

Town of Montville Water & Sewer Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 6, 2021-- 6:00 PM
Town Council Chambers – Town Hall

1. Water and Sewer Commission

a. Call to Order

Chairman 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 Commissioners Brian Quinn, Town Councilor Andrew Mandler, Anthony Siragusa and Chairman Chuck Longton. Commissioner Shawn Jinkerson was absent. A quorum was present.

d. Alterations to the Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Siragusa; seconded by Commissioner Quinn to add New Business, Item 1.3, Election of Officers. Discussion: None. Voice vote: 4-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

e. To consider and act on a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 3, 2021

Motion by Commissioner Siragusa; seconded by Commissioner Quinn to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 3, 2021. Discussion: None. Voice vote: 4-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

f. Communications pertaining specifically to matters which concern the Commission

Superintendent Albertson reported on a request from a commercial user concerning expansion of a sewer connection at The Meadows. The request was a follow-up to a meeting last year with the complex developer/property manager and WPCA Engineer with emphasis on obtaining available federal funding upon preliminary discussion on the project.

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

Chairman 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 November 2021 as follows:

1.0 Compliance/Process

1.1 Water Pollution Control Facility

Effluent from the Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) met state and federal action levels. Total Nitrogen (TN) loading was discharged in the treated effluent well under the permit limit. Waste sludge thickening has been a challenge over the fiscal year. No complaints were received.

1.2 Water Supply

The Montville Water Supply (WS) met required state and federal standards. No complaints were received.

2.0 Staff

2.1 Health and Safety

No injuries, grievances or concerns were reported for staff. No COVID positive tests or illnesses have been reported for the staff.

The staff was encouraged to receive appropriate vaccine booster/flu shots and test regularly to ensure adequate staffing through the winter months. The positivity rate for a variant of COVID-19 climbed steadily in November. The Omicron coronavirus variant is likely to spread internationally and pose a risk of infection surges according to the World Health Organization (WHO) report on November 29. OSHA reports that current (wastewater) treatment has been proven adequate to prevent transmission of COVID-19- extra measures are not needed and (wastewater). The USEPA reports that the COVID-19 virus has not been detected in drinking water supplies.

2.2 Training

The Superintendent and staff continued to receive training to meet CTDEEP and CTDPH requirements for (wastewater/water certification) training credits. The Superintendent completed the *NEIWPC* Basic Municipal Wastewater- Disinfection course on November 2 and *The Water Resource Foundation* Wastewater Surveillance for SARS-CoV-2 Fall RCN Meeting on November 3. GIS Day 2021 was on November 17; the staff was encouraged to interact with the existing GIS program to improve the existing permanent or inspection attributes. Geospatial, descriptive and observation data support the objective of asset management. In order to comply with the new CTDEEP reporting system for sewer and waste incidents, the Superintendent was required to complete training on November 29 and then receive log-in information.

3.0 Equipment

3.1 WPCF

Work within the plant continues to continually improve process control/performance and ensure aging equipment is cared for or replaced.

3.2 Collection System

Actions within the collection system are related to reducing Inflow and Infiltration (I/I) and preventing surcharging and preventative maintenance. I/I increases the flow (and expense) of

influent treatment. Blockages and poor pipe conditions interfere with conveyance of wastewater and may result in property damage. All pump stations were inspected during the month as well as some CCTV sewer pipe inspections in prioritized areas. Oakdale Heights, Montville Manor and Route 163 are Phase I (older) sewers installed in 1975 and have been considered priority. A comprehensive plan to address for I&I remediation is ongoing. Documentation of CMOM work is included in the GIS system.

3.3 Water Supply

Routine sampling was conducted during the month. No concerns were reported. Samples are collected to meet regulatory requirements and to determine the quality of water delivered to consumers.

4.0 Projects

4.1 WPCF/Collection System/Water Supply

The September 2021 *Structural Condition Assessment* report by the engineers (Woodard & Curran) indicated that a coated tank should be installed as a replacement for the two existing distribution boxes. The report and proposal were provided as attachments. The agenda for the December WPCA meeting includes a vote for engineering design costs after additional (itemized) cost information was provided. The engineer was met on December 2 to discuss the recently adjusted proposal.

