

Town of Montville Water and Sewer Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 4, 2018 – 6:00 p.m.
Town Council Chambers – Montville Town Hall

1. Water and Sewer Commission

a. Call to Order

Chairman Murphy 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, Anthony Siragusa, Robert Thorn and Chairman Gary Murphy. Also present was Administrator Brian Lynch. Absent were Superintendent Michael Didato, Mayor Ronald McDaniel, and Town Council Liaison Jeff Rogers. A quorum was present.

d. Alterations to the Agenda -- *None*

e. To consider an act on a motion to approve the Regular Minutes of May 7, 2018.

Motion by Commissioner Thorn, seconded by Town Councilor Siragusa to approve Regular Minutes of May 7, 2018. Discussion: Voice vote, 4-0; all in favor. Motion carried.

f. Communications pertaining specifically to matters which concern the Commission

Administrator Lynch referenced the four (4) quotes regarding sewer connection fees from surrounding towns as requested by Town Councilor Rogers.

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

Chairman Murphy asked three times for remarks. There were none.

h. Commission Attorney on Matters Referred -- *None*

i. Report from Administration Division

Administrator Lynch submitted an Administrator's Report as of May 2018 that was included in the packet as follows:

1. The bid opening for the new Disinfection System Upgrade was held on June 1st. There were three bids for the project. The low bidder was Delray out of Ellington, Connecticut. Their bid came in at \$920,916. The engineers are reviewing the bids to be sure everything was followed in the bid package. We should be able to award the contract next week.

2. We had our engineer come in and go over the vault project on Jerome Road. They will be putting together a bid package. The cost for the engineering will be \$19,625. As soon as it is ready, we will put a legal notice in the newspaper.
3. Ben Hayes of the Montville School system will be bringing his High School class down to the treatment plant on June 4th for a tour around 12:45 p.m.
4. I spoke to the Chair of the Finance Committee last week regarding payment to the Town for financial services they currently provide. After some discussion and going over the tasks that they offer, it was agreed upon to provide a stipend of \$5,000.

Administrator Lynch said the cost for Item 1 of his report will come through Rand Whitney. As to Item 3 of his report, the tour was delayed due to rain. Commissioner Thorn asked about the money owed to the Town, referencing Item 4 of the report. Administrator Lynch responded that the cost was associated with payroll and other accounting projects.

j. Report from Operations Division

Superintendent Didato submitted an operating report as to May 2018 that was included in the packet as follows:

1. With the available data to date, the Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) continues to be in full compliance of its NPDES permit.
2. There were no treatment plant odor complaints last month.
3. Sludge thickness average about 4%.
4. We had an average of 85 lbs/day of nitrogen in our discharge last month. We are keeping an average well below the 118 average limit.
5. Our Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system has afforded us the ability to closely examine the operation and trends of major equipment and sub systems. This includes our pumping activities to the Cook Drive potable water tank. Chris Clark and I have been working together on a more efficient way to operate the pumps that fill the Cook Drive potable water tank. Having the data from SCADA and looking deep into pump curves helps us determine when and how much water to pump. This is being done in an effort to reduce demand for electricity. This analysis has given us the ability to understand how many gallons per minute (gpm) one pump can pump at respective tank elevations. With this information, Chris can modify when and how much water he takes from the Cook

Drive tank without our second big pump coming on. This will result in a significant reduction of electrical demand, thanks to the eagerness of Chris and the MTUA! The second component of our electric bill is the actual electrical consumption. This is being addressed by dropping the working levels in the Cook tank. One cannot merely drop levels without many important considerations. Storage and firefighting flows need to be thoroughly evaluated. Collectively, Chris and I have visited downstream users with sprinkler systems collecting valuable design information. We have worked with Montville's Fire Marshal, Ray Occhialini, carefully addressing his concerns as well. My intent is to have Wright-Pierce perform hydraulic modeling using all of our extensive field information, reports, and historical data to generate a technical memorandum for us. Once they check it out, we will employ the new on and off pump settings for the tank. After which, we collect field recordings and flows to verify everything is as it is believed to be. **SUMMARY:** Reduction of electrical demand and electrical use, improved water quality with reduced wear and tear of pumps and pipes. I will provide an update on the savings once new changes go into effect. **Update:** We have already seen a **reduction of \$1,500** in last month's electrical bill. The reduction will be greater as we continue to demonstrate our lower demand.

Administrator Lynch reported a couple of issues at the Avery Point station but said there are no other major problems.

- k. Report from the Mayor – *No report*
- l. Report from special or sub-committees -- *None*
- m. Report from Engineers -- *None*
- n. Old Business
 1. Discussion on reducing the cost of connection to the public sewer system.

Administrator stated that a public hearing must be held in order to reduce or increase the connection fee.

- o. New Business

To consider and act on a motion to set a public hearing date of August 6, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of reducing the sewer connection fees to the public sewer system.

Motion by Commissioner Thorn; seconded by Commissioner Siragusa to set a public hearing date of August 6, 2018, at 5:30 p.m. for the purpose of reducing the sewer connection fees to the public sewer system. Discussion: Commissioner Siragusa asked if the intent is to lower the fee from \$6,250 to \$3,000. Administrator Lynch stated that a homeowner will know exactly what they

being charged for the connection fee by the WPCA and then hire a contractor to do the work. Voice Vote, 4-0, all in favor. Motion approved and meeting adjourned.

p. Reports/referrals from Planning & Zoning -- *None*

q. Payment of bills. -- *None*

II. Water Commission

a. Report from Sub-Committees—*None*

b. Report from Engineers – *None*

c. Old Business – *None*

d. New Business – *None*

e. Payment of bills – *None*

f. Remarks from the Public

Chairman Murphy asked three times for remarks. There were none.

g. Remarks from Commission Members

Chairman Murphy discussed a concern regarding accounting services bandied about via email and resolution of the same.

h. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Siragusa, seconded by Commissioner Thorn to adjourn the meeting at 6:18 p.m. Discussion, none. Voice Vote, 4-0, all in favor. Motion approved and meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Gloria J. Gathers
Recording Secretary, Town of Montville

AN AUDIO RECORD OF THE MEETING IS AVAILABLE ON THE TOWN WEBSITE.