

Town of Montville Water & Sewer Commission
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 4, 2024-- 6:00 PM
Town Council Chambers – Town Hall

1. Water and Sewer Commission

a. Call to Order

Chairperson Longton called the regular meeting of the Water and Sewer Commission to order at 6:00 p.m.

b. Pledge of Allegiance

All stood and pledged the flag.

c. Roll Call

Present were Chairperson Chuck Longton, and Commissioners Richard Gladue and Frank Miceli. Town Councilor Kevin Lathrop was absent. A quorum was present.

Also in attendance were Superintendent Derek Albertson, Administrator Ronald McDaniel, Mayor Lenoard Bunnell, and PE Therlin Montgomery of Wright-Pierce, Professional Engineers.

d. Alterations to the Agenda

Administrator McDaniel noted a clerical correction to the verbiage of the Resolution for Agenda, Item L.2 to read; “One Million, **Four** Hundred Sixty-**Five** Thousand Dollars.”

e. To consider and act on a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 5, 2024

Motion by ; seconded by Commissioner Miceli to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 5, 2024. Discussion: Commissioner Gladue remarked that he had not seen the minutes but went to the Town Hall today to get a copy; Chairperson Longton remarked the minutes are available online. Administrator McDaniel noted a copy of the minutes would be sent out with the meeting packet going forward. **Voice vote: 3-0-0; all in favor. Motion carried.**

**f. Communications pertaining specifically to matters which concern the Commission --
*None***

g. Remarks from the Public Regarding Items on the Agenda with a three-minute limit

Chairperson Longton asked three (3) times for remarks from the public. There were none.

h. Report from Operations/Administration Division

Superintendent Albertson submitted an Operations/Administrative Report for February 2024, as follows:

1.0 Compliance/Process

1.1 Water Pollution Control Facility

The Montville Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) met required state and federal standards for effluent discharged to the Thames River. No local or formal complaints were received regarding the collection system or the WPCF.

Average daily influent (average) flow to the WPCF was approximately 2.35 mgd (million gallons per day) with a total treatment volume of 72 mg (million gallons) for the month. Influent flows have slowly decreased as compared to December and January because of less frequent storms. Some Inflow and Influent (I and I) contribution is still present. It should be noted that this winter is already the wettest on record.

Each day, approximately 0.69 mg of the treated effluent was recycled (sold) to Rand-Whitney Container Board (RWCB). RWCB had unscheduled outages in February. The startup following an outage can cause some process challenges (high wastewater loading/recycle water demand).

.....
RWCB had a large recycle line (for process) break on February 26 which caused some process issues at the WPCF.

Process control was a challenge with removal efficiencies for BOD₅ and TSS and TN not at their normal rates. As is typical of the spring months (and the recent unusual temperature fluctuations and storm surges) removals are difficult with poor tank settling. Waste activated sludge (WAS) was approximately 4% total solids; a solid thickening is compromised with the poor settling of the process tanks. A new septic hauler was approved in February. Notifications regarding FOG (fats, oil and grease) sewer disposal were developed and will be sent out in the next billing cycle.

1.2 Water Supply

The Montville Water Supply (WS) met required state and federal standards. Consumer Confidence Reports (CCRs) for the Montville WS were created and placed on the Town/WPCA websites as well as the Clerk's Office as required by law. CCRs, also known as water quality reports or drinking water quality reports are generated by Groton Utilities, provide the public with important information about the quality of drinking water. The USEPA requires every community water supplier to provide a CCR to its customers. Routine TTHMs and Pb and Cu testing/analysis are conducted to ensure water quality within the distribution system and reported to the CTDPH.

2.0 Staff

2.1 Health and Safety

No injuries, grievances or job-related concerns were reported for staff. As part of the continuing outreach effort, the Superintendent hosted the Norwich Technical School on February 8.

2.2 Training

Staff continued to receive training to (state or professional organization sponsored) meet CTDEEP and CTDPH requirements for (wastewater /water certification) training credits. Dennis Kexel is completing CEUs for his upcoming NEWEA Collections Operator I certification and CTDEEP Treatment Operator I certification. Emily Spring is completing CEUs for her CTDEEP Treatment Operator II certification. Ron McDaniel completed safety training, cyber security and LCRR introduction training. Training is also conducted to keep employees safe and to comply with OSHA's hazard communication standard. Active Shooter Training occurred on February 20.

