

THOMASTON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY  
MEETING OCTOBER 20, 2009

**Present:** Ch. Mueller, Vice-Ch. Fainer, Comms. Piscopo, Ciarlo and Keutzer, Plant Supt. Rich Tingle and Patricia Bidmead, Secretary WPCA.

Ch. Mueller called the meeting to order at 7:11PM.

On a motion by Picopo, seconded by Fainer, it was voted to accept the minutes of September 15, 2009 as amended.

**REPORT BY RICH TINGLE:**

**MAIN PLANT:** The process is running good. The parts have come in for the #2 primary clarifier and will be replaced as soon as possible.

The portable D O probe has been repaired and is back in the lab. It was not covered under warrantee therefore the cost was \$309.

The WPCA employee that was out on Family Medical Leave has returned to work.

**PUMP STATIONS:** No problems this month.

**COLLECTION SYSTEM:** There was a partial blockage on Bristol St. that was cleared with our jet trailer.

Bruno Depecol of 131 High St. had a blockage in his sewer lateral. American Rooter cleared the blockage and stated the problem was approximately 50' from the house that appears to be in or near the Town's drainage culvert. Mr. Depecol had this same problem in 1993 that was repaired by the Town. With the cause of the problem being unknown at this time, the First Selectman, after consulting with Town Staff and the Town Attorney, sent a letter to Mr. Depecol suggesting that he repair this sewer lateral with a qualified contractor. Town personnel must be on site prior and during all repairs and if it is determined that the town culvert is the cause of the blockage, the Town will then assume all necessary repairs. To date Mr. Depecol has not signed or returned the letter.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

1. Received an email from SEA Consultants announcing that George Pendleton from Maguire has joined their firm.
2. Received an application from DEP regarding the next Certification Exam. A short discussion ensued on the rise of the cost from \$190 to \$240 per exam.
3. Received a flyer from Loureiro Engineering Associates, Inc. regarding the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grants Program.
4. A payment was received from C-POWER in the amount of \$692.23 for August 2009.
5. An Email regarding preliminary results from ISO New England stating our curtailed amount was 128 kws.
6. Received the DEP Water Compliance report from the inspection of Sludge Handling/Disposal done on August 24<sup>th</sup>. No concerns noted.

7. A copy of the letter to Maura Martin stating that the Republican Town Committee voted to accept and keep Tom Mueller as a member on the WPCA Commission.
8. A report from RTC stating that our EPA QA study results were acceptable.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**QRD:** The low levels of nickel continue.

**Hickory Hill PS:** Two impellers and one mechanical seal have been ordered.

**Kennedy Drive PS:** No issues this month.

**Conservation & Development:** Bill Guererra stated that as soon as Planning & Zoning completes their work with the down town area ordinance Mary Barton will start working again on the sewer service area.

**Capital Improvements:** Tom Mueller, Joe Fainer and Rich attended the BOF meeting on 10/13/09. The Town Policy on Capital Expenses will incorporate Ch. Mueller's suggestions regarding the WPCA.

**User Fee Review:** The WPCA will continue researching charging residential users per gallon as the commercial/industrial are charged.

**FOG Program:** No new information.

**List of Equipment needed for Sewage System:** We tested all DO analyzers/probes purchased from Torrington and they all appear to be working.

**State DOT Claim:** Nothing new from the claims Commissioner.

**US Automation:** Nothing new this month.

**State DOT Paying Job:** To date we have not received reimbursement from the State for the manhole adjustments.

**Phosphorus Update:** Rich spoke with Rowland Denny from DEP who offered to look into whether or not we can use our primary tanks as an anaerobic zone. Rich sent him design hydraulic and organic loading information along with current influent and effluent phosphorus readings. After reviewing this info Rowland will let Rich know if this is an option the WPCA should pursue.

**Thomaston Dam:** No new information.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Nothing at this time.

**BUDGET:** No concerns with the new budget. On a motion by Fainer, seconded by Piscopo, it was voted to accept the bills presented.

On a motion by Ch . Mueller, seconded by Piscopo, it was voted to amend the agenda to include addressing items from the Public Hearing.

1. On a motion by Keutzer, seconded by Ciarlo, it was voted to accept the increase and modifications to the System of Sewer User Charges.
2. On a motion by Piscopo, seconded by Fainer, it was voted to accept the amendment of Article 5-3 relating to the FOG Program in the Thomaston Sewer Rules & regulations.
3. On a motion by Keutzer, seconded by Ciarlo, it was voted to accept the proposed rate increase of \$6.20 per thousand gallons.
4. On a motion by Keutzer, seconded by Ciarlo, it was voted to change the current residential rate from \$319 per unit to \$310 per unit.
5. On a motion by Piscopo, seconded by Fainer, it was voted to change the current minimum rate of \$319 for commercial/industrial users to a minimum rate of \$310.

**ADJOURNMENT:** On a motion by Ciarlo, seconded by Piscopo, it was voted to adjourn at 8:22PM.

PATRICIA BIDMEAD, SECRETARY  
THOMASTON WPCA