The CTDEEP has authorized the WPCA to construct the new grit removal system under the existing state grant. Construction activities began on November 15. As part of the construction, a new oil/water separator was installed and plumbed during the first week. Septic receiving was moved to the front of the plant for hauler convenience and logistics during the installation of the grit chamber. A project schedule was included in the meeting package.

The SBR-4 aeration improvement (diffuser/piping replacement) will enhance process as well as lower energy demand for the next 20 years. Wright-Pierce personnel were met onsite on November 3 and 10 and December 1 to review construction schedules. A delay was encountered due to slow delivery of materials with the project start date to be now in late January 2022. The grant funding expires next June the WPCA would use to replace the air diffusers in the remaining tanks; an estimated \$250K per SBR for construction (x5 SBRs so total of around \$1.2M).

The pandemic had also delayed the blower delivery (new turbo blower for air delivery to treatment tanks SBR-3 and SBR-4), but it was received on November 19.

The roof repair will begin work in December. A construction delay was experienced due to material shortages, but material delivery is expected on December 14.

Slope creep was observed in a gravel-lined area north of the fuel cell; Tropical Storm Ida had destabilized the slope. SARRACCO (original fuel cell contractor) provided information about remedies (e.g. retaining wall) during a site visit on November 29.

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BOD₅ (influent) loading comparisons were calculated and presented to Rand-Whitney personnel in November: 9,677 lbs./d (1996-2000) to 11,300 lbs./d (July to October 2008) to 15,303 lbs./d (July to September 2021), an 37% increase in loading due to their production increases. No issues with our plant's treatment have been encountered due to the higher loading rates. Additionally, the loading is within the agreements established between the Town and the paperboard facility. The data was obtained from a CTDEEP-submitted report (Rand-Whitney, 2001), the Facilities Plan (URS, 2011) and our MOR data provided monthly to the CTDEEP and USEPA. Rand-Whitney representatives were met on November 9 to discuss the current loading and their scheduled shut-down for December 1 at which time they will reline a portion of their delivery pipe (Faria Corp. property to Pink Row). Rand-Whitney personnel were met onsite on November 17 to discuss recycle water pumping. Rich Huntley and Paul Moore were met on November 17 to discuss plant personnel changes as well as the proposed water supply connection. Mr. Moore reported that the plant's recycle water is of good quality for their use.

UConn was recently awarded as a *Center of Excellence for Wastewater-based COVID-19 Surveillance*. As part of public-outreach, Montville WPCF wastewater samples will be analyzed to establish a baseline level of the inactive virus in our influent before the recent surge affects our area. The data will be shared with Pat McCormick, Health Director for the Uncas Health District.

Aaron Associates performed calibration on the following on November 16: Chlorine Bulk Storage Area High Level Float Switch, Chlorine Metering Pump Containment Area High Level Switch, Chlorine Bulk Storage Tank No. 1 Level Transmitter, Chlorine Bulk Storage Tank No. 2 Level Transmitter, and Chlorine (Influent) Contact Tank Chamber 1. During the 2022 disinfection season, the flow calibrations will be completed, including Chlorine (Influent) Contact Tank Chamber 2, Chlorine (Effluent) Contact Tank Chamber 1, and Chlorine (Effluent) Contact Tank Chamber 2. The calibration allows for leak detection as well as improved control during the chlorination season (May to October) which leads to better disinfection and lower volumes of chlorine.

During October and November, the Superintendent met with the Town Engineer (CLA Engineers) personnel to assist in defining MS4 sampling locations as well as to assist in determining causes to poor analytical results (for stormwater) found in six discharge locations. A kickoff meeting for MS4 response was conducted on October 19 with the Town Engineer (CLA Engineers). On November 4, CLA personnel were met onsite to show biological testing procedures within the WPCF laboratory.

Emergency power (generator) replacement work is ongoing for the Massapeag, Woodland, and Derry Hill PSs. The older generators will be upgraded to ensure power is available during storm events. The CIP project delivery will occur in December.

