) over a period of five (5) years. The First Selectman (Water & Sewer Commission Chairman) is authorized, in the name and on behalf of the Town, to execute and deliver any documents that may be required in connection with said transaction.

Mr. Murphy seconded the motion.

Mr. DiGiovanna asked if there was money in other accounts to flat out buy the truck.

Mr. Kargl said that they have been doing this for years and it has worked for them.

Ms. Johnson added that it would be much more difficult to try to come up with all the money at one time in one year and that it is better to pay it out over five years.

Vote: 7 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

10. Sewer Regulations

Mr. Kargl said that this was just a reminder that they would need to get back to this to finish it up and that they would also have to update the water regulations. He noted that Mr. Zoller, Ms. Russell and Mr. Mingo are on the subcommittee and said that he would set something up for all of them to meet.

11. Communications

- See Communications Log

Mr. Kargl said that he had put some comments from the previous Finance Director in their packets on his thoughts on the sewer assessment recollection.

Mr. Nickerson said that he would also like to hear from Ms. Johnson on this and how she sees it.

Ms. Johnson noted that Mr. Funke had used our annual audit as the source of some of his information.

Mr. Murphy asked for a review of this from Ms. Johnson at their August meeting after year-end is done. He suggested that the Chairman and Ms. Johnson could resolve this with Mr. Funke.

12. Chairman’s Report

Mr. Nickerson said that he would be brief and commended Mr. Kargl and Mr. Bragaw for all of their hard work keeping everything going.

13. Discussion - Redundancy

Mr. Mingo said that he would like them to look for some money from the State and do research on dead-end pipes, etc. He said they cannot serve 300 apartments on one pipe and feels that another water main should be brought into the Gateway project.

Mr. Kargl suggested that when they look at the regulations that they should make those suggestions.

Mr. Bond said that it is not cost effective for a lot of situations.

Mr. Kargl said that he feels that you would manage it with policy. He added that it is not something that the State would fund and further we do not know all of the dead end systems that they currently have.

Mr. Murphy asked about mapping out the dead ends so they could see what they have.
Mr. Kargl said that they could do that.

14. Fluoride Update

Ms. Russell noted that she had received the memo from Health and Human Services and that she feels that the 0.7 level rationale is on-line. She said that she was concerned with the CT DPH response which does not indicate that there is any sense of urgency.

Mr. Kargl said that they would go through it at their own pace.

Ms. Russell said that she feel that East Lyme is in a position to do something as we do not meet the guidelines to have to use fluoride.

Mr. Kargl said that it is an all or nothing situation and that they should wait for the State to make a decision especially when considering that it is not easy to hold the levels to just one level. That is probably what the State DPH is reviewing.

Mr. DiGiovanna said that during the summer that they have a population that is well over the 20,000 and they should check as that probably has an impact on this.

Mr. Nickerson asked that Mr. Kargl continue with research on this.

15. Staff Updates

▪ Water Department Monthly Reports

Mr. Mingo asked if they have to pay New London for the water if they take it back or not.

Mr. Kargl said yes.

Mr. Murphy asked if the gallons pumped includes what went to New London.

Mr. Kargl said yes – they pumped water to New London for two weeks in May. He noted that the usage is still down even after sending water to New London. He said that the leak detection program has helped however it has to be on-going.

▪ Sewer Department Monthly Reports

Mr. Murphy noted that the DOC is pumping over their allotment.

Mr. Kargl said that it is still in line with the allowed amount. He added that the sewer flows are all down.

Mr. Murphy asked about Old Lyme and if there was any progress.

Mr. Kargl said that the recent meeting was about the Bride Brook pump station and relocating it on the Rocky Neck property. Old Lyme will happen – they are in the process of re-grouping on how to go forward.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Nickerson called for a motion to adjourn.

****MOTION (10)**

Mr. Mingo moved to adjourn the June 23, 2015 Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission at 8:35 PM.

Mr. Murphy seconded the motion.

Vote: 7 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Zmitruk,
Recording Secretary