

CITY OF MILFORD
SEWER COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
February 22, 2023

The Sewer Commission of the City of Milford held a regular meeting on Wednesday, February 22, 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:

Lindsay King, Wastewater
Robert Tedeschi, Sewer Consultant, Weston & Sampson
Scott Marlow, Alderman Liaison
Beverly Hayes, Recording Secretary

Commissioners and others not in attendance:

Christopher Saley, Director of Public Works
Michelle Parente, Aldermen Liaison

Chairman Collier called the meeting to order at 6:00 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)**

- a. 784 Boston Post Road – Proposed Café where one existed but now requires a Grease Trap and where the Strip mall has an existing flow and proposed flow that exceeds the allowable flow.

Varsha Mehta, owner of the property is with Tiffany owner of the proposed Café. She went on to explain the two other food establishments are connected to the 1,500 gallon exterior grease trap located on the property. They would like permission to allow the Café to connect to this grease trap, adding that is why they installed a larger grease trap. She also explained that the water usage at this location is high. She has installed separate flow meters for each unit to determine where the problem with the high water use is. She will work to bring the water use down as she discovered

already two, a leaking toilet and a faucet. She also contacted the Regional Water Authority about possibly installing a new water meter. Commissioner Hubler asked about if the grease trap gets clogged, and Mr. King responded that it will eventually make its way to the main sewer line. Ms. Mehta assured the Commission that the grease trap is cleaned quarterly.

Chairman Collier called for a motion. Commissioner Armstrong made a motion to Approve with Commissioner Abel seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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

On-Call Support Services

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

- a. This project consists of proposed improvements to the following wastewater pumping stations:
 - 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
- b. Project was distributed to the 2023 Contractors for bid on January 20, 2023.
- c. Pre-proposal meeting/site walk was conducted on January 26, 2023.
- d. Bids received by the Purchasing Department on February 16, 2023.
- e. Three (3) bids were received and summarized below:
- f. The apparent low bidder's bid of \$4,319,500 exceeds the project's opinion of probable construction cost, which, included contingencies, was \$3,860,000. Consequently, the total project cost, including construction, engineering design, construction administration, inspection, and financing, is above the amount currently bonded by the City, which was \$4,620,000. Funding options are under review by the Finance Director.

Bidders	Bid
VMS Construction Co., Vernon, CT	\$4,319,500
Kovacs Construction Corp. Oxford, CT	\$5,037,000
C.J. Fucci, Inc. New Haven, CT	\$5,929,000

Chairman Collier called for a motion to approve to award VMS Construction the contract for discussion. Commissioner Abel made a motion to approve with Commission Hubler seconding the motion. Discussion ensued regarding VMS being low bidder and if not in good standing with the City they do not have to accept. Commissioner Hubler questioned if they have done work in Milford. Mr. King has not dealt with them before. Mr. Tedeschi responded that he has worked with VMS Construction, and they are qualified to do this work. Their paperwork is all in order as well. He added that he wanted to verify that the funds were enough to cover the bid. Ms. Hayes assured them the funding is available.

Chairman Collier responded that they will hold off on this approval till next meeting to make sure the funding is available.

2. Housatonic WWTP Modeling & Assessment: Athletic Brewing Co.:

- a. The Housatonic wastewater treatment facility can accept and treat the applicant's initial loading (at 20,000 gpd) without need for modification to current processes or equipment. However, ultimate loading (at 80,000 gpd) will require operational and physical changes to allow for both the applicant's flows and continued acceptance of planned flows from continued development within the City. This is summarized in Weston & Sampson's engineering report dated March 2022.
- b. 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.
- c. SIU GP approved by the Sewer Commission at their 1/25/2023 meeting.
- d. The City has issued a \$1.87M sewer bond to fund the proposed improvements to the Housatonic WWTP. Weston & Sampson submitted a proposed to the DPW to provide engineering design and construction phase services to implement the proposed WWTP improvements. Once authorized, Weston & Sampson will begin design.

Chairman Collier called for a motion to approve for discussion awarding Weston & Sampson both the engineering design and the construction phase services. Commissioner Abel made a motion to approve with Commissioner Hubler seconding the motion. Chairman Collier explained that he believes this to be conflict for the Consultant asking to be appointed both the engineering design and the construction phase services. He added that we should have two consultants and each handle either the design or the construction phase. However, we can only vote on what is before us. A motion was then made to table the request by Commissioner Hubler and seconded by Commissioner Carroll. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Rogers Avenue Sanitary Pump Station Upgrade:

- a. Proposed upgrades will consist of replacing:
 - i. 3 Pumps 75 HP 1,300 gpm; 104 TDH 480 3 phase (Allis Chalmers)
 - ii. Level and Pump controls,
 - iii. Channel grinders,
 - iv. 180 Kw Stand-by generator
 - v. Buried fuel oil tank with above ground tank.
- b. Upgrades will also be made to protect against flooding during storm events.
- c. Submitted 90% design drawing to the City Engineer for review and comment.
- d. Submitted Inland Wetland permit application to the City for approval.