A total of 13,500 linear feet of cleaning and CCTV inspection has been completed in the calendar year. A total of 7,700 linear feet of XC sewer main inspections occurred in November as part of the FY 2022 CIP XC Project. Additionally, 175 locations (of the 1,611 sewer system manholes) have been inspected to confirm condition. Focus areas were jetted (cleaned) and inspected in

November along Route 32 and Fox Hill Road. Recently paved areas along Sharp Hill Road, Gay Hill Road and Dido Road contained manholes that had been improved and inspected. Following an odor complaint on November 6, ten upstream manholes were inspected. Additionally, staff coordinated charcoal filter change-outs (at upstream manholes) with MTUA to ensure low odor conditions.

As part of the 2022 CIP, *Cross Country Clearing Project* near sewer mains in *Subsystem 2* near Oakdale Elementary School; in an area identified previously as having high I/I. Letters have been sent to property abutters announcing the work as well as a notice placed on the website. Surveying operations have taken place during November; Wright-Pierce personnel were met on November 22 to confirm XC line surveys and inspection.

Rip rap was applied to an eroded portion of a sewer main adjacent to Oxoboxo Brook at 711 Route 32.

Representatives of *Lakeside Manufacturing* were met on November 17 to discuss the improvement of the septic receiving unit with a “rock trap” for coarse inorganic material capture.

The pump stations’ UPS were improved with new batteries during November by the mechanic staff.

A new on-call phone was ordered to replace the aging phone. This ensures communication of alarms to the call operator after hours. Additionally, the smart device permits SCADA review for the operator to make decisions about how to correct problems without actually attending to the plant or pump station thus reducing the amount of call-outs.

Engineering and grant submittals were completed for the Cook Tower replacement. The engineering reporting for the work scope and costs was delivered to the CTDPH on October 22. Status meetings were held with Wright-Pierce and the CTDPH on November 1 and 16. The resident situated at 57 Cook Drive was sent a letter requesting access for the land survey preceding the work.

4.2 Regulatory Oversight

Due to the COVID concerns, state and local personnel are mostly working remotely. No regulatory oversight or action is ongoing for the WPCA.

Section 308 of the Clean Water Act requires all major POTWs to participate in the annual *DMR-QA Study (DMR-QA 41 Proficiency Testing)* for quality assurance/control checks. While internal controls are made to ensure accurate analysis within the WPCF laboratory, this additional check represents a more formal procedural check for a facility with a NPDES (federal discharge) permit. All proficiency test samples are supplied by an independent, accredited facility associated with the *American Association for Laboratory Accreditation* or *ANSI National Accreditation Board*. Donald Gonyea was the former *State DMRQA Coordinator*; since replaced by Susan Unger, *Environmental Compliance Specialist 2* for the Municipal Wastewater Section, Water Planning

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and Management Division, Bureau of Water Protection and Land Reuse. The Superintendent reported the 2021 *Certificate of Recognition* indicating the participation and successful evaluation of the external review (for permit analytes: SS, residual chlorine, TSS, pH, BOD₅ and turbidity) on November 23. This is the third year in a row that testing was passed on the first attempt--a compliment to the WPCF laboratory staff's work.

A November 24 CTDEEP memorandum documented recent audits of WPCF sampling procedures and found that certain plants are taking "selective samples"; taking samples at certain flows/times with the intention to produce results beneficial to the facility (showing compliance with permit). *RCSA Section 22a-430-3(j)(7)* requires all sampling to be "representative of monitored activity". A consistent sampling schedule must be created and adhered to in order to be "representative" and thus satisfy permit requirements. The routine CTDEEP inspections at the Montville facility for the last three years did not identify non-representative sample concerns.

Sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) are releases of untreated sewage into the environment--illegal under federal regulation (The Clean Water Act). Preventing sewer overflows is a national enforcement priority for the USEPA to protect human health and the environment and the CTDEEP has identified a CMOM program requirement for WPCAs. Statistically, SSOs are typically caused by blockages (43%), I/I (27%), structural failure (12%), or power failures (11%). The CCTV inspections as well as the routine cleaning/pump station visits are adequate to satisfy the CTDEEP requirements. CAI Technologies (Town GIS contractor) completed the sewer GIS mapping and associated inspection reporting to ensure documentation of all work completed to meet CTDEEP CMOM directives.

