

THOMASTON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
MEETING OCTOBER 18, 2011

Present: Ch. Mueller, Vice-Ch. Fainer, Comms. Piscopo, Ciarlo, Keutzer and Madow, Plant Supt. Rich Tingle, Patricia Bidmead, Secretary WPCA, Anthony Dorso, Diane LaBonte, Cindy Doyle, Jeannings Stella and Alec Johnson.

Ch. Mueller called the meeting to order at 8:20PM.

On a motion by Fainer, seconded by Keutzer, it was voted to accept the minutes of 09/20/2011 to include the following amendments:

Page 3 Budget: change the wording **increase the usage rate** to **propose an increase to the usage rate**. Motion carries.

On a motion by Madow, seconded by Piscopo, it was voted to amend the agenda to add Jeannings Stella of 44 Sanford Ave. Motions carries.

At this time Jeannings Stella approached the Board regarding the sewerage backup in her apartment during storm Lee which occurred shortly after hurricane Irene. She lost approximately \$6,000 in furnishings, appliances and other possessions. She approached the Town for reimbursement and was told it was not their responsibility. Her tenant insurance does not cover sewerage nor did the insurance of her landlord. She now requested information from the Board regarding what other resources she may have and what is being done to avoid any future problems at this location. A discussion ensued. She is going to go back to her landlord as well to discuss reducing her rent to offset her losses. Vice-Ch. Fainer suggested she contact the CT State Department of Insurance as well with regards to her tenant insurance denial.

On a motion by Madow, seconded by Keutzer, it was voted to amend the agenda to discuss the proposed sewer usage increase at this. Motion carries.

A lengthy discussion ensued whereas the Board again looked into options to decrease the proposed increase with the main concern being the reduction of the sinking fund.

On a motion by Piscopo, seconded by Madow, it was voted to apply \$14,000 from the insurance reimbursement along with \$36,000 from the sinking fund to adjust the figures used to set a usage rate increase. Motion carries 4-1.

On a motion by Piscopo, seconded by Keutzer, it was voted to make a 1% increase to the 2011 sewer usage rate at \$6.30 per thousand gallons for commercial/industrial users and \$315 per residential unit. Motion passes 4-1.

REPORT BY RICH TINGLE:

MAIN PLANT: The plant is running well. The UV is offline as of Oct. 1st and we are getting the plant ready for winter. The rebuilt mixer was installed in the waste storage tank and it is running fine. S&S Paving was the low bidder (\$3,500) to replace the

pavement related to the SBR failed air line and should be completed within a couple of weeks.

The suction diaphragm in the Penn Valley Pump that is used to pump thickened sludge in the Solmat room needed to be replaced. Replacement parts were ordered to be put back into our spare part inventory.

All four tires were replaced on the Ford pickup truck at a cost of \$700. It appears that the front axial joints need to be replaced. The town mechanic will be working on this vehicle and getting it ready for winter. He also installed a new choke and throttle cable on the wash down vehicle and rebuilt the carburetor as well as installing brakes on the dump truck.

PUMP STATIONS: No problems this month.

COLLECTION SYSTEM: There was a partial blockage on Bristol St. on Oct 7th which was cleared. It was found while checking trouble spots.

Dave Desell has completed raising manholes on Prospect St., Pleasant St. and Railroad St. If he comes back for Reynolds Bridge Rd. he will raise the one at the intersection of Pleasant St. and East Main St.

Based on the Board of Finance meeting that Rich attended on October 11th it was recommended that he get 3 quotes to have Clay St. televised ASAP. A discussion ensued whereas the WPCA instructed Rich to TV Clay St. up through High St. Ext. to the Town line at Smith Rd. Vice-Ch. Fainer recommended that we also TV downstream of Sanford Ave. to evaluate the conditions of the sewer lines in that area. On a motion by Madow, seconded by Keutzer, it was voted to approve TVing Clay St and High St. Ext. not to exceed \$10,000. Motion carries.

On October 18th Rich met with Bea Bothroyd, Pastor Olsen and Jim Tillow regarding water damage in the kitchen of the Covenant Church at the corner of Clay/Grove Sts. This backup occurred on 09/08/2011 and Rich was notified approximately 2 weeks after the backup at which time Pastor Olson stated that his insurance was going to take care of the clean up. They asked if Rich felt there was any sewage involved and if he could write a letter stating that fact. It was the decision of the Board that he not write a letter since he was not called to respond when it happened.

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

1. A check from CIRMA dated 09/27/2011 for the amount of \$12,933.47 relating to the lightning strike on 08/02/2011. This was deposited into the Repair & Replacement Account.
2. A check from CIRMA dated 10/03/2011 for the amount of \$13,437.03 relating to the SBR air line failure. This was deposited into the Repair & Replacement Account as well.
3. A notice from Prescient stating that our analog private phone lines will be increasing on September 12th from \$86.60 per line to \$103.80 per line.

OLD BUSINESS:

QDR: No new information.

Hickory Hill PS: Nothing new.

Kennedy Drive PS: Nothing new.

Conservation & Development: Jeremy Leifert is contacting COG to see where Mary left off with the sewer service map as well as the conservation and development map.

Capital Improvements: Covered under collection system.

User Fee Review: No new information.

FOG Program: JDT Brick House restaurant and Black Rock School have installed new AGRUs. The restaurant has been inspected but not Black Rock School. Country Grocer still has to install a new AGRU and to date Rich has not heard from Center School.

List of equipment needed: Rich is buying what is needed to replace spare parts and working on repairs that were held up from last year. Rich will be purchasing 40 new UV bulbs and 5 new sleeves at approximately \$1,350.00.

US Automation: Rich plans to have something for the next meeting regarding the computer upgrade and pump stations communication upgrades.

Phosphorus: Nothing new.

On Call Engineering: The on call engineering Committee selected the top 2 firms which were then approved by the Board of Selectmen. A short discussion ensued. The Committee is now waiting for the contract agreements from these 2 firms.

New business: On a motion by Piscopo, seconded by Madow, it was voted to go into executive session at 10:29 to discuss a personnel issue. Motion carries. Ch. Mueller recused himself from this session and turned it over to Vice-Ch. Fainer who asked that the full Board remain along with Rich Tingle. Pat Bidmead was excused from the meeting. On a motion by Keutzer, seconded by Piscopo, it was voted to come out of executive session at 10:50PM.

Budget: No issues with the present budget. On a motion by Fainer, seconded by Piscopo, it was voted to accept the bills presented.

Adjournment: On a motion by Ciarlo, seconded by Keutzer, it was voted to adjourn at 10:59PM. Motion carries.

Patricia Bidmead
Secretary WPCA