

CITY OF MILFORD  
SEWER COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING  
August 26, 2020

The Sewer Commission of the City of Milford held a regular meeting on Wednesday, August 26, 2020, held at 6 PM. This meeting was held by videoconference thru Zoom.

The following Commissioners were in attendance:

*Chairman Lee Cooke*  
*Vice Chairman Edmund Collier*  
*Commissioner Vito Castignoli*  
*Commissioner Bradford Hubler*

Others in attendance:

*Lindsay King, Wastewater*  
*Mark Davis, Westcott & Mapes*  
*Beverly Hayes, Recording Secretary*

Commissioners and others not in attendance:

*Commissioner Brian Bier*

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

Commissioner Collier requesting a reordering of the Agenda to have Lindsay King report on Wastewater as he is on vacation. The Chairman reordered the agenda for Wastewater to present first.

**1. WASTEWATER REPORT– Lindsay King**

**Wastewater Treatment Plants**

Both Wastewater Plants performed well in the month of July, producing a high quality effluent. 164 million gallons was treated at the Housatonic Plant and 44 million gallons at the Beaver Brook Plant for a total of 208 million gallons. The Housatonic Plant's monthly average effluent nitrogen was 151 lbs/day (annual average is 254 lbs/day and is under the 307 lb/day permit limit). The Beaverbrook Plant's monthly average effluent nitrogen was 82 lbs/day (annual average is 72 lbs/day and is under the permit limit of 94 lbs/day).

At the Housatonic Plant normal monthly maintenance was performed:

1. Drained Secondary Clarifier #2 for maintenance. One of the support scaffolds had broken loose and was damaged so a new one was manufactured and installed. Replaced failed gaskets around center inlet box and returned the Clarifier to service.
2. Drained Secondary Clarifier #5 after the sludge blanket started to build up. The tank is currently being evaluated for repair.
3. Greased bearings and replaced belts on odor control fan
4. Replaced pressure sensors on both belt filter presses

At the Beaverbrook Plant normal monthly maintenance was performed:

1. Repaired air valves on aeration tanks

2. Replaced sensors on dissolved oxygen probes
3. Cleaned level probes on polymer machine

### Collection System

#### **Pump Stations**

Scheduled maintenance was performed at the following pump stations: Kinlock, Watrous, Concord and Kurt Volk

Other Duties Performed:

1. Ran generators at Gulf Pond, Welch's, Watrous, Sailors and Mathew Pump Stations.
2. Pump #1 at Old Gate Lane failed while still waiting for parts to repair Pump #2 (the volute was removed last month after developing a hole). A septic hauler was brought in to maintain the wet-well while pump #1 was repaired. For some reason, the pump impeller came off the shaft and had to be reinstalled. The same problem occurred on 8/12 while still waiting on parts. The new pump parts have arrived and are being installed on 8/19. The reason for the pump failure is unknown but the station was built in 1970 and is beyond its reasonable lifespan.
3. Cleared clogged pumps at Kurt Volk multiple times. A newer style non-clog impeller was recommended by the pump manufacturer, Flyte Pump. The new impeller has been ordered.
4. In the process of removing a clogged pump at White Oaks Terrace the wear ring in the pump was found broken. The volute from a spare pump was installed in its place.
5. Replaced oxygen pump at gulf pond after the motor windings burned up. The pump is being sent out for repair.
6. Inexplicably, the generator would not shut down at Captains Walk. United Illuminating was called out to check the connections on the service but did not find an issue. Northeast Generator was called in and diagnosed a bad circuit board in the automatic transfer switch and replaced it. Captains Walk was built in 1970.
7. Fixed fuel leak at the Kinlock generator

There were 14 alarms at the pump stations:

5 for Power Outage  
1 for High Wet-well  
8 for Station Trouble

### Sewer Maintenance

Sewer Maintenance answered 7 complaints.

Sewer Maintenance crews performed scheduled maintenance at the following T-sites:  
T-27, T-19, T-21, T-54, T-2 & T-23

Carry over maintenance from previous months was done at the following T-sites:  
T-7, T-24, T-25, T-37, T-13, T-20, T-29 & T-42

There were sewer excavations at the following locations:  
NA

Other duties performed were:

1. Assist City with milling and paving by repairing and bringing to grade all sanitary sewer manholes
2. Cleared main line blockage on Broad Street (all wastewater contained in sewer)
3. Raised manholes for State DOT paving on North Street
4. Concrete was accidentally poured into a manhole on Gulf Street when the contractor was pouring a driveway apron. Assisted the contractor in removing the concrete and cleaning the two laterals that were affected. Unfortunately, 166 Gulf Street had a backup from the incident. As required, CT DEEP was notified.
5. Sewer Solvent added at various pump station wet-wells
6. Friday T-sites

A total of 12,680 ft. was jet flushed, 4,810 ft. televised, 2,050 ft. spy tv'ed, 675 ft. hand rodded, 725 ft hydraulically root cut, 0 ft smoke tested, 150 ft root treated, and 0 ft dye tested.