4. WASTEWATER REPORT – Lindsay King

Wastewater Treatment Plants

Both Wastewater Plants performed well in the month of January, producing a high-quality effluent. 225 million gallons was treated at the Housatonic Plant and 59 million gallons at the Beaver Brook Plant for a total of 284 million gallons. The Housatonic plants monthly average effluent nitrogen was 209 lbs./day (annual average for 2023 is 209 lbs./day and is under the 307 lb./day permit limit).

The Beaverbrook Plants monthly average effluent nitrogen was 60 lbs./day (annual average for 2023 is 60 lbs./day and is under the permit limit of 94 lbs./day).

Commissioner Abel commended Mr. King on his effluent numbers with being short staffed an all. Mr. King responded the lack of rainfall has contributed to the numbers adding that he took the anaerobic digester offline at Housatonic, noting that the Beaverbrook Digester is still online. Discussion ensued regarding the costly expense to clean them, noting that it is on the Capital Improvement plan, but remains unfunded.

Some maintenance items were not completed due to limited staffing.

At the Housatonic Plant normal monthly maintenance was performed:

1. Removed step screen and installed new chains, bearings, and sprockets. Reinstalled screen and put back online.
2. Rebuilt plant water booster pump for belt filter press.
3. Changed out motor on secondary clarifier #5 after existing motor failed.

At the Beaverbrook Plant normal monthly maintenance was performed:

1. Installed a new 6" valve and check valve on secondary scum pump
2. Cleared blockage in sludge feed line.
3. The gas mixing system is not working properly on the primary anaerobic digester. Attempted pulling sludge from the bottom of the tank, changing the sludge recirculatory mixing locations and isolating different gas bubbler cannons to try and get better mixing. The digesters are overdue for cleaning and most likely the buildup of grit in the tanks is limiting mixing.

Collection System

Pump Stations

Scheduled maintenance was performed at the following pump stations: West Mayflower

Other Duties Performed:

1. Ran generators on full load at Watrous, Ryders woods, Grove, Rock, Carriage, Welch's, Morningside, Post Road, Zion Hill, Flax Mill, Viscount, Live Oaks, Holly, Milford Point, Crowley, Concord, Cricklewood, Rogers, Ford, Kinlock and Mathew Pump Stations.
2. Cleaned wet wells at Rose's Mill, Adams, Captains Walk and Kinlock Pump Stations
3. Replaced level transducer at Rock Street
4. Replaced faulty HOA switch at White Oaks
5. Cleared clog at Rogers Avenue Pump Stations

There were 2 alarms at the pump stations:

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

Sewer Maintenance

Sewer Maintenance answered 4 complaints.

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

T-2, T-3, T-5, T-49, T-51, T-40, and T-44

There were sewer excavations at the following locations:

47-49 Gunn Street

Other duties performed were:

1. Root Cut Bertrose and Mayflower Place
2. Cleared main line blockage at Pond Point Syphon (wastewater stayed in system)
3. Friday T-sites

A total of 13,750 ft. was jet flushed, 4,295 ft. televised, 1,110 ft. spy TV 'ed, 870 ft. hand rodded, 1,825 ft hydraulically root cut, 0 ft smoke tested, 430 ft root treated, and 715 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 has been 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 is posted for generators at Kurk Volk, Wanda, White Oaks, Matthew, Anderson, Mayflower, Milford Point, and a portable generator. A pre-bid meeting was held on December 8th and the bids are due on March 8th.

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 do not have a delivery date for the generator (60-week lead time) but included in the bid is a lower price for the temporary generator. The cheaper temporary generator has been installed with the price decreasing from \$2,534 to \$700 per month.
4. FEMA and insurance money has already been received
5. FEMA requires the project to be completed by July 2024

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS - None

6. OLD BUSINESS - None

a.) RFQ for On-Call Engineering Services - None

7. **VOTING**

a.) Regular Meeting Minutes of January 25, 2023

Chairman Collier called for motion to approve the minutes of January 25, 2023. Commissioner Hubler made a motion to approve with Commissioner Abel seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

b.) Approval of Payments

Chairman Collier called for a motion to approve the payments in the amount of \$40,066.27 Commissioner Hubler made a motion to approve the payments in the amount of \$40,066.27 seconded by Commissioner Armstrong. The motion carried unanimously.

c.) **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

a.) Administrative Approvals

Chairman Collier stated there were 15 Administrative Approvals through February 22, 2023. Discussion ensued as to 44-64 River Street consisting of 50 apartments and 2 retail spaces, noting the approval being under the allowable flow. Chairman Collier adding the Sewer Commission is the first step in approvals before all others.

d.) **ADJOURN**

Chairman Collier called for a motion to adjourn at 6:39 p.m. Commissioner Hubler made a motion to adjourn with Commissioner Abel seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly A. Hayes, BS
Recording Secretary