

CITY OF MILFORD  
SEWER COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING  
September 22, 2021

The Sewer Commission of the City of Milford held a regular meeting on Wednesday, September 22, 2021, immediately following the Public Hearing held at 6 PM. This meeting was held by videoconference via Zoom.

The following Commissioners were in attendance:

*Chairman Edmund Collier*  
*Vice Chairman Vito Castignoli*  
*Commissioner Brian Bier*  
*Commissioner Bradford Hubler*  
*Commissioner Tara Carroll*

Others in attendance:

*Lindsay King, Wastewater*  
*Christopher Saley, Director of Public Works*  
*Robert Tedeschi, Sewer Consultant, Weston & Sampson*  
*Martin Hardiman, BOA Liaison*  
*Beverly Hayes, Recording Secretary*

Commissioners and others not in attendance: *None*

Chairman Collier called the meeting to order at 6:16 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.*

Bettina Thiel, 89 Morningside Drive explained that there was a portable pump installed at the Morningside Drive pump station with concern as to the plans coming for the winter. She explained specifically as to what the plan is for the replacement, will there be a building above ground and will they have to tear up the road. Mr. King responded that the new pump station will be above ground and will be a steel box of a large size and they will keep it as close to the utility pole where the UI service is coming in. The current controls were in the ground and were destroyed during the last storm. The timeline is unsure as it is hard to get products currently.

**2 APPLICATIONS (PETITIONS)**

- a.) 1553 Boston Post Road** – Proposed car wash where the proposed flow exceeds the allowable flow

Scott Tiefenthaler, Project Manager for this project, explained that he is requesting to install a new car wash at 1553 Boston Post Road. He referred to his accompanying letter regarding the water usage at other car wash facilities in Milford and his proposed discharge. He explained the proposed car wash used the most advanced mechanical design and water recycling and filtration systems available on the market today and all soaps & products used will be 100% biodegradable. This facility will use about 30 gallons per car putting him at about 7500 GPD where 3,795 GPD is allowed.

Chairman Collier called for a motion to approve for discussion. Commissioner Castignoli made a motion seconded by Commissioner Bier.

Discussion ensued as to how car washes should be addressed due to the high-water discharge that is typical of car washes. C. Saley suggested that they applicant apply for their Planning & Zoning Approval concurrently with this application and this way the Commission can table the application to address the high flow of the proposed car wash by looking into the flow in the area and the impact of this proposed discharge on the Sanitary Sewer System.

Chairman Collier called for a motion to table to allow Commission time to look into a solution to the high discharge. Commissioner Bier made a motion to approve with Commissioner Hubler seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**3. SEWER ASSESSMENTS - None**

**4. WESTCOTT & MAPES, INC. – Report from Mark Davis**

**A. Repair/Replace Sanitary Sewer Force Main Failures at Various Locations**

The Contractor for the Kelley Martin Tighe Field Sanitary Sewer Relocation project, T. Arduini Company, Inc., has completed the project and last month submitted in accordance with the Contract Documents the Waiver of Lien and the Certificate of Final Payment. W&M has reviewed their request and recommends the Commission approve closing the project out with a credit of \$2019.84 back to the City.

Chairman Collier called for a motion. Commissioner Castignoli made a motion to close out the project with Commissioner Hubler seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The Contractor's Application for Payment No. 2 is for release of their retainage in the amount of \$2487.26. The Payment Application has been reviewed and certified by W&M, and approval of the payment is recommended.

Chairman Collier called for a motion. Commissioner Castignoli made a motion to release the retainage on the project with Commissioner Hubler seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Additionally, release of retainage to the John J. Brennan Construction Company, Inc. and close-out are recommended for the Boston Post Road Sanitary Sewer Force Main

Replacement project. The Waiver of Lien and the Certificate of Final Payment for this project were submitted at the July Commission meeting.

Chairman Collier called for a motion. Commissioner Castignoli made to release the retainage and close out the project with Commissioner Hubler seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**B. Gulf Pond Sanitary Pump Station Repairs**

The Contractor, Kovacs Construction Corp., and completed installation of the four 18-inch plug valves on the station's pump suction lines. They have also completed replacement of the 24-inch butterfly valve on the force main header with a new gate valve. It is expected that Pump No. 3 will be put back in service after 4-years of being idle and that the pump station will be put back online this week. Also, the wetwell supply air fan has been replaced and the sluice gate dividing the two wetwell chambers has been repaired. Additional work was performed to clean the wetwells that were found to be packed one-half to three-quarters full of accumulated solids consisting mostly of disposable wipes and grease. Installation of the new damper actuators is awaiting linkage parts and remains to be completed. Also to be completed is the replacement of previously damaged bollards and paving of the pump station driveway.

