

CITY OF MILFORD
SEWER COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
April 26, 2023

The Sewer Commission of the City of Milford held a regular meeting on Wednesday, April 26, 2023, at 6 PM. This meeting was held by videoconference via Zoom.

The following Commissioners were in attendance:

Chairman Edmund Collier

Vice Chairman, Bradford Hubler

Commissioner Edward Abel

Commissioner Alexander J. Armstrong

Commissioner Tara Carroll

Others in attendance:

Christopher Saley, Director of Public Works

Lindsay King, Wastewater

Robert Tedeschi, Sewer Consultant, Weston & Sampson

Beverly Hayes, Recording Secretary

Scott Marlow, Alderman Liaison

Commissioners and others not in attendance:

Michelle Parente, Aldermen Liaison

Chairman Collier called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

1. CITIZEN'S COMMENTS - None

Statements limited to the legislative function of the Sewer Commission. The time limit granted to each speaker shall be three (3) minutes. Residents, taxpayers, or electors may address the Commission.

2. APPLICATIONS (PETITIONS) - None

3. TABLED APPLICATIONS

- a.) 234 Melba Street – Café requests waiver of exterior grease trap and installation of an AGRU

Chairman Collier called for a motion to remove the item from the table. Commissioner Hubler made a motion to remove the item from the table with Commissioner Armstrong seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Dan Kardos provided an update. It was suggested by the Sewer Consultant that he connect to the existing grease trap on the property, however, when the contractor arrived to go over the

feasibility it was discovered that they cannot get the pitch and it would involve a pump and pumps fail. He added that the cost is prohibitive so he is requesting a waiver to install a super capacity grease trap separator made by Schier, which would be located inside the building and is approved by the State. There was discussion as to the menu, noting that there is a fryer but a grilling menu of approximately 10 menu items. Chairman Collier explained that there is room for the exterior grease trap and we cannot consider the cost. Commissioner Abel added that he is against an interior grease trap and the Commission will understand after they hear the report from DEEP meeting, they recently had regarding the Housatonic Treatment Plant. Atty. Kevin Curseaden has spoken with Mr. Kardos and explained that there is a hardship to connect to the existing exterior grease trap and that should allow approval of the interior unit. Chairman suggested that he does not want to set a precedent and asked if the applicant, at his expense, get a letter from an engineer to report about the problems at the site so we have a reason to approve the AGRU. Commissioner Hubler was in support of the interior unit as his testimony is this is a light menu and we are pro-business and this will not set a precedent, as we have approved those we felt were producing very little grease. Atty. Curseaden asked if this could be approved with the contingency that a letter be provided and if satisfactory to the Commission it could be approved.

Chairman Collier suggested he reorder and take this item up at end of meeting so that they could hear the DEEP Meeting report (Continuation continued after the Chairman's Report)

4. **CONSULTING ENGINEER'S REPORT** – Weston & Sampson – Robert Tedeschi

A. *Sanitary Sewer Pump Station Upgrades #1 Various Locations:*

1. This project consists of proposed improvements to the following wastewater pumping stations: Sailors Lane, Old Gate Lane, New Haven Ave., Watrous Lane, and Live Oaks
2. Bids were received by the Purchasing Department on February 16, 2023.
3. At the March 2023 sewer commission meeting, the project was awarded to VMS Construction Co., of Vernon, CT in the amount of \$4,319,500.
4. Notice of Award was issued on March 27, 2023.
5. Project will be funded jointly by ARPA fund (\$3,500,000) and City Bond funds (\$2,805,000).
6. Weston & Sampson submitted Agreement, bonds, and insurance certificate from VMS to City Council for processing on April 10, 2023. Once Purchase Order is issued, a Notice to Proceed will be issued and a pre-construction meeting will be scheduled.
7. Weston & Sampson submitted a proposal to provide Construction Administration and inspection services to the City for approval.
 - i. **Action:** Review and consider approval to authorize Weston & Sampson to provide Construction Phase services. This was tabled at the March 2023 meeting.

B. *Rogers Avenue Sanitary Pump Station Upgrade:*

1. Proposed upgrades will consist of replacing:
 - i. 3 Pumps 75 HP 1,300 gpm; 104 TDH 480 3 phase, Level and Pump controls, Channel grinders, 180 Kw Stand-by generator, Buried fuel oil tank with above ground tank.
2. Upgrades will also be made to protect against flooding during storm events.
3. Bid documents submitted to Purchasing Department for bidding on April 21, 2023.
4. A pre-proposal conference has been scheduled for 9:00 am on May 10, 2023 to be held at the pumping station site.
5. Bids will be received from the pre-qualified contractors on June 6, 2023.