In November, QScend Technologies, Inc. announced that it has been selected to provide the CTDEEP with QAlert™ software to log, route, and manage untreated sewage discharge(s) notification (2-hour/5-day) data replacing its current *Sewage Right-to-Know Electronic Bypass Reporting System*. Public Act 21-42 requires that all sewage spills are reported to DEEP electronically within 2 hours of becoming aware of a spill.

The USEPA and CTDEEP promote effective utility asset management based on water quality, operational resiliency and efficiency and infrastructure stability. The Superintendent is working on an asset identification and subsequent registry recorded in the GIS platform; this initial asset accounting system will permit management of aging equipment and the development of an appropriate CIP through risk modeling. Asset labeling will be improved with markers and tags and signage. Finally, software deemed appropriate will be purchased and brought online to assist in the operators and mechanics work day and work flow for overall better facility management. Eventually, an effort will be made to use the existing (Trimble handheld unit) or a newer vehicle-mounted unit (Trimble MX7 photogrammetric) mobile mapping system for data acquisition and processing. This would allow for exact location of assets along with a street-level imaging.

NEIWPC is collecting information about sludge generation and management throughout the region to assess stressors on our sludge market and inform future discussions and collaborative efforts. Sludge disposal will become more difficult in the future due to increased federal and state regulatory controls on incinerator emissions. The professional organization's survey is being

conducted in coordination with the North East Biosolids and Residuals Association part for the US National Biosolids Data Project. No regulatory oversight or action is ongoing for the WPCA.

The effects of climate change (e.g. extreme weather/flooding) will be met with increased regulatory directives to establish water infrastructure resilience to the natural environment.

PFAS compounds represent a major class of contaminants of emerging concern because they are persistent, bio-accumulative and toxic, and their widespread use makes their environmental distribution a growing concern. The USEPA Science Advisory Board is reviewing the health effects of PFAS to protect public health from exposure by updating drinking water health advisories and *National Primary Drinking Water Regulations*. No specific information regarding the recent Weston & Sampson WPCF influent (wastewater) sampling has been provided.

Overall, the volume of water purchased from Groton Utilities (GU) continues to be lower than normal due to COVID's effect on economic conditions within the town.

5.0 Development

Requests for information regarding a large sewer connection were received from Oak River Management, LLC for The Meadows of Montville apartment complex along Leffingwell Road. The WPCA Superintendent, Engineer, and Mr. Stephen St. Germain (Property Manager/ Principal) first met last November. Preliminary discussion defined scope of work (one or two pump stations and a long force main installation) and potential financial assistance. The developer / property manager is interested in federal funding available for sewer expansion.

6.0 Finances

The WPCA operates with an *Enterprise Fund*. An enterprise fund is considered the best practice to promote and maintain long-term financial sustainability for water and sewer activities. An enterprise fund is a separate accounting and financial reporting mechanism for which utility revenues and expenditures are segregated into a fund with financial statements separate from all other governmental activities.

The FY 2022 WPCA Sewer and Water Budgets (which include the respective CIPs) began on July 1 (approved at the April 12 Town Council Meeting). An analysis of the fund is completed to (a) monitor that actual revenue is on target to estimated revenue and (b) that your expenditures are on track. This is an important step to ensure that the budget, both revenues and expenditures, are realized based on the annual budget. The cost of providing community wastewater services outpaces the CPI by a factor of 2.5. Rates need to be appropriately set to cover costs.

As indicated previously, both sewer and water budgets are comfortably “in the black”. The overall revenue stream has been good--increases in Rand-Whitney billing (43% ahead of budgeted revenue) as well as septic receiving (37% ahead of budgeted revenue) has offset pandemic downturns in billing receipts. During the first quarter (FY 2022), an \$80,000 overage was observed for the water fund and a \$225,000 overage was observed for the sewer account, respectively.

6.1 Accounts Review

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The WPCA-approved budgets provide transparency to rate payers about priorities and the use of the enterprise fund. An adequate 5-year capital (rolling) plan is in place. CIPs from previous FYs are ongoing (e.g., SBR diffusers, grit chamber); while CIP funds can be repurposed--they must remain in capital funding.