### **Response to Tropical Storm Isaias -Preliminary Report**

The Tropical Storm Isaias had a significant impact on Milford's Wastewater Infrastructure. During the storm Wastewater staff was dealing with loss of power throughout most of the cities pump stations and both wastewater treatment plants. Travel along roadways was also significantly impacted by fallen trees.

Staff remained onsite at both plants during the storm. This was necessary to maintain treatment during power fluctuations and when power switched over to and back from the generators. Many pieces of equipment need to be reset and restarted. Phone lines and cellular communications were also significantly impacted so an operator needed to remain at the "SCADA" computer to receive alarms from the pump stations via radio communications. Power was restored to the Housatonic plant around 8:00 PM on the night of the storm. Beaverbrook remained on generator power till the next morning.

The pump stations fared much worse during the storm. In addition to traveling to each station to ensure the pump stations were operating and delivering fuel when needed, five generators failed. Adams, Wanda and Watrous Pump Stations had catastrophic failures requiring septic haulers to maintain the wet-wells while temporary portable generators were installed. Kinlock and White Oaks Pump Stations required a mechanic to work on the generator every time the pump needed to run. Wastewater's portable generator also failed and was not able to be used as backup generator.

Adams Avenue Pump Station generator initially had an oil blow-out that was fixed but afterwards was unable to produce enough power to run a pump. Northeast Generator is recommending a load-bank test. The generator is 39 years old and will most likely need to be replaced. A portable rental generator will need to remain onsite until a new generator can be installed.

Watrous Pump Station's had a large oil leak and shut itself down. Another portable rental generator was brought onsite until the permanent generator can be fixed. On Saturday, 8/22, Northeast Generator found a plastic plug in the motor that was the cause of the leak. A temporary repair was made until we can find a solid replacement. Northeast is going to also change t-stat, hoses, belts and coolant flush as the parts are original. This generator was installed in 1992.

Wanda Pump Stations generator failed Wednesday 8/5 and we were unable to determine the cause of the failure. A temporary generator was brought onsite to run the station. Power was restored on Thursday after the storm. Northeast evaluated Wanda on

Saturday. It was built in 1970's and requires a new motor. The generator motor company White went out of business in 1982 and parts cannot be purchased anymore; I recommend replacing this generator.

Kinlock Pump Station had a coolant leak. As we were unable to repair this without pulling the generator apart the generator was run intermittently. When the wet-well reached a high level coolant was added to the generator and run in order to operate the pumps. Once pumped down the generator was shut down and any leakage cleaned. Power was not restored to this station until Sunday August 9<sup>th</sup>. Parts can still be sourced but the generator that was installed in 1972. This generator requires an overhaul to the cooling system; new water pump, new t-stat, hoses, belts and a cooling flush.

White Oaks Pump Stations generator was having difficulty running during the storm and would only start when using starter fluid. We will remove an anti-siphon valve on the fuel tank to see if this improves flow to the motor. The generator motor is made by a company called Perkins; we are not sure if we can get parts.

Live Oaks and Pumpkin Delight made it through the storm but are having difficulty producing enough power to run the pumps.

Kurk Volk's generator also made it through the storm but has fuel leaking by the injectors. This station was built in the 1970's and was also has a motor made by White. As parts are not available I recommend replacing this generator.

Chairman Cooke asked if any of these will be addressed through the budget or through the Capital Improvement with Mr. King responding some will need to be taken out of the budget as they cannot wait. Mr. Davis explained that he met with Mr. King and will meet with Mr. Saley, Public Works Director to go over the Capital Improvement Plan to prioritize them. Mr. Cooke suggested that Community Development CDBG Grant Funds maybe available and should be contacted.

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.

**2. CITIZENS COMMENTS - None**

**3. APPLICATIONS/PETITIONS**

- a.) 134 & 142 Old Gate Lane – Proposed additional seating on new dining deck where proposed flow exceeds the allowable flow (Pop's Restaurant)

Ron Wassmer, Ct Civil Group explained he is here on behalf of the owner of Pop's Donuts. He stated that the owner would like to install a new deck on the back of the restaurant which would allow 51 seats per the building code. His current flow 1883 gpd with 147 seats well under the allowed 3,145 gpd for the property. The extra 51 seats would bring the sewer calculation to 4,158 gpd, however, based on history of low water use he feels that the water use will remain under the allowable flow and requested approval of the extra seating explaining it is seasonal seating.