C. Housatonic WWTP Upgrades: Athletic Brewing Co.:

1. The Applicant has submitted a CT DEEP "General Permit Registration Form for Discharge of Wastewaters from Significant Industrial Users (SIU GP)" to the City for approval. Reviewed and commented upon said SIU GP.
2. SIU GP approved by the Sewer Commission at their 1/25/2023 meeting.
3. The City has issued a \$1.87M sewer bond to fund the proposed improvements to the Housatonic WWTP.
4. On March 31, 2023 Weston & Sampson was authorized by the City to proceed with engineering design services to develop design documents of the proposed improvements which will include chemical dosing system for primary clarifiers and installation of additional solids handling equipment.
5. Currently developing base mapping for the proposed work.
6. Sewer commission tabled Construction phase services at the March meeting.
 - i. **Action:** Review and consider approval to authorize Weston & Sampson to provide Construction Phase services to implement improvements to the Housatonic WWTP.

D. Collection System Flow Evaluation:

1. Report submitted on January 24, 2022, which included a prioritized schedule for future Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Surveys (SSES) that would identify sources of Infiltration and Inflow (I/I) and other defects in the wastewater collection system.
2. The flow at the Housatonic WWTP has exceeded 90% of the design flow rate. Met with CTDEEP on March 29, 2023 to discuss options for addressing the need to reduce infiltration and inflow to the WWTPs.
3. DEEP requested, and the City submitted, a Wet Weather Standard Operating Procedures document which lists procedures followed during high flow conditions at the plants.

Chairman Collier spoke regarding the two action items to award construction phase services to Weston & Sampson. He feels the Commission should allow the new Mayor some input before we award those contracts. We will not take them up. Commissioner Hubler added he agrees, as we have concerns in past and present regarding the engineering design and the construction phase services provided by the same consultant.

5. WASTEWATER REPORT – Lindsay King

Wastewater Treatment Plants

Both Wastewater Plants performed well in the month of March, producing a high-quality effluent. 229 million gallons were treated at the Housatonic Plant and 71 million gallons at the Beaver Brook Plant for a total of 300 million gallons. The Housatonic plant's monthly average effluent nitrogen was 230 lbs./day (annual average for 2023 is 211 lbs./day and is under the 307 lb./day permit limit). The Beaverbrook Plant's monthly average effluent nitrogen was 61 lbs./day (annual average for 2023 is 53 lbs./day and is under the permit limit of 94 lbs./day).

Some maintenance items were not completed due to limited staffing.

At the Housatonic Plant normal monthly maintenance was performed:

1. Replaced failed gas valve on roof top heating unit on press building.
2. Installed replacement chemical feed pump for odor control system.

3. Ran plant generator on load.

At the Beaverbrook Plant normal monthly maintenance was performed:

1. Full service on step screen
2. WAS pump 2 was leaking oil. Replaced oil and cleaned vent – working normally.
3. Replaced lobes and wear plates on WAS pump #1
4. Replaced 48 paddles on belt filter press #1

Collection System

Pump Stations

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

Other Duties Performed:

1. Ran generators on full load at W. Mayflower, Viscount, Holly, Mathew, Milford Pt., Concord, Zion Hill, Flax Mill, Ford, Cricklewood, Rogers, Kinlock, Post Road, Naugatuck, Crowley, Sailors, Gulf Pond, Anderson, Rock, Welches's, Watrous, Cascade, Grove, Morningside, Carriage, New Haven Ave, and West Ave...
2. Cleared clogs at Rogers Avenue (3x), New Haven Ave. and Rogers (3x) Pump Stations
3. Installed new pump at Mayflower Pump Station
4. Replaced transducer at Cricklewood.
5. Cleaned wet wells at Mathew, Naugatuck, Watrous, Wanda and Adams

There were 7 alarms at the pump stations:

- 4 for High Water
- 0 for Low Well
- 3 for Power Outage
- 0 for Station Trouble
- 0 for Pump Over Temperature

Sewer Maintenance

Sewer Maintenance answered 6 complaints.

Sewer Maintenance crews performed scheduled maintenance at the following T-sites:

T-7, T-8, T-9, T-26, T-27, T-28, T-30, T-33, and T-39

There were sewer excavations at the following locations:

14-16 Central Ave.
86 Easy Street
48 Lawrence Ave.

Other duties performed were:

1. Cleared mainline blockage on Brewster Road (no sewage left the system)
2. Root cutting Melba and Meadowside

3. Cleaned and TV inspected Ardmore, Rita, Candlewood, Sawmill, Meadowside, Baxter, Mayflower, and Breakneck.
4. Friday T-sites

A total of 17,410 ft. was jet flushed, 6,525 ft. televised, 1,820 ft. spy TV 'ed, 650 ft. hand rodded, 2,475 ft hydraulically root cut, 0 ft smoke tested, 385 ft root treated, and 0 ft. dye tested.

