

CITY OF MILFORD
SEWER COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
April 14, 2021

The Sewer Commission of the City of Milford held a regular meeting on Wednesday, April 14, 2021, held at 6 PM. This meeting was held by videoconference via Zoom.

The following Commissioners were in attendance:

Chairman Lee Cooke
Vice Chairman Edmund Collier
Commissioner Vito Castignoli
Commissioner Brian Bier
Commissioner Bradford Hubler

Others in attendance:

Lindsay King, Wastewater
Christopher Saley, Director of Public Works
Jon Berchem, City Attorney
Toni Weeks, Paralegal/Acting Risk Manager
Beverly Hayes, Recording Secretary

Commissioners and others not in attendance:

Chairman Cooke called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Chairman Cooke asked for Citizens Comments and reminded everyone that statements are limited to the legislative functions of the Sewer Commission and the time limit granted to each speaker shall be 3 minutes, residents, taxpayers, or electors may address the Commission.

1. **CITIZENS COMMENTS** - None

2. **APPLICATIONS/PETITIONS**

- a.) 137 Kozlowski Road – Orchards Golf Course – Application for Review
regarding Sewer Use Fee from Golf Commission

William Healey, Vice Chairman Golf Commission explained that the Golf Course before 2019 paid a sewer use fee between \$859-\$970. Then the Sewer Commission for 2019 increased the fee of \$6,964.32 based on their water use. He explained that the water is for irrigation and does not enter the sewers adding there are only three bathrooms and are closed during winter months. He requested that the Commission reduce the fee back to the 3 Sewer units to grant relief. Discussion ensued regarding how perhaps a submeter within the building could be installed to separate actual water going into sewers from the irrigation. C. Saley offered to stop by and take a look at what could be done.

Motion by Commissioner Castignoli to approve the request to reduce the sewer use back to the prior 3 units fee for 2019 going forward till they can find a solution to meter the actual water usage. Commissioner Hubler seconding the motion and the motion carried unanimously.

3. **SEWER ASSESSMENTS**

4. **WESTCOTT & MAPES, INC.** – Lee Cooke

a.) Viscount Drive Sanitary Sewer Force Main Replacement

A corrected Pay Application No. 8RR was received from the Contractor, Empire Paving, Inc., requesting release of retainage for the project. Although the warranty period for the project ended on February 27th, permanent pavement repair of the patch where a section of the sanitary force main serving Trolley Hill Condominiums was repaired remains to be completed. Defects to the concrete repairs performed on Naugatuck Avenue were corrected yesterday, April 13th. Additionally, the *Waiver of Liens Prime Contractor* and *Certificate of Final Payment and Completion of Work* have not been submitted. W&M recommends that retainage for the project not be released until the outstanding corrective work is finished and final completion documents are submitted.

C. Saley explained that he knows they completed some work but needs to check if they completed everything. Will check and report back to Commission.

b.) Housatonic Wastewater Digester Gas Piping Repairs

Restoration of disturbed grass areas by the Contractor, Denali Water Solutions LLC, remains to be completed. Payment Application No. 7 has been reviewed and certified by W&M in the amount of \$4,067.58.

c.) Repair/Replace Sanitary Sewer Force Main Failures at Various Locations

No change since last report.

d.) Gulf Pond Sanitary Pump Station Repairs

Work on the project is awaiting receipt of the gate and plug valves by the Contractor, Kovacs Construction Corp., for installation on the force main header and suction piping.

e.) Lower Wepawaug “Stonebridge” Pond Sewer/Manhole Lining

Final inspection of the manhole lining with the Contractor, Kovacs Construction Corp., remains to be completed. Payment Application No. 3 has been reviewed and certified by W&M in the amount of \$5,389.36.