TSYS (Total System Services, LLC)/Global Payments (credit card) requires compliance with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS) which was completed in February.

3.0 Equipment

3.1 WPCF/Collection System

The WPCF has had poor process control for most of February. Unpredictable hydraulic/BOD₅ loading has led to poor settling and thus solids present in the effluent. A mass reduction in solids (along with polymer treatment) by wasting was required to lower sludge blanket levels to ensure improved effluent (no solids carryover). Routine maintenance was performed at WPCF.

All pump stations were inspected and cleaned. Continual reviews of the Town operated Grinder Pump locations are conducted to ensure the date of property sale directed "sunset clause" is adhered to. The Kitemaug PS experienced a force main failure on February 26 at 11 a.m. The failure led to an approximate two hour (1,000 g) spill of untreated wastewater to Horton Cove. The line was repaired by the emergency contractor by 5 p.m. QAlert reporting for the CTDEEP was completed (both 2-hour and 5-day) as required by statute.

3.2 Water Supply

Typical O & M work was completed on the water supply.

4.0 Projects

A summary of existing projects is provided in an attached project summary table.

4.1 WPCF/Collection System/Water Supply

The d-box (temporary) repair work RFP (bid, Request for Proposal) was completed in February. It is the intent to pay for the repair with the remaining monies in the State Grant.

Work began on the NPDES (National Permit Discharge Elimination System) permit renewal.

The Stony Creek Bridge RFP (bid request) was completed. The water and sewer pipes supported beneath the bridge extending over Stoney Brook (adjacent to Police Station) were inspected twice during the month. The supports appear to be failing due to corrosion. Contractors with expertise in this type of situation requiring remedy will be solicited for quotes to repair the supports. It is the intent to repurpose existing FY 2024 funds to pay for the repair work.

A request was made to the CTDEEP to approve an aerobic digester at the site (SBR conversion). This has shown to lower the waste sludge volumes considerably. The trucking and disposal (incineration) of thickened (waste) sludge represent huge costs to the WPCA; these costs can range anywhere from 40-60% of total plant costs, depending on the size of the plant and initial wastewater characteristics.

CCTV inspections (following a flush/jet cleaning) enable observation of the condition of pipes firsthand and address defects that could result in costly repairs in the future. Targeted inspections (to identify Inflow and Infiltration) of some of the 1,650 manholes/62 miles of gravity pipe in the collection system were made. Cross-country clearing (FY 2022 CIP) was focused near RWCB in an area where a high level of Inflow was observed in recent storm events.

Municipalities are using Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to support better decision making and improve task efficiencies. The Superintendent met with the Town GIS contractor (CAI Technologies, Littleton, NH) to meet federal/state controls for the water and sewer systems. Recent improvements in the water supply layer now shows account numbers and other ratepayer data.

The Superintendent completed the 2023 *CBYD Annual Member Registration* for the utility.

The agenda for the March 2024 Cook Hill Groundbreaking Ceremony has been finalized.

4.2 Regulatory Oversight

No regulatory oversight or action is ongoing for the WPCA. No existing *Consent Decrees* or *Consent Orders* currently exist. No complaints have been received from the appropriate regulatory bodies.

Due to the danger spills cause to public health and the environment, every effort must be made to prevent them and to clean them up promptly once they occur. The purpose of the *Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure* (SPCC) rule is to help facilities prevent a discharge of into navigable waters or adjoining shorelines. The SPCC rule requires facilities to develop, maintain, and implement a spill prevention plan, called an SPCC Plan. These Plans help facilities prevent oil spill, as well as control a spill should one occur. The plans include Safety Data Sheets for all materials stored. The Superintendent reviewed materials stored within the WPCF and pump stations to ensure the plan was accurate and contained the necessary SDS.

Every March 1st, facilities covered by the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) must submit an emergency and hazardous chemical inventory form (Tier II Report) to the Local/Tribal Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) and the local fire department for the previous calendar year. The Superintendent filed the appropriate EPCRA Tier II Report.