Blum Shapiro (now CLA CPAs--Town Accountants) began a formal review of the WPCA accounts in July and continued in September. The utility net position (i.e., fund balance) revenues/expenditures (i.e., income statement) and cash flow statements will be reviewed. Additional “testing” will be conducted. No concerns were raised.

6.2 Assets

Funds in the water and sewer accounts have been appropriately reserved for capital improvement (for infrastructure) with the development of a 5-year projection. Some bonds, grants and a proposed pandemic relief fund will be considered for current and future asset financing. Depreciation is now listed as a “cost” of doing business.

6.3 Pandemic Response

The executive orders established during the course of the COVID-19 pandemic were extended (*Declaration of a Health Emergency*). The declaration authorizes the Governor to order certain actions that will help expedite potential reimbursement funding to municipalities. Reimbursable items would include PPE.

The *Connecticut Department of Social Services* (DSS) has been awarded funds from the federal *Department of Health and Human Services* to administer the first *Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program* (LIHWAP) in Connecticut. The purpose of the Connecticut LIHWAP program is to help low-income households to pay their public drinking water and wastewater costs. The program is particularly targeted to those households with the lowest incomes or those that pay a high proportion of household income for drinking water and wastewater services. DSS encourages all public drinking water and wastewater service providers to participate in the new LIHWAP program. Information about the program was posted on the WPCA website.

6.4 Grants

Some current wastewater projects are funded by State funds including two bonds and 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. The grant money is being used for the new chlorine system, new recycling pumps, and grit removal system. Additionally, the aeration systems for SBR-1, 2, 3, 5, and 6 will be replaced. The Mayor requested an extension for the Grant (due to expire in June 2021). On June 1, the Mayor was notified that the extension has been drafted and routed for all the signatures of approval from CTDEEP.

The 2020 CTDEEP Draft *Integrated Water Quality Report* was prepared to satisfy statutory reporting requirements pursuant to the Clean Water Act (CWA) to assess designated uses

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established by the State's *Water Quality Standards* (CTWQS). Relative to the document, the treatment plant is a point source of discharge and is available for federal funding (grants and low interest loans) for wastewater infrastructure improvement projects. Additional CTDEEP grant monies were applied for via the *Connecticut Clean Water Fund Request to Place Project on Priority List* for monies for constructing a (sewer) collection system asset management plan.

The CTDEEP is preparing the Clean Water Fund Priority List for FY 2022 and FY 2023 (7/1/21 – 6/30/23) and is requesting that municipalities provide information on planning, design, or construction project(s) you intend to start between January of 2022 and the fall of 2023.

Potential water grant needs were sent to the CTDPH via their *Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Project Eligibility Application*. The revolving fund is a channel for low interest loans or grants for investments in water infrastructure. Specifically, grant monies would help pay for the replacement of the Cook Tower water storage facility (tank). A WPCA FY 2021 CIP project allowed for an engineering report to determine a course of action for the water facility and FY 2022 CIP allowed for \$1 million to be financed through the grant program. Project meetings have been held with Raul Tejada, CTDEEP *Sanitary Engineer 3* to discuss project scope and an engineering RFQ. The *DWSRF Project Rollover Application* was updated for the costing and the budget. A scope of work and cost proposal was requested from Wright-Pierce on September 24. A meeting about antennae placement was held with the Engineer, Fire Marshal, Communication Plus, and the water operators on October 8. The potential exists to keep the old tower in place for a support for the existing communication equipment.

The House on November 5th passed, Bill 228-206, a \$1.2 trillion bipartisan infrastructure bill. President Biden signed it into law on November 15. Why it matters: The core piece of Biden's signature domestic agenda includes massive investments in roads, bridges and waterways, among other "hard infrastructure" provisions for utilities. Importantly, the *Bipartisan Infrastructure Law* invests \$10 billion to help communities test for and clean up PFAS and other emerging contaminants in drinking water and wastewater, and can be used to support projects in disadvantaged communities. Examples of municipal projects have been provided in a table included in an attachment.

6.5 Energy

The Doosan *PureCell Model 400* Fuel Cell unit began producing power in June 2020 at near 100% capacity resulting in a large drop in grid power demand. The onsite generation has led to significant savings by reducing the transmission costs because most of the power used is generated onsite. The Superintendent met with energy broker from Balanced Rock Energy. The energy market prices have skyrocketed so the current WPCA agreement looks very good – saving the WPCA a large amount of money. Experts predict the fuel cell industry is expected to reach 21.7 billion dollars by 2027, growing at a rate of 24.8%.

