

CITY OF MILFORD
SEWER COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
May 31, 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 Tara Carroll

Others in attendance:

Christopher Saley, Director of Public Works

Lindsay King, Wastewater

Jon Berchem, City Attorney

Kevin McKenna, Sewer Consultant, Weston & Sampson

Beverly Hayes, Recording Secretary

Michelle Parente, Aldermen Liaison

Don Gonyea

Jamie Lissette

Scott Bristol

John Walker

Chris Kallem

Commissioners and others not in attendance:

Commissioner Alexander J. Armstrong

Scott Marlow, Alderman Liaison

Robert Tedeschi, Sewer Consultant, Weston & Sampson

Chairman Collier called the meeting to order at 6:07 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)**

Mr. King requested to add Athletic Brewing to the agenda, however, Chairman Collier explained that he understands members from their team are here tonight, but there was no application presented and not enough time to put them on the agenda.

3. **TABLED APPLICATIONS**

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

Chairman Collier seeing no applicant present, left the item on the table.

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

On-Call Support Services

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. Contract Documents between the City and VMS Construction have been executed.
8. Project is ready for construction.
9. Weston & Sampson Design and Bid Phase services are complete.
10. 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 April 2023 meeting.

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

Chairman Collier called for a motion to approve so the Commission can discuss. Commissioner Hubler made a motion to approve with Commissioner Carroll seconding the motion. Discussion ensued with Commissioner Abel explained that it is very common for the firm designing to oversee the project to make sure it is constructed per the design. Mr. King explained that on this particular project, himself and/or staff will be present every day and very involved. The motion was approved unanimously.

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. Inland Wetland Permit Application is approved.
4. Project advertised for bid on April 27, 2023.
5. Pre-proposal meeting held on May 10, 2023
6. Bids will be received from the pre-qualified contractors on June 6, 2023.
7. **Action:** Review and consider approval to request a proposal from Weston & Sampson to provide Construction Phase services.

Chairman Collier called for a motion to request a proposal from Weston & Sampson to provide construction phase service o the project. Commissioner Hubler made a motion to approve with Commissioner Carroll seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

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. Currently developing base mapping for the proposed work.
5. Met with equipment vendors to confirm design parameters.
6. Met with City to discuss project objectives.
7. Confirmed sludge sampling requirements and facilitated same for analysis by vendor to confirm solids handling equipment capabilities.
8. Developing preliminary design drawings and calculations.
9. Anticipate 30% design delivered by the end of June 2023
10. Anticipate 90% design delivered by the end of August 2023
11. Ready for Bid in September.
12. Sewer commission tabled Construction phase services at the March meeting.

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 exceed 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.

5. **WASTEWATER REPORT** – Lindsay King

Wastewater Treatment Plants

Both Wastewater Plants performed well in the month of April, producing a high-quality effluent. 191 million gallons were treated at the Housatonic Plant and 59 million gallons at the Beaver Brook Plant for a total of 250 million gallons. The Housatonic plants monthly average effluent nitrogen was 202 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 59 lbs./day (annual average for 2023 is 55 lbs./day and is under the permit limit of 94 lbs./day).

Unfortunately, the May 1 nitrogen sample at the Housatonic plant had some solids in it from heavy rains and tested at 3,830 lbs. total nitrogen. To avoid exceeding the permit for the year additional tests are being sent to the outside laboratory to lower Mays average (the data is averaged by month and then the 12 months are averaged). Thus far seven additional tests have been sent out to lower May's average to 611 lbs. An additional 11 tests will be sent out in May to drop this average even further. Our annual average up to May 16 now sits at 289 lbs.

Commissioner Abel explained that many other plants in the State experienced high nitrogen numbers and he commended Mr. Kings' staff with getting the numbers under control.

The May 1 sample was taken after several large rainstorms that made operations challenging from the additional flows at the plant. Peak flows were over 17 MGD and average daily flows were over 11 MGD.

At the Housatonic Plant normal monthly maintenance was performed:

1. Disconnected and covered inoperable rooftop unit on solids handling building to stop water leak into the building. The rooftop unit is not needed for heating as unit heaters inside the rooms and heat from the equipment itself adequately heats the room.
2. Checked oil level on aeration blowers, greased and oiled step screen.
3. Inspected belts on RAS pumps and greased odor control fan bearings.

At the Beaverbrook Plant normal monthly maintenance was performed:

1. Cleaned algae and replaced lamps on UV bank #1.
2. Installed spare mixer in aeration tank #3; sent out old mixer to get rebuilt.
3. Rebuilt air release valve on influent pump #3
4. The main SCADA computer failed, and plant controls had to be switched to a secondary SCADA computer. SCADA stands for supervisory control and data acquisition and is the main computer control system for the plant, alarm system and data collection system for reporting to DEEP. A new computer was installed with a backup copy of the SCADA software. Unfortunately, the laboratory software, HACH Wim's, could not be restored to the

new computer. The HACH Wim's software is used to collect lab and plant data for state reports and process control. We are in the process of purchasing a new software license and working with our integrator to get the software installed and re-programmed.

Collection System

Pump Stations

Scheduled maintenance was performed at the following pump stations: Holly Street, New Haven Ave, and Old Field Lane.