Payment Application No. 2 was received last month and has been reviewed and certified by W&M in the amount of \$54,177.62.

Payment Application No. 3 was received for this month's meeting and has been reviewed and certified by W&M in the amount of \$53,533.38.

**C. Lower Wepawaug "Stonebridge" Pond Sewer/Manhole Lining**

No change since last report.

**5. CONSULTING ENGINEER'S REPORT – Weston & Sampson**

**On-Call Support Services**

1. Sanitary Sewer Pump Station Upgrades #1 Various Locations:
  - a. Visited each of the five (5) wastewater pumping station included under this proposed capital project to confirm required upgrades.
  - b. Developed a Planning Level Opinion of Probable Construction Cost to implement the proposed pumping station modifications and submitted same to the City.
  - c. Submitted a Task Order proposal to the City for approval for services relating to implementing wastewater pumping station modifications at the following five (5) locations:
    - i. Sailors Lane Pump Station
    - ii. Old Gate Lane Pump Station
    - iii. New Haven Ave Pump Station
    - iv. Watrous Lane Pump Station
    - v. Live Oaks Pump Station

2. Collection System Flow Evaluation:
  - a. Submitted a Task Order proposal to the City for approval for services relating to the development of a subarea-by-subarea 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. This evaluation will utilize available pumping station flow data, pump motor run-time meter data, water consumption data from the Regional Water Authority, and the City's GIS access database.
3. Met with the City to discuss the 5-year Wastewater Capital Improvement Plan.

## 6. **WASTEWATER REPORT** – Lindsay King

### **Wastewater Treatment Plants**

Both Wastewater Plants performed well in the month of August, producing a high-quality effluent. 210 million gallons was treated at the Housatonic Plant and 49 million gallons at the Beaver Brook Plant for a total of 363 million gallons. The Housatonic plants monthly average effluent nitrogen was 134 lbs./day (annual average is 213 lbs./day and is under the 307 lb/day permit limit). The Beaverbrook Plants monthly average effluent nitrogen was 41 lbs./day (annual average is 55 lbs./day and is under the permit limit of 94 lbs./day).

At the Housatonic Plant normal monthly maintenance was performed:

1. Replaced hydraulic tension cylinder and four hydraulic lines on Belt Press #2
2. Northeast Water used a crane to remove the drive for primary clarifier #2 and replaced it with a new drive
3. Installed a new compressor for scum pit after existing compressor failed
4. Replaced broken gear reducer on anoxic mixer 2-1 south
5. Secondary clarifier #5 was pulled apart to rebuild the drive. On inspection the drive is beyond repair and needs to be replaced. A new drive has been ordered but the lead time is still unknown.

At the Beaverbrook Plant normal monthly maintenance was performed:

1. Changed lobes in belt filter press feed pump #1
2. Rotated lobe direction in belt filter feed pump #2
3. Checked oil and belt tension in TWAS pump #1

### **Collection System**

#### **Pump Stations**

Scheduled maintenance was performed at the following pump stations: Ryder Woods and Roses Mill Pump Stations

Other Duties Performed:

1. Generators were exercised on full load at Concord, Crawley, Holly, Flax Mill, Captains Walk, Adams, Old Field, Buckingham, Watrous, Ryders Woods, Kinlock, Welches Point, Anderson, Gulf Pond,

Grove, Wanda, Carriage, Old Gate, Post Road, Zion Hill, Rogers, Mayflower, Milford Point, Mathew, Viscount and Cricklewood.

2. Removed clog and replaced wear ring at Flax Mill. Replaced bad contactor in control panel
3. Prep pump #3 at Gulf Pond for replacement in anticipation of the valve replacement project at Gulf Pond
4. Replaced pump at Roses Mill after it pulled in rocks and rags and the motor burned up.
5. Removed pump clog at Rogers Avenue.
6. Attempted to isolate wet-well #2 at West Avenue for cleaning by McVac. The gates did not hold so only a partial cleaning was possible. We will attempt to isolate the wet-well again but if unsuccessful a pump station bypass will need to be set up to clean the well.
7. Replaced 1200-amp generator breaker at West Avenue pump station that failed during the last storm. Three pumps ran on generator, and we were able to remove the rental generator.

There were 2 alarms at the pump stations:

- 0 for Power Outage
- 0 for High Wet-well
- 0 for Control Power
- 2 for Station Trouble
- 0 for Over-temperature
- 0 for Low wet-well level

### **Sewer Maintenance**

Sewer Maintenance answered 6 complaints.

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

T-16, T-40 and T-51 and carry over T-sites T-12, T-24, T-25, T-47, T-19, T-21, T-13, T-13, T-26 and T-29.