Nutrient pollution remains a problem in many U.S. water bodies; contributing to a dead zone in Long Island Sound. Phosphorus levels declined slightly during the period but nitrogen levels remained flat, which indicates that the situation isn't worsening but also that progress isn't being made as quickly as leaders would like. That said, the state permit for nitrogen loading will likely become more stringent along with some type of control on phosphorous loading.

The Annual USEPA Biosolids E-Reporting was completed by the Superintendent. USEPA's sewage sludge regulations require certain publicly owned treatment facilities to submit to a *Sewage Sludge (Biosolids) Annual Report*. Facilities that must submit an Annual Report include WPCFs with a design flow rate equal to or greater than one million gallons per day. The sludge evaluation included a review of total volume as well as the quarterly (toxicity) analysis.

.....
Permit renewal activities will begin in April 2024; as stipulated, a permit renewal package must be formally submitted to the CTDEEP six months prior to the federal NPDES permit expiration date (October 31, 2024). As part of the permit support, the Superintendent and Lab Director conducted an inventory of equipment and disposable items.

As part of the water diversion permit for the Montville WS, annual reporting is required. Specifically, a CTDPH *Water Division Program Annual Water Use Form* must be completed and submitted by January 31 which details, amongst other things the amount of water purchased and the amount used. The lost water was found to be approximately 5% of the total water purchased from Groton Utilities (GU); the national average is 16%. The annual cross-connection reporting and CCR were reviewed. The Superintendent attended the January 2024 CTDPH *Drinking Water Section Monthly Webinar* to stay abreast of recent regulatory developments.

The USEPA announced the first stages of requirements for the *Lead and Copper Rule Revisions* in December 2021. The Superintendent employed the WPCA Engineer (Wright-Pierce) and existing GIS contractor (CAI) to get a jump on mapping out its service line inventory. The update to the *Lead and Copper Rule*, first published in 1991, is extensive. By October 16, 2024, all public water systems must complete a lead service line inventory that accounts for every service line in their systems — and a plan to update that inventory going forward. A three-year compliance window is, for many public water systems, challenging at best due to small staff and small budgets.

5.0 Development

Several development projects have been presented to the WPCA for review/comment. The Superintendent met with engineers regarding the Oxoboxo Lofts, Village Apartments, a grocery store, gas station and other residential development projects in Town.

6.0 Finances

The WPCA operates within an Enterprise Fund (a business-like account with net-zero goals, that is AR should equal to AP, according to GAAP). FY 2024 began on July 1, 2023. The financial condition of both water and wastewater accounts is considered good. Per WPCA and TC approval, the WPCA FY 2024 Sewer Budget is \$7.1 million and the Water Budget is \$1.9 million. No rate increase is required for sewer for the coming year even with significant investment into the infrastructure. A rate structure designed to provide sustainable revenue for operations as well as capital programs is critical to assure reliable effective sewerage and safe drinking water and fire protection.

As part of the annual report (2023), the delinquent sewer (est. \$440,000) and water (est. \$5,740) account totals were calculated. As indicated, active collections are ongoing.

6.1 Accounts Review

Current rates (and ancillary fees) appear to be adequate at this time to cover costs for wastewater activities. A review of first half of FY 2024 shows over budget revenues. For the last four years (on average) the revenues for the sewer account has risen annually (above the national average) with a strong showing during the pandemic. It should be noted that the Town has a high collection rate (over 90%) which allows for a dependable revenue streams for sewer and water accounts. A rate study will be conducted for the water account and applied, as required to keep the utility solvent.

Sludge represents the bulk of the cost (outside of energy) of running WPCFs. These costs can range anywhere from 40-60% of total plant costs, depending on the size of the plant and initial wastewater characteristics. Every effort is made to reduce the volume of disposed solids. As indicated in the last WPCA meeting, a study about digester uses to lower volumes.

6.2 Assets

A formal review of the Construction-in-Progress occurred to improve the understanding of existing assets. Several vehicles were either sold or traded in for purchases. The FY 2023 CIP added assets. Per contract, RWCB will be billed annually (\$200,000) for the work completed on the discharge/recycle lines in September, October, November and December 2023 and continued into January 2024.

Existing URS Reporting (from 2010 and 2011) provided an initial asset listing (permanent attributes detailing the age and construction of the collection system and/or treatment plant equipment) which were installed into the current WPCA GIS system.