Other Duties Performed:

1. Ran generators on full load at Captains Walk, Adams, Old Field, Buckingham, Welches Point, Morningside, Rock, New Haven Ave, Sailors, Mathew, Milford Point, Viscount, Cricklewood, Rogers, Post Road, Zion Hill, Crowley, Holly, Ford, Concord, and Flax Mill Road.
2. Cleared clogs at Rogers Avenue (4x) Pump Stations
3. Both pumps clogged at Kurk Volk due to grease from Costco. A septic truck was called in to remove the grease from the wet well and the pumps were cleared and returned to operation. The problem occurred from a sewer lateral line that was not plumbed into the grease tank and had become inundated with grease during Costco's expansion. The lateral line did not have the elevation to make the existing grease trap, so a new grease trap was installed. Kurk Volk has been grease free since the plumbing correction.
4. Replaced high well float at Watrous PS

There were 11 alarms at the pump stations:

- 4 for High Water
- 0 for Low Well
- 5 for Power Outage
- 1 for Station Trouble
- 1 for Valve Failure

Sewer Maintenance

Sewer Maintenance answered 4 complaints.

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

T-10, T-11, T-22, T-48, T-49, and T-52

There were sewer excavations at the following locations:

80 Easy Street
15 First Avenue

Other duties performed were:

1. Cleaning and closed-circuit television inspection of sanitary sewers in the Post Road Pump Station service area.

2. Cleared mainline blockage on 298 west River Street (no sewage left the system)
3. Root cutting Ardmore, Candlewood, Tumble Brook, and West River St.
4. Friday T-sites

A total of 15,910 ft. was jet flushed, 4,950 ft. televised, 1,020 ft. spy TV 'ed, 475 ft. hand rodded, 1,330 ft hydraulically root cut, 0 ft smoke tested, 615 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 July 2023 (note: the original delivery date was 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. The contract is currently going through the signing process.

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

Inflow and Infiltration

1. A Wet Weather SOP aimed at minimizing potential effluent violations triggered by high flow conditions at the Housatonic plant has been submitted to DEEP.
2. Weston and Sampson previously completed a Flow Evaluation of all the City's pump stations and identified the Post Road Pump Station service area as one of the subareas having a large amount of inflow and infiltration (I&I). We are using closed circuit television (CCTV) inspection to identify leaks and propose a pipe lining project to eliminate them. Normally once you have identified areas with significant potential sources of I&I, the next step in I&I removal process is to conduct a SSES study (sanitary sewer evaluation survey) to identify specific defects in the piping and manholes in the service area using various methods such as smoke testing, flow isolation, CCTV, and house inspections. The SSES would identify additional sources of I&I such as roof leaders and sump pumps connected to the sanitary sewer. However, the SSES study needs to be conducted in the spring and would not be able to commence until spring 2024. A targeted pipe lining project addressing known issues will provide immediate reduction in flows from already identified leaking pipes.
3. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is asking the City to start an SSES study in the spring of 2024. The SSES work would qualify for a CT DEEP Clean Water Fund

Grant (55% Grant 45% local share) but requires a request for qualifications (RFQ) to be conducted to select a consulting engineer to be eligible for the grant.

- Action: Authorize the wastewater superintendent to prepare and post an RFQ for “Inflow and Infiltration and Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Survey Consulting Services” in accordance with the CT DEEP Quality Based Selection Process. Mr. King explained this is typically done in the spring so he would like to get moving on this now.

Chairman Collier called for a motion to authorize the wastewater superintendent to prepare and post an RFQ for “Inflow and Infiltration and Sanitary Sewer Evaluation Survey Consulting Services” in accordance with the CT DEEP Quality Based Selection Process. Commissioner Hubler made the motion to approve with Commissioner Abel seconding the motion. Discussion ensued as to how they pick a firm and the cost, with Mr. King adding that this RFQ is for this project only and no fees can be associated with the RFQ. Those fees are negotiated after selection of the consultant. The motion carried unanimously.

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 called for a motion to approve so they can discuss. Commissioner Hubler made a motion to approve with Commissioner Carroll seconding the motion. Ms. Hayes explained that this is an amendment to their current contract, adding they requested an increase in 2021, which the Commission did not take action on. Mr. Berchem explained that these are the rates for the general consulting, and it is allowed that there be an annual review of their rates, however, the Commission does not have to act on this. The commission voted unanimously to approve the new billing rates as presented.

9. **VOTING**

- a.) Regular Meeting Minutes of April 26, 2023

Chairman Collier called for motion to approve the minutes of April 26, 2023. Commissioner Carroll made a motion to approve with Commissioner Hubler seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

- b.) Approval of Payments – March 22, 2023, April 26, 2023, May 31, 2023

Chairman Collier called for a motion to approve the payments for Weston & Sampson at the new approved rate for the payments in the amount of \$17,326.79 for the March 22,

2023. Commissioner Hubler made a motion to approve the payments with Commissioner Carroll seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Collier called for a motion to approve the payments for Weston & Sampson at the new approved rate for the payments presented April 26, 2023, for \$20,368.75. Commissioner Hubler made a motion to approve the payments with Commissioner Abel seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Collier called for a motion to approve the payments for Weston & Sampson at the new approved rate for the payments presented May 31, 2023, for \$13,843.90. Commissioner Hubler made a motion to approve the payments with Commissioner Carroll seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

10. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

a.) Administrative Approvals

Chairman Collier stated there were 10 Administrative Approvals through May 31, 2023.

11. ADJOURN

Chairman Collier called for a motion to adjourn at 7:01 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