Capital Improvements for Sanitary Sewer Projects – C. Saley

The Sanitary Sewer Project list was sent to the Commission and with the stimulus funding coming in he would like to see the design started for Item 2 Sanitary Sewer Pump Station Upgrades No. 1 – Various Locations and Item 5 Sanitary Sewer Pump Station Upgrades No. 2 – Various Locations process started for the design. He

explained there are 43 Pump Stations, and they are struggling with staffing and the maintenance. With 8 million gallons to the Housatonic WWTP and 2 million gallons to Beaverbrook these projects are critical. He added that they can eliminate the Pump Station at Pumpkin Delight by installing 2,000 LF of gravity sewer to Mayflower Place Pump Station which is huge cost savings to City. He added the total for long-term capital improvements sewer projects is approximately 26 million.

Motion by Commissioner Castignoli to confer to Mayor Blake the importance of these projects. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Hubler and carried unanimously.

5. WASTEWATER REPORT – Lindsay King

Wastewater Treatment Plants

Both Wastewater Plants performed well in the month of March, producing a high-quality effluent. 272 million gallons was treated at the Housatonic Plant and 62 million gallons at the Beaver Brook Plant for a total of 334 million gallons. The Housatonic plants monthly average effluent nitrogen was 321 lbs/day (annual average is 269 lbs./day and is under the 307 lb/day permit limit). The Beaverbrook Plants monthly average effluent nitrogen was 57 lbs/day (annual average is 64 lbs./day and is under the permit limit of 94 lbs/day).

At the Housatonic Plant normal monthly maintenance was performed:

1. Replaced plant water hose on GC Pro system for Belt Press odor control.
2. Replaced air lines on aeration tank ammonia probes.
3. Troubleshoot and found hydraulic leak in ultraviolet system.
4. Replaced chain on clarifier #1 and readjusted sprocket for correct alignment.
5. Replaced failed heating recirculation pump for main building.
6. A programmer remotely connected to the aeration blower system to make corrections to the air flow valves to each aeration tank. Oxygen flow to each tank is now maintained in the setpoints and the air valves have fewer micro adjustments reducing wear and tear.

At the Beaverbrook Plant normal monthly maintenance was performed:

1. Cleared blockage in sump pump and check valve.
2. Repaired operations building boiler by replacing control coils and rewiring control wiring.
3. Replaced float in main drip trap on digester gas system after the float failed and shut down the recirculator.

Collection System

Pump Stations

Scheduled maintenance was performed at the following pump stations: Sailors Lane, Live Oaks, Pumpkin Delight, Carriage Drive Pump Stations.

Other Duties Performed:

1. Generators were exercised on full load at Post Road, West Mayflower, Rogers Ave, Milford Point, Viscount, Sailors Lane, Kinlock, Naugatuck Ave, Welches Point, Carriage

Dr, Morningside, Rock St, Anderson Ave, Grove St, Old Gate Lane, Gulf Pond and Roses Mill.

2. Currently Adams is still hooked up to a portable generator waiting for a permanent generator replacement. Wanda, Kurt Volk, and White Oaks are also without permanent generators.
3. Repaired fuel leak on Zion Hill Generator
4. Replaced impeller and bottom plate at West Mayflower pump station.
5. Removed clog from pumps at Watrous, Ryder Woods, Anderson, and Grove.

There were 2 alarms at the pump stations:

0 for Power Outage
1 for High Wet-well
0 for Control Power
0 for Station Trouble
1 for Overtemperature

Sewer Maintenance

Sewer Maintenance answered 4 complaints.

Sewer Maintenance crews performed scheduled maintenance at the following T-sites:
T-8, T-30, T-39 and carry over T-sites T-16 and T-47

There were sewer excavations at the following locations:
NA

Other duties performed were:

1. CCTV and root cut on Ardmore road
2. Cleared blockage at 55 Baker St and then CCTV and root cut. (no wastewater left collection system)
3. Cleared mainline blockage at Camden St (between Northwood and Strathmore; no wastewater left collection system)
4. Cleared mainline blockage at 146 High Street (wastewater did enter the basement and a by-pass report was sent to DEEP)
5. Friday T-sites

A total of 16,475 ft. was jet flushed, 3,035 ft. televised, 1,925 ft. spy tv'ed, 710 ft. hand rodded, 3,875 ft hydraulically root cut, 0 ft smoke tested, 470 ft root treated, and 615 ft. dye tested.