6.3 Grants/Funding

Federal grants announced on December 4 will be used to protect Long Island Sound. A total of \$20 million will be directed by the USEPA to promote climate resiliency and environmental justice and over improvement of the surface water body.

Some current wastewater projects are funded by State funds including one grant (CTDEEP \$5 million *Grant-in-Aid for Sewage Treatment Facility Infrastructure Improvements and Upgrades at the Montville WPTF*- State Grant Agreement 2017-170491, approved via March 2014 Town of Montville Resolution No. 2014-25). The bonds were for infrastructure improvements within the plant including the new chlorine system, new recycling pumps, and grit removal system. Additionally, the aeration systems for SBR-1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 were replaced. A review of the approximately \$4.5 million in grant monies (slated for the WPCF) indicated adequate funding for the proposed projects with approximately \$450,000 margin- this money will be used to remedy the concrete failing in SBR-4 or the influent d-boxes. A debt service audit was conducted for the four bonds most recently procured for the treatment plant. One bond was paid in July 2018 and another was paid in February 2019; thus reducing debt service by at least \$150,000-\$200,000 per year. The remaining two bonds will be paid in August 2032 (headworks upgrade) and July 2034 (new emergency power generator), respectively.

Based on a review of the WPCA's Eligibility Application the CTDPH DWS had determined that the Cook Water Tower replacement project was ready to proceed and that DWSRF funding will be available. The Finance Director was notified of the intent to pursue federal funding for the tower project. The scheduled completion date of the storage tank is October 31, 2024. A Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF No. 2024-7125) loan agreement package for \$1,360,332.50 was signed by the Mayor on August 30 for the Cook Hill Tank Replacement Project (CTDPH Agreement #2024-7125). An Interim Funding Obligation (IFO) was completed on October 13. The IFO will convert to a Project Loan Obligation (PLO) at completion of the project. There is some expectation that an additional subsidy will be provided thus lowering the overall cost of the project to the town. Recent discussions with the CTDPH have indicated a slow-down in reimbursements. On December 1, the Superintendent was notified of the CTDPH's load reimbursement schedule and format paperwork. Additionally, it was suggested the project would likely receive an additional subsidy of approximately \$300,000 for the project. The Town Bond Attorney (Sandra Lawson, Esquire) has been notified to explore options for bridging financial gaps, if encountered. A notice of the initial reimbursement (\$484,352.43) was received on December 20.

A loan balance of \$620,540.89 (as of FY 2022 end: June 30, 2023) remains on the (not amortized) loan defined in the December 10, 2007 *Reimbursement Agreement by and between The Mohegan Tribal Utility Authority and Town of Montville*. The original principal of the note was \$2,642,792.

The State DECD still recognizes the Town as a *Distressed Municipality*. The citation often allows consideration for certain funding and/or grants to enhance the community.

6.4 Energy

A 10% decrease in plant energy demand has been observed associated with the (more controlled) lower dissolved oxygen (DO) settings in the process tanks due to the new fine-bubble diffusers as well as the new (more efficient) turbo blowers.

The (electrical) energy is the single largest monthly expenditure. Electrical Energy is supplied to the plant by the 460 kW Doosan Fuel Cell America, Inc. fuel cell (onsite generation by Unit #10587), Eversource (transmission) and First Point Power (generation). The power generation was formerly supplied by Constellation Energy. The WPCA is using less public grid kWhs due to this onsite generation. Fuel cell operation issues were encountered during the month. Each month a review of energy usage is conducted for each billing (i.e. plant, pump stations) to determine if there is a sudden rise in demand which often indicates mechanical problems (i.e. pump/motor failures). Steve Pearson, VFS Green Energy Financing Executive conducted the (460 kW) fuel cell technical review in December. Things discussed included unit output and production,

reliability, ICAP savings (summer peak day), Eversource distribution charges, new battery backup option, 3rd party electrical supply, and anything you'd like to cover. During the recent (year-end) fuel cell audit, it showed a savings of \$182,000 per year annual savings (i.e. demand charges, ratchet charges) due to this onsite generation (95.5% availability) with the Pure Cell (400 kW) unit; it is the best performing unit of its kind in Connecticut.