There was a sewer excavation at the following location:

103 Home Acres Avenue

Other duties performed were:

1. Milling and paving City Roads; open and inspect manholes, frames, covers, rings etc.
2. Contacted Metro North to gain access to a tunnel under the tracks at Depot Road. The tunnel is an easement for Ryder Woods Pump Station and Cascade Boulevard easement.
3. CCTV and jet-rodded Cascade Boulevard easement
4. Attempted to CCTV the 42" interceptor on West Avenue. The flow was too great for the camera to navigate the pipe.
5. Friday T-sites

A total of 13,610 ft. was jet flushed, 5,025 ft. televised, 1,875 ft. spy tv'ed, 1,280 ft. hand rodded, 1,495 ft hydraulically root cut, 0 ft smoke tested, 450 ft root treated, and 0 ft. dye tested.

### **Remnants of Hurricane Ida**

On September 1 and 2, 2021, remnants of hurricane Ida had a significant impact on Milford's wastewater infrastructure. During the storm wastewater staff was coping with heavy rain and

the loss of power at 19 of the cities pump stations and the Housatonic Wastewater Treatment Plant. The major impact from the storm was six inches of rain in a short period of time that inundated all 43 pump stations and both treatment plants.

A major failure occurred at Morningside Pump Station where a valve vault flooded submerging the pump station controls and electrical components, destroying them. Septic trucks were called in to pump the station down during the storm until an emergency bypass pump could be installed the next day. Options are currently being explored for replacing the control panel but due to long lead times it is anticipated the emergency pump system will need to remain in place for multiple months. A small sewage bypass occurred before the septic haulers could get the flow under control. The bypass has been reported to the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.



*Morningside control panel almost completely submerged in water*



*Emergency pump installed at Morningside Pump Station*

In addition to Morningside Pump Station most of the Cities pump stations were running at or near full capacity and some had backups in the wet wells creating a mess of rags and grease inside the stations. Power outages occurred at Morningside, Rock St, Welches Point, West Ave, Milford Point, Viscount Drive, Holly, Mayflower, Post Road, Zion, White Oaks, Concord, Cricklewood, Adams, Anderson, Pumpkin Delight, Gulf Pond, Carriage and Kurk Volk pump stations. White Oaks and Kurk Volk currently do not have a functioning generator. Fortunately, Kurk Volk had power restored before needing to be pumped out and White Oaks had a septic hauler managing flow until power was restored. Adams was powered by a rental generator after the permanent generator failed from tropical storm Isaias.

Both treatment plants fared well during the storm but experienced excessive flows. Wet weather strategies helped minimize problems during the storm and helped return the plants to normal operation soon after the storm. The Housatonic plant is designed to treat 8.2 million gallons per day (MGD) but experienced a daily average flow of 19.2 MGD on September 3. The instantaneous peak flows are unknown as the flow meter “pegged” out at 32 MGD and could not read flows

higher than that. The Beaverbrook plant flow also “pegged” out at 10 MGD and experienced extremely high flows during and after the storm.

### **Wastewater Capital Projects**

Chairman Collier explained that while we heard about some of the projects in the Public Hearing, the Commission must vote to approve the 5-year Wastewater Capital Improvement Plan which is outlined in Lindsay’s memo. The Mayor and Board of Alderman work on funding for the projects and approves them.

Chairman Collier called for a motion to approve the list. Commissioner Hubler made a motion to approve the Wastewater Capital Projects with Commissioner Bier seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

## **7. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

## **8. OLD BUSINESS –**

- a) 75 Cascade Blvd – Chairman Collier explained he attended a ZOOM meeting with Mr. King hosted by Julie Nash, Community Development Coordinator, regarding Athletic Brewing Company looking into contributing monies to the infrastructure of the Sewer System rather than the pre-treatment, before they submit their next phase submission to the Sewer Commission.

## **9. VOTING**

- a.) Regular Meeting Minutes of July 28, 2021

Commissioner Castignoli made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 28, 2021, with Commissioner Hubler seconding the motion. Commissioner Bier and Commissioner Carroll abstained. The motion carried unanimously.

- c.) Approval of Payments

Chairman Collier called for a motion to approve the payments in the amount of \$117,193.26. Commissioner Hubler made a motion to approve the payments in the amount of \$117,193.26 seconded by Commissioner Castignoli. The motion carried unanimously.

## **10. CHAIRMAN’S REPORT**

- a.) Administrative Approvals

Chairman Collier stated there were 23 Administrative Approvals through September 22, 2021.

## **11. ADJOURN**

Chairman Collier called for a motion to adjourn at 6:59 p.m. Commissioner Hubler made a motion to adjourn with Vice Chairman Castignoli seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Beverly A. Hayes, BS  
Recording Secretary