American Rescue Plan Act – Wastewater Pump Station Emergency Generators:

1. This ARPA funded project consists of replacing emergency generators at multiple wastewater pump stations.
2. \$1,504,000 is approved for this project.
3. Gulf Pond and West Avenue generators have gone out to bid and received a low bid of \$492,600. A soft delivery date for the generators is set for May 2023
4. A second bid was opened on March 8th for generators at Wanda, Post Road, White Oaks, Matthew, Anderson, Mayflower, Milford Point, and a portable generator. L. Holzner Electric Company has been selected as the low bidder for \$656,555.00.
5. Mr. King spoke with Andretta Swift about the ARPA funding. Any remaining ARPA funding will be handled so we have the ability to continue the project if there are issues or alterations. Also we may be able to add additional generators if there is funding left. Most require internal approval with Finance.

Adams Avenue Generator Replacement

1. The 60-kw generator and transfer switch will be replacing the existing failed generator.
2. The project has gone out to bid and received a low bid of \$49,735.
3. We currently have a soft delivery date of November for the generator (60-week lead time).
4. FEMA and insurance money have already been received.
5. FEMA requires the project to be completed by July 2024

Meeting with DEEP – Housatonic Wastewater Treatment Plant

Mr. King recapped his meeting with DEEP on 3/29/2023. He explained Wastewater needs to develop a SOP to minimize the potential effluent violations that are triggered by high flow conditions at the plant as the result of wet weather. It is also suggested that the Town consider annual Inflow/Infiltration reductions program with a specific budget dedicated and they must update DEEP periodically as to the status of the upgrade design to install chemical dosing system for the primary clarifiers and installation of sludge handling equipment. The next status update is June of 2023. Discussion ensued regarding funding the collection system flow evaluation and lining projects after locating areas via camera and Mr. Tedeschi added they have identified three areas of high flow and they are the Boston Post Road, Anderson Avenue and Milford Point Road. Commissioner Abel added that in addition to the high flows, improper use of grease traps contributes to the DEEP Violations regarding BOD & TSS high levels and if the city does not start taking action to address DEEP concerns, DEEP will. Mr. Saley added that the city needs to be more aggressive, and he will assist in allocating funding for this.

Chairman Collier instructed Ms. Hayes to put this on the agenda for updates each month.

6. **COMMITTEE REPORTS** - *None*

7. **OLD BUSINESS** - *None*

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

a.) Amendment to Consulting Engineer's Contract Article 5 – Payments to the Engineer

Chairman Collier explained that they received the request to increase the current rates and he would like input from the new Mayor. Mr. Saley explained that they have the payments from last month and these for this month at the new rate. He added the City Attorney does not see a problem with the approval as Weston & Sampsons' contract allows for it. Commissioner Abel suggested they be paid at the 2021 rates till the Commission approves the new rates. The Commission took no action on this item.

9. **VOTING**

a.) Regular Meeting Minutes of March 22, 2023

Chairman Collier called for motion to approve the minutes of March 22, 2023. Commissioner Hubler made a motion to approve with Commissioner Abel seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously with Chairman Collier abstaining.

b.) Approval of Payments

Chairman Collier called for a motion to approve the payments for Weston & Sampson at their 2021 rates to be recalculated and approved. Commissioner Abel made a motion to allow the Chairman to sign the recalculated payments for this and last month invoices at Weston & Sampson's 2021 rates. Commissioner Carroll seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

10. **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

a.) Administrative Approvals

Chairman Collier stated there were 8 Administrative Approvals through April 26, 2023.

TABLED APPLICATION continued – 234 Melba Street. Discussion ensued regarding the waiver of the exterior grease trap and the DEEP issues with the Housatonic Plant and reference to a current situation regarding a grease trap and grease clogging both pumps in the pump station and required emergency pump out. Chairman Collier noted that members of the Commission and Mr. King are not familiar with the high-capacity grease trap unit that the applicant is proposing, and they need more information, so he suggested we take no action and allow the applicant to get the grease trap information to them. Mr. Kardos responded that it is very clear that

restaurants have acted irresponsibly in the past and he feels that he is making a positive change with his light style of cooking and this unit is a hydro-mechanical unit and they are better than the in-ground units and is specifically designed for his flow. The Chairman added that Mr. Kardos needs to provide the specifications for the proposed unit and a letter regarding the site issues with connecting to the existing external grease trap and they will be able to take this up next month.

Chairman Collier called for a motion to table the application to allow for more information. Commissioner Hubler made a motion to table with Commissioner Abel seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

11. ADJOURN

Chairman Collier called for a motion to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. Commissioner Hubler made a motion to adjourn with Commissioner Armstrong seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly A. Hayes, BS
Recording Secretary