On January 25, the Superintendent met with Dan Joyce of Balanced Rock Energy (WPCA Energy Broker) to review current and future contract conditions. It is likely the generation cost will rise over 50% for the next contract due to market conditions.

In March 2023, the Montville WPCA and Town signed a 20-year solar service agreement with N. Silver Brook, LLC- a Montville based renewable energy company. The agreement will save the Town of Montville more than \$850,000 and is structured for the town to receive the full savings amount within one year of the solar facility's completion. N. Silver Brook and its partners allocated solar energy from a Connecticut solar project in Naugatuck to the WPCA's electrical accounts. On June 9th, that project was selected as a winning bid in Connecticut's Non-Residential Renewable Energy Solutions (NRES) program. All of the WPCA's electrical usage was assigned to the winning bid and will result in lower energy costs.

Superintendent Albertson welcomed Ron McDaniel as Administrator at the Plant who has found and helped with a number of things already and who the Superintendent believes that the two of them will make the Plant operations stronger. The Superintendent also reported that Operations is still recovering from water/rain events in January 2024, a tough month, with variable loading process issues within the plant that were had and will improve. Budgets have been prepared for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 and the CIP from which the WPCA is trying to repurpose some money from 2024. Commissioner Gladue had a question regarding the cap for when projects go out to bid; if the bid is above \$10,000 it is a sealed bid per Administrator McDaniel. Chairperson Longton noted the WPCA took advantage of a pre-vetted contractor for emergent situations. The manholes that were repaired were also budgeted items. Commissioner Gladue also remarked on the Water Survey at a cost of \$22,000; Chairperson Longton remarked that funds for the same are already included in the CIP. As to Commissioner Gladue's question regarding Rand-Whitney, Administrator McDaniel reported he is meeting with them next week and referenced a unique factor in that Rand-Whitney can request its own contractor as they are footing the bill. Superintendent Albertson reported on a meeting with Rand-Whitney this Thursday and that Phase 3 of the discharge/return piping replacement project would not go forward without the approval of the Commission. Also, noted was the first annual payment of \$200,000 by Rand-Whitney towards its outstanding bill for completion of the work on the Maple Avenue discharge and return lines. Administrator McDaniel commented on the three (3) ongoing projects and complemented staff on doing a job finding the system water leak.

i. Report from Mayor.

Mayor Bunnell remarked that he failed to forward the job descriptions approved at last month's meeting to the Town Attorney for review. They were sent to the attorney today and then sent on to TARP at the end of this month and the Town Council next month.

j. Report from Engineers

PE Therlin Montgomery reported on an aerobic digester to reduce waste solids and had successful data for the same for use at the Plant, but specified that the potential for an anaerobic digester was not a viable economic option. Funds from a grant for the aerobic digester would reduce the footprint. A preliminary investigation was done a few months ago for reduction of sludge by 20-40% and Superintendent Albertson obtained information on using one of the SBRs as a temporary aerobic digester that would be viable to reduce costs at the Plant. PE Montgomery also reported that the bid process for the Stony Brook project went live Friday as advertised in *The Day* with bid opening on April 9. He is keeping track of contractors who are buying bid documents and reported a decision would be made thereafter. Chairperson Longton asked about the effect and the goal for solids reduction; Superintendent Albertson reiterated that the reduction goal is 20-40% that converts to carbon dioxide and water vapor that can be dewatered and sent to the incinerator in Hartford. PE Montgomery reported that regulations are being worked on to impact and keep those elements out of drinking water and eventually other sources of water. Superintendent Albertson noted the sludge would be more concentrated. He then reported on an intermediary response for

.....
the d-boxes, a spray with a polyurethane content with a plan to upgrade it in a few years although it provides protection from corrosion in the future, according to PE Montgomery. This first step will be implemented for 5-7 years until \$3 - \$5 million is saved for new d-boxes. Per a question by Chairman Longton, Superintendent Albertson reported on the breakdown of concrete versus rebar for the failing d-boxes and the replacement of two (2) for one (1) at a cost of approximately \$3 million. Administrator McDaniel reported the bid documents for the same are nearly done to bid time to chase federal and state funding. The cost for the temporary fix of the d-boxes would be approximately \$300,000.

k. Old Business -- *None*

l. New Business

1. To Consider and Act on the Repurposing of FY 2024 Sewer CIP Funds..

THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES to approve the repurposing of *Capital Improvement Plans for Sewer* funds for fiscal year 2024 in the amount of \$440,000 (Four Hundred Forty Thousand Dollars) to cover costs associated with the emergency Stony Creek Utility Bridge repairs.

