

THOMASTON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
MEETING SEPTEMBER 20, 2011

Present: Ch. Mueller, Vice-Ch. Fainer, Comms. Piscopo, Ciarlo and Madow, Plant Supt. Rich Tingle, Charles Chiu, Darryl Maslak and Patricia Bidmead, Secretary WPCA.

Ch. Mueller called the meeting to order at 7:00PM.

On a motion by Fainer, seconded by Piscopo, it was voted to accept the minutes of the special meeting on August 16, 2011 to include the following amendment:
Capitol Improvements: change the wording of separate entity to **separately incorporated sewer district**. Motion carries.

At this time Darryl Maslak approached the Board regarding the recent flooding problems at his rental property on Sanford Ave. Since March of this year there have been 3 separate incidents resulting in costly repairs and consequently having two tenants vacated. A lengthy discussion ensued. Darryl will look into the possibility of installing a pump station for this property with Rich helping him with any questions or guidance he may need.

REPORT BY RICH TINGLE:

MAIN PLANT: The plant is running well and the settling is better since the two recent major storms. The plant was not capable of handling the flow without a partial by pass of the UV system which was reported to DEEP.

The SBR air line was installed on Wednesday August 17th and seems to be working fine. Due to the ground settling Rich feels it should be paved before winter and will get quotes from 3 contractors. Cost should be approximately \$4,000 based on Joe's Sanitation estimate. The town insurance company should be sending us a check soon for this claim as well as the claim due to lightning.

When our grit system failed from the high flows we found the suction pipe to the pump completely plugged and it took over a day to clear the line. We also had to replace a check valve. Rich contacted tech support and they will send us a parts list with prices.

PUMP STATIONS: We had to replace the #2 pump at Woodbridge Lane because it was not pumping the volume that the #1 pump was so we were unable to keep up with the flows from the 2 recent rain storms. Both are now working properly.

COLLECTION SYSTEM: On Sunday, August 28th, the basement at 34 Sanford Ave. got flooded. This same property was also flooded on March 7th. The manhole at the intersection of Clay and Sanford was surcharged which brought the water level higher than the fixtures in the basement. The flooding that occurred in March was covered by the owner but the current episode will be covered by the Town insurance.

On September 8th 40-46 Sanford also flooded. Due to an open sewer pipe in the basement of that property the Town is not responsible. Torrington Area Health was contacted and Aaron's Environ-Clean responded to clean and disinfect the basement with the owner's approval. The Town insurance carrier was notified of both issues and to date no one has accepted liability for 34 Sanford Ave. A discussion ensued on what the WPCA can do to remedy the problems with the collection system line on Clay St. from Sanford Ave. up to High St. Ext.

Bea Bothroyd who resides at 68-70 Judson St. talked with Rich regarding the lack of drainage on the hill during the past storms. Her yard was flooded and claims that the Covenant Church on Grove and Clay St. also was flooded. Rich never heard from anyone at the Church regarding any water problems.

CORRESPONDENCE: The following paperwork was passed around to the Board.

1. Ed Mone passed on a letter from DEEP regarding a statewide document for Total Maximum Limit analysis of bacterial impairments.
2. A letter and application Rich sent to DEEP regarding Clean Water Funds and a partial grant to study the web sewer lines per Ed Mone. A discussion ensued on I/I study, smoke testing and house inspections. Rich will get approximate estimates together for the next Board of Finance meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

QRD: No new information.

Hickory Hill PS: Nothing new.

Kennedy Drive PS: Rich will schedule Mac Vac when the flows drop.

Conservation & Development: Nothing new.

Capital Improvements: The Board of Selectmen have requested that the WPCA inform them of the necessary work needed regarding the collection system due to the recent flooding on Sanford Ave. They also requested that the WPCA then attend a Board of Finance meeting to give them an update as well. Ed Mone also asked if the WPCA could contribute towards the installation of manholes in the web area and if there is any money to evaluate sewers related to Sanford Ave. flooding.

User Fee Review: No new information.

FOG Program: To date Middle School and Country Grocer have not complied. Rich will contact them and have an update for the next meeting.

List of equipment needed: Nothing at this time.

US Automation: Nothing new.

Phosphorus: Nothing new.

On Call Engineering: Nothing has been approved by the Board of Selectmen or the Board of Finance.

Atty Rybak Re: Smith Rd. Based on the title searcher's report, property east of Brian Fairchild's current property on Smith Rd. was not originally intended to be on this sewer line when constructed. Therefore, this property does not have connection rights. Rich passed around paperwork from Atty. Rybak requesting permission to pay \$754 to the title searcher who he employed on this job. He will then send a bill to the WPCA for reimbursement. On a motion by Fainer, seconded by Madow, it was voted to approve the payment of \$754 by Atty Rybak to the title searcher for time and expenses. Motion carries.

New Business: During the recent hurricane the Town set up their Emergency Operation Center (EOC) in the Police Depts. Conference room. There were various issues at that time. At the follow up meeting the committee addressed these issues and in order to run the Center in a more efficient manner there is additional equipment needed. Therefore, some Departments were asked if they could somehow donate to this cause. On a motion by Madow, seconded by Fainer, it was voted to approve \$1,000 for EOC upgrades to be taken from the Repair and Replacement account. Motion carries. The Highway department, Ambulance Department and Police Department have also donated \$1,000.

On Sept. 15th Rich had a very minor accident with the Town vehicle in the Town Hall parking lot. An accident report was filled out by the Police Department with no injuries and submitted to the insurance company. The rear bumper damage is minimal and we could get by with just replacing the rear tail lamp for approximately \$90.00.

Budget: On a motion by Fainer, seconded by Piscopo, it was voted to accept the bills presented. Rich passed around paperwork regarding a new sewer rate for 2011 billing year. After a lengthy discussion a motion was made by Fainer, seconded by Ciarlo, to increase the usage rate to \$6.61/1000 gallons for commercial and \$330 per unit for residential. Motion carries 3-1.

Adjournment: On a motion by Ciarlo, seconded by Piscopo, it was voted to adjourn at 11:09PM. Motion carries.

PATRICIA BIDMEAD
WPCA SECRETARY