Commissioner Collier made a motion to approve for discussion. Chairman Cooke seconded the motion. Commissioner Collier expressed concern that an approval of 1,000 gpd is very high and would set a precedent that the Commission does not want. Mr. Davis explained that he looked over the application and the prior water, adding that they actually use about 13 gpd per seat so if you calculate their seating 198 seats x 13 gpd = 2,574 gpd so they remain under the allowable flow. After much discussion among the Commission, Commissioner Collier made a motion that several years of historical water records would be provided by Ms. Hayes to the Commission and if after review by the Chairman they fall under the allowable flow then the Chairman can administratively approve the application. Commissioner Castignoli seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

4. **SEWER ASSESSMENTS** - None

5. **WESTCOTT & MAPES, INC.** – Mark Davis

A. **Rock Street and Welch's Point Road Pump Stations**

The Contractor, Kovacs Construction Corp., has completed the project and 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.

Chairman Cooke called for a motion to approve the closing of the project after payment of retainage to Kovacs. Commissioner Castignoli made a motion to approve with Commissioner Hubler seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The Contractor's Application for Payment No. 34 is for release of their retainage in the amount of \$152,791.02. The Payment Application has been reviewed and certified by W&M, and approval of the payment is recommended.

B. **Viscount Drive Sanitary Sewer Force Main Replacement**

The warranty period for this project continues through February 27, 2021.

C. **Sailors Lane Pump Station Generator Replacement**

No change since last report.

D. **Housatonic Wastewater Digester Gas Piping Repairs**

The Contractor, Denali Water Solutions LLC has started work on the project and to date has removed approximately 275 tons of the estimated 2200 tons of sludge from the primary digester. Sludge removal and cleaning is scheduled to continue through October.

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

The Contractor, John J. Brennan Construction Company, Inc., has completed work on the project. The warranty period for the project continues through July 29, 2021.

A change order to be reimbursed for additional milling, paving, and line striping required by DOT District 3 on the Boston Post Road (U.S. Route 1) is requested by John J. Brennan Construction Company Inc. This work was not part of the Contract and was added by District

3 when the limits of their Route 1 repaving project were revised. The amount of this change order is \$20,489.84

*Chairman Cooke called for a motion. Commissioner Collier made a motion to approve for discussion with Commissioner Castignoli seconding the motion. Discussion ensued regarding the extra funds not anticipated within the bid. Mr. Davis stated that they negotiated hard with DOT regarding the changes. The motion to approve carried unanimously.*

Payment Application No. 4 has been reviewed and certified by W&M in the amount of \$19,197.12.

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

Preparation of specifications and plans for the project is ongoing for bidding this fall.

**G. Lower Wepawaug “Stonebridge” Pond Sewer/Manhole Lining**

Plans and specifications for this project are being prepared to start work the first week of December.

**6. CONSULTING ENGINEER’S REPORT –Mark Davis**

The T. Arduini Company Inc. has completed relocation of the 12-inch sanitary sewer across Kelley Martin Tighe Field. They have requested that Substantial Completion be approved for the project. W&M has reviewed their request and recommends approval. This will initiate the 1-year warranty period for the project.

*Chairman Cooke called for a motion. Commissioner Collier made a motion to approve with Commissioner Castignoli seconding the motion. Discussion ensued regarding the rush to have a contractor who was not on the pre-qualified list of sewer contractors in addition to circumventing the usual bid process, when there will be no activity on this field. Mr. Davis explained that the sewer needed to be relocated for the turf field contractor to move forward with his work so the City can stay on their timetable. Discussion ensued as to who suggested and selected this contractor do this work. Mr. Davis responded that the direction to expedite the work came from the Mayor and the Public Works Director. This contractor was performing similar contracted work in another town meeting the requirements of the Resolution. The motion carried unanimously.*

**7. COMMITTEE REPORTS– None**

**8. OLD BUSINESS – None**

**9. VOTING**

a.) Regular Meeting Minutes of July 29, 2020

*Chairman Cooke called for a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for July 29, 2020. Commissioner Collier made a motion to approve the minutes seconded by Commissioner Castignoli. The motion carried unanimously.*

b.) Approval of Payments

Chairman Cooke called for a motion to approve the payments in the amount of \$211,943.14. Commissioner Hubler made a motion to approve the payments in the amount of \$211,943.14 seconded by Commissioner Collier. The motion carried unanimously.

**10. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

a.) Administrative Approvals

Chairman Cooke stated there were 5 Administrative Approvals through August 26, 2020.

Chairman Cooke called for a motion to adjourn at 7:01 p.m. Commissioner Collier made a motion to adjourn with Commissioner Hubler seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

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Beverly A. Hayes, BS  
Recording Secretary