Motion – Discussion – Roll Call Vote

SAR-No. 2024-05 THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES to approve the repurposing of *Capital Improvement Plans for Sewer* funds for fiscal year 2024 in the amount of \$440,000 (Four Hundred Forty Thousand Dollars) to cover costs associated with the emergency Stony Creek Utility Bridge repairs. **Motion** by Commissioner Miceli; seconded by Commissioner Gladue. Discussion: Superintendent Albertson reported that snow melt salt had corroded the bridge pipes that are failing and thus became a priority. The 2024 CIP was reviewed for projects that could be pushed off to address this issue per approval by the Commission. The bid for the same will go out on Friday, March 8 for advertising in the Sunday edition of *The Day*. As to the future needs for the bridge as questioned by Commissioner Miceli, the Superintendent reported existing piping and expand its size. The actual cost is unknown but the freeing of funds to go toward it once the cost is known was proposed by Chairman Longton. **Roll Call vote: In favor: Commissioners Gladue and Miceli and Chairperson Longton. Opposed: none. Vote 3-0-0, all in favor.**

2. To Consider and act on the FY 2025 Sewer CIP.

THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES To Approve the *Capital Improvement Plan for Sewer* for fiscal year 2024-2025 in the amount of \$1,465,000 (One Million Four Hundred Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars).

Motion – Discussion – Roll Call Vote

SAR-No. 2024-06 THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES to approve the *Capital Improvement Plan for Sewer* for fiscal year 2024-2025 in the amount of \$1,465,000 (One Million Four Hundred Sixty-Five Thousand Dollars). **Motion** by Commissioner Gladue; seconded by Commissioner Miceli. Discussion: Superintendent Albertson reported that the amount is the proposed CIP for sewer for this coming year noting collection and stating that some projects do not cost anything as funds are set aside for the same. The two (2) SUVs are for the Superintendent and the Administrator and used to ferry support staff to and from the Town Hall. Existing ones are in rough shape and need epoxy spray similar to that for the d-boxes. The cost for the d-boxes will be noted once known. Other items mentioned was a lift personnel cage, a small valve between two (2) halves of the Plant and more. The \$450,000 will be used as a placeholder to encumber the cost this year per Administrator McDaniel. **Roll Call vote: In favor: Commissioners Gladue and Miceli and Chairperson Longton. Opposed: none. Vote 3-0-0, all in favor.**

3. To Consider and act on the FY 2025 Sewer Budget.

THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES To Approve the *Budget for Sewer* for fiscal year 2024-2025 in the amount of

.....
\$6,897,203.00 (Six Million Eight Hundred Ninety-Seven Thousand Two Hundred and Three Dollars).

SAR-No. 2024-07 THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES To Approve the *Budget for Sewer* for fiscal year 2024-2025 in the amount of \$6,897,203.00 (Six Million Eight Hundred Ninety-Seven Thousand Two Hundred and Three Dollars). **Motion** by Commissioner Gladue; seconded by Commissioner Miceli. Discussion: Superintendent Albertson reported that the WPCA operates under a General Accounting System like that of a businesses. Sewer rates are currently half the national average; \$5,000 for building and sewer per Administrator McDaniel. Costs charged to the casino were \$65,000 prior to Covid-19 in addition to septage receiving. The aim is to maximize funds to put back into the facility and the control measure is revenue. For the last five (5) years, revenues have been higher (\$7-\$8 million); it is hoped that the trend continues. Commissioner Miceli noted there is \$7 million in reserve to use for water and sewer needs; Superintendent Albertson remarked that the funds for each must be kept separate. Administrator McDaniel noted that a bond was sought for the funds for Rand-Whitney said it was lucky there were now reserves. Use of the reserves to best serve the ratepayer is the aim. The Administrator reported on the accounts which hold reserve funds stating there must be some level of fluidity and everything is being reviewed. Chairman Longton questioned the difference between line item 232334 versus 232335; Superintendent Albertson responded to them as being miscellaneous chemicals outside of the bio side to kill things inside the tank, typically chlorine, phosphorus, and nitrogen, although there have not really been any on the bio side. Further, the strength of waste water must have carbon (100 points) nitrogen (5 points) and phosphorus (1 point). Per the Superintendent, the budget is about looking in the rear view mirror as extremes will occur in infrastructure and the aerobic digester will reduce the extremes—the goal is to have the bugs eat themselves. **Roll Call vote: In favor: Commissioners Gladue and Miceli and Chairperson Longton. Opposed: none. Vote 3-0-0, all in favor.**

