

THOMASTON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
MEETING DECEMBER 20, 2011

Present: Ch. Mueller, Vice-Ch. Fainer, Comms. Piscopo, Ciarlo and Keutzer, Plant Supt. Rich Tingle, Patricia Bidmead, Secretary WPCA, Darryl Maslak, Brenda and Bill Ryan and Sal Santa Maria.

Ch. Mueller called the meeting to order at 7:01PM.

On a motion by Piscopo, seconded by Keutzer, it was voted to accept the minutes of 11/15/2011 to include the following amendments:

Page 1- correct the name **Cincali** with **Sincali**.

Page 1-amendments correct the spelling of **forth** with **fourth**.

At this time the Ryans who reside at 335 Hickory Hill Rd. approached the Board with a request to hook up to the WPCA collection system. They have a failed septic system and it would be cheaper for them to hook up to the sewer system. The Torrington Area Health Department also suggested that they hook up to the sewer as opposed to a new septic system. A discussion ensued. The Ryans would have to get an easement from their neighbor and it would have to be a pump system. Ch. Mueller advised Rich to contact Atty Rybak and CT DEEP concerning the fact that this home is located in a non growth area and also that the WPCA may be setting a precedent. On a motion by Piscopo, seconded by Fainer, it was voted to accept their request hindering on the responses from CT DEEP and Atty. Rybak. Motion carries.

Darryl Maslak passed around paperwork regarding a pump system that he feels will eliminate the backup problems at his 34 Sanford Ave. property. A discussion ensued regarding this system and Ch. Mueller questioned whether 1 pump would be enough rather than the 2 that were proposed. Rich will have the Town engineers look at this system and get their opinion and will be in touch with Darryl.

Sal Santa Maria, S&E Systems and Controls, LLC, presented the Board with a quote for an upgrade to the treatment plant SCADA System, pump station upgrades and external communications. A discussion ensued. Vice-Ch. Fainer requested that Sal send him the Power Point regarding the system.

Report by Rich Tingle:

MAIN PLANT: The Plant is running well.

PUMP STATIONS: On 12/20/2011 an alarm froze on the PLC at Highwood Farms. Other than this there were no other problems this month.

COLLECTION SYSTEM: New England Pipe cleaned a section of lower Clay St. and were able to TV out to main St. The problem in the line was due to the offsets caused from ductile iron pipe used to cross over the storm culvert by the Center School. On 12/12 and 12/13 NEP televised from the intersection of Mason Hill and High St. Ext. to the intersection of High St. Ext and High St. The pipe appeared to be in good shape other than what appeared to be a small crack in the ABS pipe. There are approximately 4 or 5 manholes that need sealing and a few laterals appear to be leaking.

NEP is going to review each section and give us a price to repair.

Vice-Ch. Fainer asked Rich if there have been any issues with storm drains or sewer lines on Grove St. due to amount of water in the yards of those residents. Rich claims he looked through the plans on file and found nothing.

On 12/14 the owners of 16 Tracy St. were experiencing problems with a sink draining in the basement. We found a blockage in the line which was repaired by we could not remove our hose and jet nozzle due to a partially collapsed pipe. With the help of the Town highway department we replace 11 feet of 4" clay pipe with 4" SDR35. We will keep an eye on this location and evaluate it in the spring.

On 12/20 Thomaston Insurance called about sewerage problems. A backup of grease was found and cleaned out but was not related to their problem. They had a plugged pipe in their basement.

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

1. An email from CT DEEP stating that beginning January 2012 the Nutrient Analysis Report will have to be submitted electronically.

2. An invoice from American Rooter dated 11/16/2011 for \$1,000 which was related to the televising of lower Clay. St. On a motion by Fainer, seconded by Piscopo, it was voted to pay this invoice from the Sewer Assessment account.

OLD BUSINESS:

QRD: No new information.

Hickory Hill PS: The new generator was serviced by Affordable Generators on 12/14/2011.

Kennedy Drive PS: Nothing new.

Conservation & Development: Rich and Jeremy Leifert met with COG on 12/15/11 and the maps were updated. Rich will be getting a PDF file of the maps which will be sent to all Commissioners. Rich will contact Atty. Rybak regarding a public hearing.

Capital Improvements: Rich has been working on the capital requests as required by the Town.

User Fee Review: No new information.

FOG Program: Country Grocer has installed an AGRU but has some installation issues that need to be resolved.

List of Equipment needed: Rich looked into the Hach Orp meter and we don't need software to read on the computer. A text file can be downloaded from the meter to a flash drive and then uploaded to an excel document where a trend chart can be set up. Approximate cost \$1,400. Rich will get the actual cost for the next meeting.

US Automation: They are going to get Rich an estimate for complete computer/software upgrade at the Plant as well as the pump stations including alarm communications.

Phosphorus: Grant Weaver feels we can meet the 1.0 ppm of phosphorus with very little capital cost and for a fixed price he can make a Plant visit to review data, meet with the treatment staff, and brainstorm options for running the plant differently for biological N&P removal. He will also prepare a written report that contains their observations and recommendations. The fixed price is \$875.00 which the Board felt was a fair price and suggested going ahead with this when all WPCA staff is available.

On Call Engineering: Ch. Mueller has the two drafts which he feels Atty. Rybak should review.

Smith Rd.: To date we have not received the written opinion of Atty. Rybak on this issue.

I/I Study: Rich has been working on a RFQ based on QBS and should have it to Atty. Rybak for review next week.

New Business: Nothing this month.

Budget: On a motion by Fainer, seconded by Keutzer, it was voted to accept the bills presented. Motion carries.

On a motion by Fainer, seconded by Piscopo, it was to amend the Agenda to include 2 separate executive sessions. Motion carries.

On a motion by Fainer, seconded by Keutzer, it was voted to go into executive session at 9:59PM to include the 5 Commissioners and Rich Tingle. Motion carries.

On a motion by Fainer, seconded by Keutzer, it was voted to end the executive session at 10:14PM. Motion carries.

On a motion by Keutzer, seconded by Ciarlo, it was voted to go into executive session at 10:15PM to include 4 Commissioners and Rich Tingle. Motion carries. Ch. Mueller recused himself from this session and passed the floor to Vice-Ch. Fainer.

On a motion by Keutzer, seconded by Ciarlo, it was voted to end this executive session at 10:34PM. Motion carries.

On a motion by Keutzer, seconded by Ciarlo, it was voted to amend the agenda to discuss the Assistant Plant Manager. Motion carries.

On a motion by Piscopo, seconded by Keutzer, it was voted to offer the position of Acting Assistant Manager to Brian Picco with a weekly on call rate of \$155.00 effective 01/01/2012. Motion carries. Ch. Mueller abstained due to a personal conflict of interest.

Adjournment: On a motion by Ciarlo, seconded by Piscopo, it was voted to adjourn at 10:54PM. Motion carries.

PATRICIA BIDMEAD
WPCA SECRETARY