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**– *None*

7. **OLD BUSINESS** – *None*

8. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – Consulting Engineer – *None*

Chairman Cooke explained that he was informed by counsel that this discussion should not be in Executive Session but public discussion. He went on to explain that Mark Davis resigned as the

Sewer Commission Consulting Engineer. They City put out an RFQ in December 2020 for the Sewer Consultant and the interviews are taking place next week with Justin Rosen, Lindsay King and Ned Collier on the interview panel. Mark Davis has reached out to Justin Rosen to be considered and will make a presentation. It is hard to move forward on any projects without a sewer consultant. He explained he had good working relationship and I could reach out to for his institutional knowledge at any time.

Commissioner Collier stated the interviews will begin next week. He explained that the ethical conflict of the sewer consultant designing and performing construction administration on the same project is not unique to Westcott & Mapes it is any sewer consultant, the process. It was suggested to him that perhaps we could have two sewer consultants and have one design and the other do the construction administration to avoid the conflicts of interest. He agrees that Westcott & Mapes has a great amount of institutional knowledge, however we have to check on a regular basis to see the other opportunities out there. It will be a fair hearing for the three firms and get the process to work as everyone wants what is best for the City. Atty. Berchem said the sewer consultant is approved by the Mayor upon the recommendation of the Sewer Commission. Commissioner Castignoli suggested that Commissioner Collier bring the conflicts up in the interview process and suggested project audits. Commissioner Hubler added that he agrees that the design and construction administration should not be done by the same firm and should be separate. Lindsay King said he does review the plans so there is some oversight on my end. Commissioner Collier says he will present the recommendations to the Commission first next month and then to the Mayor. C. Saley added that he appreciates Mr. Collier's concern adding that he does provide oversight of the sewer consultant, however, there is a trust factor and he does find the idea of two sewer consultant's interesting.

C. Saley added he would like to see the design for the new sewer projects, Items 2 & 5, discussed earlier, started by W&M while the interviews take place. Commissioner Collier reminded the Commission that Mark Davis resigned. Mr. Davis could withdraw his resignation. Atty. Berchem explained that Westcott & Mapes would have to take those steps, however, he is continuing work on the existing projects. C. Saley referred to the two projects for Design/Construction Administration is approximately \$525,000 and it would be appropriate for Westcott & Mapes to design them before a supply issues becomes an issue, and we have the money for it in the bonding. Atty. Berchem suggested Mr. Saley contact Peter Erodici in Finance to go over how the funding can be used, adding that the Mayor should weigh in. Chairman Cooke suggested that we check the financing with input from the Mayor and see if Mr. Davis would be willing to do the design but we will not do without the Mayor's blessing. Mr. Saley will speak with the Mayor as these projects are a public safety issue. Chairman Cooke will also follow up with email to the Mayor and Mr. Saley can see if Mr. Davis would be willing to do the design.

9. VOTING

a.) Regular Meeting Minutes of March 24, 2021

Commissioner Hubler made a motion to approve the minutes of March 24, 2021 with Commissioner Castignoli seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

b.) Approval of Payments

Chairman Cooke called for a motion to approve the payments in the amount of \$12,811.94 Commissioner Hubler made a motion to approve the payments in the amount of \$12,811.94 seconded by Commissioner Castignoli. The motion carried unanimously.

10. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

a.) Administrative Approvals

Chairman Cooke stated there were 13 Administrative Approvals through April 14, 2021. One of the projects is 44-64 River Street consisting of Retail and Apartments moving forward.

11. ADJOURN

Chairman Cooke called for a motion to adjourn at 6:55 p.m. Commissioner Castignoli made a motion to adjourn with Commissioner Hubler seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly A. Hayes, BS
Recording Secretary