With global demand for natural gas soaring, gas and electricity prices for this winter heating season are on the rise. After hitting 10-year lows during the pandemic, the price of natural gas has risen significantly – impacting customers everywhere. The increased cost of natural gas impacts the

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cost of electricity since natural gas is often used to generate electricity. In Connecticut, the cost of electricity changes twice a year for Eversource customers – Jan. 1 and July 1.

6.6 Reporting (*Topic 6.5 already exists; this topic is reported as 6.6 for the minutes.*)

A formal schedule of Regular Meeting 2022 should be filed with the Town Clerk at the end of January 2022 as voted on by commission. As before, agendas must be filed with the Town Clerk 24 hours in advance of meetings to hold a legal meeting and minutes are to be filed within seven (7) days of the meeting held to be in compliance of FOI regulations.

Superintendent Albertson summarized parts of his report and responded to questions from Commissioner Siragusa. He confirmed letters were sent to abutters and a survey completed for the Cross Country Clearing Project and confirmed verbal approval for its funding but said none yet from CT DPH. Commissioner Siragusa stated he thought the developer was to pay for the sewer expansion for The Meadows. Mayor McDaniel responded some of the development funds became known to the developers after their meeting with the Commission but said the projects must be shovel ready. He also responded the project would gain few users as each building at The Meadows has a separate septic.

i. Report from Mayor

Mayor McDaniel remarked his report was covered.

j. Report from Engineers

Superintendent Albertson reported a summary table with current projects was included in the Commission meeting packet. He also reported Professional Engineer Headd of Woodard & Curran had revamped the proposal for the plant distribution boxes stating the cost for the project is less and the proposal more detailed. Responding to a question by Commission Quinn, PE Headd said the old distribution boxes would be kept in place.

k. Old Business -- *None*

l. New Business

1. Election of Officers. (*This Item was amended to the Agenda as L.3*)

Motion by Commissioner Siragusa; seconded by Commissioner Quinn to nominate Commissioner Mandler as Chair and Commissioner Jinkerson as Vice-Chair for the Commission. Discussion: Commissioner Mandler spoke of his appreciation for Robert's Rules of Order and his not having attended meetings. Commissioner Siragusa stated past nominees have been voted on similarly. Commissioner Mandler declined the nomination as he was overwhelmed by time constraints, five (5) commissions, and his inability to lead a meeting. No vote was taken.

Motion by Commissioner Longton; seconded by Commissioner Quinn to nominate Commissioner Longton as Chair and Commissioner Jinkerson as Vice-Chair. Discussion: None. Roll Call vote: *In favor:* Commissioners Longton, Mandler, and Quinn. *Opposed:* Commissioner Siragusa. Votes 3-1-0. Motion carried.

2. To consider and act on approval of funding for d-box engineering report funding.

THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES to approve the Woodard & Curran November 15, 2021 *Proposal for Design Services for Removal and Replacement of the Rand and Distribution Boxes*, amount not to exceed \$384,430 (Three Hundred Eighty-Four Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Dollars) to be financed with the existing WPCA reserve monies.

