# Regular Meeting Minutes Town of Montville Water and Sewer Commission May 2, 2016

Conference Room – Treatment Plant – 6:00 p.m.

#### 1. Water and Sewer Commission

#### a. Call to Order

WPCA Chairman May 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 Deborah Schober, Gary Murphy, Anthony Siragusa, Robert Thorn, and WPCA Chairman/Town Council Liaison Timothy May. Also present were Administrator Brian Lynch, Superintendent Michael Didato, and Mayor Ronald McDaniel. A quorum was present.

- **d.** <u>Alterations to the Agenda</u> None
- e. To consider an act on a motion to approve the Public Hearing minutes of April 4, 2016, and to approve the Regular minutes of April 4, 2016

Motion by Commissioner Siragusa, seconded by Commissioner Murphy. Discussion: It was noted that Public Hearing began at 5:30 p.m., not 5:50 p.m. Those minutes will be amended accordingly. Voice vote, 5-0; all in favor. Motion carried.

f. Communications pertaining specifically to matters which concern the Commission

Administrator Lynch commented on the April 25, 2016, from the State of Connecticut Department of Health regarding a sampling plan for drinking water. He also reported on a letter received from Mr. Manfredi. Commissioner Siragusa will speak Mr. Manfredi about his concern.

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

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

- **h.** <u>Commission Attorney on Matters Referred</u> -- None
- i. Report from Administration Division

Administrator Lynch submitted an activity report for April 2016 that was included in the packet as follows:

1. We reached a tentative agreement with our former water operator, with regards to his termination. He has been offered four weeks of severance pay. He had twenty-one days to accept or reject the offer. At the time of writing my report, Mr. Bassetti had yet not yet made a decision. If an agreement is reached, I will the Commission know at our meeting.

- 2. I received another letter from Robert Manfredi a couple of weeks ago. He still doesn't understand how the WPCA finances work. He believes that our current fund balance should be turned over to the Town, and used to lower Town taxes. He also feels that perhaps it's time for the Town Council to re-examine the current makeup of the Commission. He brings into question the management skills of the current member of the Water and Sewer Commission.
- 3. We finally have movement on the anaerobic project. The DEEP contact person we were having problems with has been removed. George Hicks, has now been assigned to oversee the project and the distribution of money associated with the digester. George has already started reviewing the engineering costs. Jon Himlan, our Project Manager from Woodward & Curran, is working with the Mayor on a letter for an extension so we don't lose out on the grant.
- 4. Mike and I are working on distributing some of the water operator's duties while we train a new water operator. My office will take over the meter reading duties, for the present time. Chris Clark has stepped in to help with the sampling and recording responsibilities.
- 5. I will be advertising for temporary help this year. In the past, we have been able to get by with our current staff. Since we are down one more person and are training one of our sewer operators on water duties, having the summer help maintain the pump stations will be very beneficial.
- 6. Jensen's will be connecting the last six properties of their Laurel Heights project.
- 7. I will be looking into moving the current temporary position back to full time. In the past, we were able to work with part-time help. My office will be picking up some of the administrative duties from the Water Department and I want someone who can step in if either Maureen or I are out for an extended period.

Administrator Lynch stated that with the temporary help on board painting will get done. He added that the part-time position that will transition back to full-time will be initially posted in-house. Administrator Lynch said that there would be sufficient coverage in the office for accessibility to the public. He will also attend the Finance meeting regarding the budget.

#### **j.** Report from Operations Division

Superintendent Didato submitted an operating report for April 2016 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 averaged about 4.2%.
- 4. We had an average of 60 lbs/day of nitrogen in our discharge last month.
- 5. We replaced a large component in our septage building. The component is effectively a large automatic screening device to remove rocks, rags, sticks, and rags.

- 6. We started up our chlorination system in April. This is a seasonal requirement in our NPDES Permit. As our engineers "Wright-Pierce" are working on designing and overhauling this antiquated system and the cost associated with it.
- 7. As you may or may not know, regulators are making it more difficult for incinerators to stay in compliance when it comes to wastewater sludge incineration. What was once a matter of fact disposal for sludge may turn into a statewide problem for treatment plants. To that end, I have started dialogue with our engineers "Wright-Pierce) about options, including dewatering sludge to make cake from our liquefied sludge. All is in an effort to reduce transportation cost that could be incurred as a result of increasing travel time to a potential new location.
- 8. I have spent a large amount of time working on potable water issues this month. Meetings, discussions, and coordination of services has required a high percentage of my time. As Brian indicated in his report, we no longer have the services of a full time water operator and the water system continues to operate on my CT Water Distribution license. As a result, it has been imperative for me to follow up on compliance issues for the state mandated cross connection program, TTHM problems that have surfaced, and even the routine things such as meter reading, and booster station inspections. The State has also started a new mandated program for water systems this month. It is called the new total coliform rule. It adds many new sample locations and additional testing of potable water.

Superintendent Didato spoke in more detail as to wastewater sludge incineration, difficulties with regulators, and the benefit of the anaerobic digester.

- **k.** Report from the Mayor -- None
- **l.** Report from special or sub-committees -- None
- **m.** <u>Report from Engineers</u> -- None
- **n.** <u>New Business</u> -- None
- o. <u>Old Business</u> -- None
- **p.** Reports/referrals from Planning & Zoning

Commissioner Siragusa reported on the clearing of a field near Chucky's on Route 32 that may be available for potential sale. Commissioners Thorn and Murphy commented on the recreational center on Route 85.

# **q.** Payment of bills

1. THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES to pay bills in the amount of Six Hundred Forty-Three Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$643.50), per the attached Schedule B. Motion – Discussion – Roll Call

**SAR NO. 2016-74 THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES** to pay bills in the amount of ix Hundred Forty-Three Dollars and Fifty Cents (\$643.50), per the attached Schedule B. Motion made by Commissioner Siragusa; seconded by Commissioner Thorn. Discussion, none. Roll Call vote, all in favor, Commissioners May, Murphy, Schober, Siragusa, and Commissioner Thorn, 5-0. Motion approved.

#### **II.** Water Commission

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## **a.** Report from Sub-Committees – None

## **b.** Report from Engineers

Administrator Lynch reported call received about water and Jensen properties as well as a request made to the engineers to draft a proposal/modeling for the same. Superintendent Didato discussed the issues regarding TPHM sampling and Route 163 and a protocol acceptable by DPH concerning extending water to Jenson's. Responding to Commissioner May regarding development of a water plan, Administrator Lynch replied that revised water plan has been submitted to the State. He also spoke about how pleased he was with the new engineering firm. Meter readings and meter replacements were also discussed.

- **c.** Old Business None
- **d.** New Business -- None
- **e.** Payment of bills -- None
- **f.** Remarks from the Public -- None
- **g.** Remarks from Commission members -- None
- h. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Siragusa; seconded by Commissioner Thorn to adjourn the meeting at 6:44 p.m.; discussion, none; voice vote, 5-0, all in favor. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted by,

Gloria J. Gathers Recording Secretary, Town of Montville

Suisman, Shapiro, Wool, Brennan et al

Schedule B \$643.50