

**EAST LYME WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 23, 2014**

Present: Mark Nickerson, Vice Chairman
David Zoller
David Murphy
Roger Spencer
Joe Mingo
Steve DiGiovanna
David Bond

FILED IN EAST LYME
CONNECTICUT
OCT 2 2014 AT 2:10 AM (PM)
Karen Falter, CL
EAST LYME TOWN CLERK

Members Absent: Paul Formica
Carol F. Russell

Also Present: Joe Bragaw, Public Works Director
Brad Kargl, Municipal Utility Engineer
Anna Johnson, Finance Director
Edward O'Connell, Town Counsel
Mark Zamarka, Town Counsel

1. Call to Order. Vice Chairman Nickerson called the September 23, 2014 Regular Meeting of the Water and Sewer Commission to order at 7 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was observed.

2. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular Meeting Minutes - August 26, 2014.

MOTION (1): Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve the East Lyme Water and Sewer Commission Meeting Minutes of August 26, 2014, as presented. Seconded by Mr. Zoller. Messrs. Nickerson and Bond abstained from voting. (5-0-2) Motion carried.

3. Delegations

There were no delegations.

4. Water and Sewer Billing Adjustment Requests--Attachment A. None.

5. Approval of Bills -- Attachment B.

MOTION (2): Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve Application No. 12 to D'Amato Construction in the amount of \$78,016.71. Seconded by Mr. Zoller. (7-0) Unanimous.

MOTION (3): Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve Invoice #082014622 to Tighe & Bond in the amount of \$22,246.23. Seconded by Mr. Zoller Motion withdrawn.

Mr. Kargl informed the Commission that the invoice needs to be corrected because the mileage is incorrect.

MOTION (4): Mr. Zoller moved to approve Invoice #0820146622 to Tighe & Bond in the amount of \$22,246.23, subject to mileage reduction. Seconded by Mr. Bond. (7-0) Unanimous.

6. Water Project Updates

a. Regional Interconnection. Mr. Kargl reported it has been extremely dry and we have been taking water (approximately 70,000 to 110,000 gallons per day) from New London.

While transferring the water we are going through testing to make sure everything is working well. We have requested a temporary authorization from DEEP to continue to receive water from New London beyond the September 14th cut-off because of the recent dry conditions and because two wells are still off-line. The temporary authorization is good for thirty days and can be renewed for another thirty days. The Department of Public Health, DEEP and New London have no problem with it. In terms of cost for water since April 30 through yesterday we received 2.9 million gallons of water. We will submit a change order to pay for a portion of the water because it was used for testing as part of project completion. We budgeted \$25,000 in the Water Department's operating budget to cover additional costs for paying for NL water after the initial start up period.

Mr. Mingo asked if we are expected to send water to New London. Mr. Kargl replied not right now. Mr. Mingo stated there is no water coming down Pattagansett Lake. We need a significant rain. Mr. Kargl stated we are putting notices on the Town website as the weekend mandatory water conservation is still in effect from 9 am on Friday until noon on Monday. Mr. Murphy asked who monitors the sprinklers during the water conservation periods? Mr. Kargl said we do the best that we can to monitor compliance with the water conservation measures. Mr. Mingo asked what is our demand? Mr. Kargl replied our demand has been very low.

b. Filter Rehabilitation - Bride Lake Filtration Plant - Mr. Kargl informed the Commission that he was preparing to refurbish two of the filter vessels at the Bride Lake Filtration Plant this fall or winter. Mr. Kargl is obtaining pricing to do the work and will seek approval from the Commission at a later meeting when more information is available and the costs are known. Funds remaining from previous water construction projects could be used to pay for the filter rehabilitation work.

7. Finance Director Reports. Ms. Johnson gave a written narrative for the month of August and highlights of the expenditures and Mr. Bragaw provided the Commission members with a line item breakdown of the present budget figures. Through our proactive maintenance effort, we have worked on 19 of the 32 pump stations already in the last few months. Because of these efforts, many of the pump station pumps are running much more efficiently which will save use \$ on our electric bills. In July our electric bill was \$17,000. In August it was \$14,000. We have also cleaned out the wet wells at the Niantic and Bridebrook pump stations and should be able to clean out all of the wet wells by later October. Because some repairs were done at the end of last year the flows are down. The water side is doing well although we had some extra overtime as the Interconnection was coming online during the weekend periods.

Mr. Mingo asked are we tracking the parts we are using? Mr. Bragaw replied some are in the shop and some are in the truck. By hiring a mechanic it has made a big difference.

Mr. Bond asked how old is the generator? He was informed that Well 5 is from the 1980s.

8. Status of Landmark Sewer Capacity Appeal. Attorney O'Connell reported the Judge ruled that the case was a final decision. If Mr. Russo decides to appeal, the Judge has made it clear that no new evidence can be presented.

9. Set Public Hearing Date for Water and Sewer Rates. The Commission agreed to have a Public Hearing on October 28 at 6:30 p.m. on water and sewer rates prior to this Commission's regular October meeting.

10. Orchard's Subdivision--Sunrise Trail Booster Station. Mr. Kargl reported that when the Orchard's subdivision was approved there was thought about using the Orchards Booster Station to also serve 13 customers on Sunrise Trail that are currently served by the Sunrise Trail Booster Station. The Orchards Booster Station was approved by the Department of Public Health with this in mind. Mr. Kargl indicated that there is a right-of-way between the subdivision and Sunrise Trail and that he was approached by the developer to determine if it was our intent to construct a water main to connect the two. Some discussion ensued on this matter and it was the general consensus of the Commission to have Mr. Kargl investigate this further.

11. Communications.

a. See Correspondence Log.

12. Chairman's Report. There was no report.

13. Staff Updates.

a. Water Department Monthly Report. Mr. Kargl reported demands for water have been down.

b. Sewer Department Monthly Report. Mr. Kargl reported flows are down on the sewer side.

14. Fluoride Update.

MOTION (5): Mr. Spencer moved to table Fluoride Update. Seconded by Mr. Zoller.
(7-0) Unanimous

Mr. Mingo proposed that we seek a grant for a Hydrology Report.

15. Adjournment.

MOTION (6): Mr. DiGiovanna moved to adjourn the September 23, 2015 East Lyme Water and Sewer Commission Regular Meeting at 8:10 p.m. Seconded by Mr. Spencer. **(7-0) Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

**Frances Ghersi
Substitute Recording Secretary**