n. Chairperson Longton remarked that the Planning and Zoning meeting was cancelled. Superintendent Albertson reported on speaking with the operative of 245, Route 32 who will be signing as permittee. Other projects include the car wash across the street, 256 Maple, and Radgowski coming back on line.

II. Water Commission

a. Report from Engineers

Superintendent Albertson reported the Plant Engineers are looking into the rate survey and other communities and should have an assessment next week.

Commissioner Miceli left the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

b. Old Business -- None

c. New Business

1. To Consider and Act on the FY 2025 Water CIP.

THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES To Approve the *Capital Improvement Plan for Water* Supply for fiscal year 2024-2025 in the amount of \$300,000 (Three Hundred Thousand Dollars) as included in the proposed Water Budget.

Motion – Discussion – Roll Call Vote

SAR-No. 2024-08 THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES To Approve the *Capital Improvement Plan for Water* Supply for fiscal year 2024-2025 in the amount of \$300,000 (Three Hundred Thousand Dollars) as included in the proposed Water Budget. **Motion** by Commissioner Gladue; seconded by Commissioner Miceli. Discussion: Superintendent Albertson reported the CIP will add a year on Peter Road—Groton Utilities has a meter there but wants to add another meter as a safety check. Putting controls on

.....
meter like the one on Depot Road gives another checkpoint in the water supply if a break occurs. If something goes wrong, examination and upgrades of variance frequency drives can occur. The Superintendent gave an update on the Cook Drive water tank reporting on a meeting to be held on Wednesday to discuss the status, power to the facility, and construction in March. Raul from DPH will attend the meeting on Wednesday. **Roll Call vote: *In favor: Commissioners Gladue and Miceli and Chairperson Longton. Opposed: none. Vote 3-0-0, all in favor.***

2. To Consider and Act on the FY 2025 Water Budget.

THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES To Approve the *Budget for the Water Supply* for fiscal year 2024-2025 in the amount of \$2,015,075.00 (Two Million, Fifteen Thousand, Seventy-Five Dollars).

SAR-No. 2024-09 THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES To Approve the *Budget for the Water Supply* for fiscal year 2024-2025 in the amount of \$2,015,075.00 (Two Million, Fifteen Thousand, Seventy-Five Dollars). **Motion** by Commissioner Miceli; seconded by Commissioner Gladue. Discussion: Superintendent Albertson reported the water supply budget is self-explanatory and like the sewer account is run by an enterprise fund and a ratepayer supplied fund that is much leaner. There are ten times for ratepayers for sewer than water. The Superintendent commented on the discovery and location of the water leak that occurred last year. Support of a 20-year amortization will achieve a 50% grant and possible additional funds. Administrator McDaniel noted the dual duties between accounts of 10.7%. **Roll Call vote: *In favor: Commissioners Gladue and Miceli, and Chairperson Longton. Opposed: none. Vote 3-0-0, all in favor.***

d. Remarks from the Public

Chairperson Longton asked three (3) times for remarks from the public. There were none.

e. Remarks from Commission Members

Commissioner Gladue and Chairperson Longton welcomed Ron McDaniel in his new position as administrator.

f. Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Gladue; seconded by Commissioner Miceli to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 p.m. Discussion: none. **Voice vote: 3-0-0; all in favor. Meeting adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted by,

Gloria J. Gathers
Recording Secretary, Town of Montville

AN AUDIO RECORDING OF THE MEETING IS AVAILABLE ON THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WEBSITE.