Motion – Discussion -- Roll Call

SAR-No. 2021-19 THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES to approve the Woodard & Curran November 15, 2021, Proposal for Design Services for Removal and Replacement of the Rand and Distribution Boxes, amount not to exceed \$384,430 (Three Hundred Eighty-Four Thousand Four Hundred Thirty Dollars) to be financed with the existing WPCA reserve monies. Motion by Commissioner Quinn; seconded by Commissioner Siragusa. Discussion: PE Headd said Superintendent Albertson gave a good, abandoning the removal of the old distribution boxes. Commissioner Mandler asked for an explanation of the proposal. PE Headd reported on extensive concrete loss, steel damage, and damage to gate structures in addition to an explanation of the flow from Rand-Whitney that is warmer than domestic flow and can hold and create slime. The plant crew must remove the slime before it enters the plant. Flow meters will be installed to monitor downstream to SBRs and to help with future corrosion. Superintendent Albertson gave a BOD summary. It was explained there are two (2) inlets to the plant, one from Rand-Whitney and the other for the Town, but there is only one (1) tank in and out of the plant. Commissioner Siragusa objected to items in the design proposal—the time period for meetings, the design worksheet, the total number of hours, and the cost for the project. Commissioner Mandler said he spoke with Town Councilor May before the meeting and asked if there was anything the Commission should be nervous about and said he needed more data. Mayor McDaniel commented on the pictures showing the current condition of the plant and its distribution boxes and stated it was not the Commission’s job to parcel out or renegotiate the contract—it only had to approve it. He responded to Commissioner Siragusa about the responsibility of Rand-Whitney for funds nor did he know if they would pay stating the BOD has had a 37% increase and he could not get answers from Attorney Auger as he is now a judge. He said he would contact Attorney Coty to review the terms of the contract with Rand-Whitney. Mayor McDaniel added that shovel ready projects are a requirement for aid from the Build Back Better and the federal infrastructure proposal. Commissioner Mandler referenced the webinar tomorrow regarding the same. Commissioner Siragusa suggested the proposal go to RFP for other prices. Roll Call vote: *In favor* Commissioners Longton and Quinn. *Opposed*, Commissioners Mandler and Siragusa. Vote 2-2, Motion did not carry.

3. To consider and act on approval of WPCA regular meetings schedule for calendar year 2022.

THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOVES to set the 2022 regular monthly meeting dates on the first Monday of every month excluding holidays (that will be scheduled on the Thursday of that week). The scheduled meeting dates are as follows: January 3rd, February 7th, March 7th, April 4th, May 2nd, June 6th, July 7th (Thursday), August 1st, September 8th (Thursday), October 3rd, November 7th, and December 5th, 2022- to be held in the *Town Council Chambers* in the Town Hall starting at 6:00 PM.

Motion – Discussion – Roll Call

SAR-No. 2021-20 THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES to approve the 2022 regular monthly meeting dates on the first Monday of every month excluding holidays (that will be scheduled on the Thursday of that week). The scheduled meeting dates are as follows: January 3rd, February 7th, March 7th, April 4th, May 2nd, June 6th, July 7th (Thursday), August 1st, September 8th (Thursday), October 3rd, November 7th, and December 5th, 2022- to be held in the *Town Council Chambers* in the Town Hall starting at 6:00 PM. Motion by Commissioner Siragusa; seconded by Commissioner Quinn. Discussion: None. *In favor:* Commissioners Longton, Mandler, Quinn, and Siragusa. *Opposed:* None. Motion carried.

Per further discussion of Item L.2 of the Water and Sewer Commission, Commissioner Quinn spoke of his frustration and asked how do you vote if you have not been involved in the process and the topic is a carryover from something already discussed. He stated the Commission needed to take advantage of funding. Chairman Longton denied Commissioner Siragusa's request for an RFQ for the design proposal. Commissioner Mandler stated he has been talking with Town Counselor May about the proposal and the reference to the vote as a slap in the face. Chairman Longton stated this item would be on next month's agenda.

m. Reports/Referral from Planning & Zoning

Mayor McDaniel reported Town Planner Burdick had no report for the Commission.

II. Water Commission

a. Report from Engineers

Superintendent Albertson reported he received verbal approval from the State concerning replacement and financing for the Cook Water Tower. Commissioner Siragusa asked whether another project could be covered for State financing. Superintendent Albertson said he would look into it once he receives formal approval. Commissioner Siragusa also inquired about the Groton

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water rate increase discussed last month. Mayor McDaniel reported the increase is for waste water and connections not drinking water.

b. Old Business – *None*

c. New Business -- *None*

d. Remarks from the Public

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

e. Remarks from Commission Members

Superintendent Albertson reported on a staff person who passed a proficiency test on the first try for the third year in a row. He also commented on the great staff at the plant. Commissioner Mayor McDaniel wished everyone happy holidays.

f. Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Siragusa; seconded by Commissioner Quinn to adjourn the meeting at 6:48 p.m. Discussion: None. Voice vote: 4-0, 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.**