

Town of Montville Water & Sewer Commission
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
August 5, 2024-- 6:00 PM
Town Council Chambers – Town Hall

Comments will only be accepted at times designated for public comment by the Chair of the meeting. The Montville WPCA rules of procedure, decorum, timeliness and suitability shall be followed and enforced.

For all publicly broadcasted meetings, public comment on agenda items or topics in accordance with the Town charter may be submitted in writing in advance.

Written comments must be emailed to the Town Clerk's Office at townclerk@montville-ct.org at least 1 working day in advance (if the meeting is on a Monday the questions must be submitted by close of business the previous Friday).

Written comments may not be read in their entirety, but rather similar messages may be aggregated or paraphrased for submission to the Commission.

A three-minute limit is applicable to public comments within the meeting.

1. Water and Sewer Commission

a. Call to Order

Chairperson Longton called the regular meeting of the Water and Sewer Commission to order at 6:01 p.m.

b. Pledge of Allegiance

All stood and pledged the flag.

c. Roll Call

Present were Chairperson Chuck Longton, Vice-Chair/Town Counselor Kevin Lathrop Commissioners Richard Gladue (6:04 p.m.) and Frank Miceli.

Also in attendance were Superintendent Derek Albertson, Administrator Ronald McDaniel and Mayor Leonard Bunnell (6:05 p.m.).

d. Alterations to the Agenda -- *None*

e. Motion to approve the Discussion Minutes of June 13, 2024 Special Meeting (June/July Regular Meetings Canceled)

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Motion by Commissioner Lathrop; seconded by Commissioner Miceli to approve the Discussion Minutes of June 13, 2023 Special Meeting Minutes. Discussion: Administrator McDaniel noted for the record that the meeting was a special meeting, not only for discussion purposes. **Amended Motion:** To Approve the Minutes of the June 13, 2024 Special Meeting. Discussion: none. Voice vote: 3-0-0. **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. There were none.

h. Report from Operations
Superintendent Albertson submitted an Operations Report for July 2024, as follows:

1.0 Compliance/Process

1.1 Water Pollution Control Facility

No local or formal complaints were received regarding the collection system or the Montville Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF).

Average daily influent flow to the WPCF dampened (due to the lack of severe weather events) and was approximately 2.1 million gallons per day (mgd) with a total treatment volume of 64 million gallons (mg) for the month.

Each day, approximately 60% of the treated effluent was recycled (sold) to Rand-Whitney Container Board (RWCB). RWCB reported to regulatory bodies that they had exceeded BOD₅ (permit effluent) concentrations on several occasions in June and July. While the concentrations are concerning, the WPCF still maintained a high removal efficiency for the constituent. Typically, the RWCB discharges represent one-third of the daily WPCF influent.

Plant treatment continued to improve dramatically with permit parameters met. Process control within each unit (preliminary and secondary treatment) functioned well resulting in high removal efficiencies (> 95%) for BOD₅ and TSS. Average Total Nitrogen (TN) loading was discharged in the treated effluent below the permit (loading) level with removal efficiency over 80%.

Thickened waste activated sludge (WAS) was calculated to have an approximately 5.5% total solid (TS) which is considered good.

1.2 Water Supply

The Montville Water Supply (WS) met required state and federal standards.

2.0 Staff

2.1 Health and Safety

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No injuries were reported by the WPCA staff. WPCA staff were notified of the Town’s Citizen Alert Notification System (Everbridge) registration/participation.

KP is the latest COVID-19 subvariant to be considered a highly contagious strain, which emerged shortly after the "FLiRT" variants and is causing an increasing proportion of infections. COVID infections are on the rise. In fact, levels of the virus have surged to “very high” or “high” in more than half of states nationwide, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Three of those states — New Hampshire, Maine, and Connecticut — are in New England. Data from four years of COVID-19 tests, hospitalizations and deaths show that COVID-19 has winter peaks — most recently in late December 2023 and early January 2024. Hospital data has also shown smaller summer peaks — most recently in July and August of 2023. There is no distinct COVID-19 season like there is for influenza (flu) and respiratory syncytial virus (RSV). While flu and RSV have generally defined fall/winter seasonality and circulate at low levels in most parts of the United States in the summer, COVID-19 activity occurs at other times of the year.

NOAA National Weather Service forecasters at the *Climate Prediction Center* predict above-normal hurricane activity in the Atlantic basin this year. June was the warmest on record. In early July, Hurricane Beryl intensified into a historic Category 5 storm (earliest storm to reach this level).

2.2 Personnel

The part-time summer workers have settled in to their daily routines and have provided needed support to CCTV, line cleaning as well as laboratory activities. Appropriate training has been provided. The recently hired Treatment Plant Operator (Mark O’Brien) began work on July 8 following his Massachusetts to Connecticut certification reciprocity to CTDEEP Operator I classification.

National Disability Independence Day was celebrated on July 26. As such, the handicapped parking space was moved adjacent to the access ramp to provide a better (and safer) access point for those requiring wheel chairs or walkers.

Connecticut Rural Water & Wastewater Association (CTRWWA) is conducting an important research study to understand the needs and challenges of the rural water and wastewater workforce. The Superintendent completed survey information and interviews to assist.

2.3 Training

Staff continued to receive training to (state or professional organization sponsored) meet CTDEEP and CTDPH requirements for (wastewater/water certification) training credits.

The new employee (Mark O’Brien) began CDL training (for eventual certification) at 160 CDL Training (Waterford, CT). In-house GIS training was conducted. GIS capabilities document work completed within the collection system, enhance workflows and support better decision-making (i.e. CIP). The month had several days above 90 deg F. Appropriate “tailgate” safety discussions addressed heat stress and preventative measures.

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The USEPA DMR-QA Study 44 was initiated by the WPCA laboratory in July. Confirmatory testing includes Solids Concentration (for MLSS and TSS), Settleable Solids, BOD, Turbidity and Chlorine (residual). The CTDEEP DMR-QA Coordinator (Susan Unger, Environmental Analyst 2, Water Planning and Management Division) has been notified of the Montville WPCA participation.

3.0 Equipment

3.1 WPCF/Collection System

A WPCF project summary table is included in the submittal.

Of note, a review of the past six years of CIP work specific to SCADA was made to update the goal of 100% alarm communication. The existing SCADA Assessment document (and block diagram) is being updated to reflect all the CIP work completed over the last five years.

HACH Aquatic Infomatics were met in June and July to discuss improving the ability to pull SCADA (and other) datasets through a centralized solution (HACH WIMS Rio, cloud-based solution data logging) to prepare for extreme weather, stakeholder meetings, security attacks, operating permits, or even surprise audits.

The July 19 (widespread) service outages impacting Windows machines with CrowdStrike software did not affect the WPCA equipment.

A good facility appearance assures our ratepayers that we are taking care of the infrastructure. Considerable effort is made to mow, trim and paint to maintain a good look of all parts of the plant and collection system. All work is recorded in the GIS platform as inspection attribute reports. The Superintendent has incorporated the GIS work into the utility's CIP process and procedures. The confidence of having a spatial reference for both the centralized portion of treatment (WPCF) as well as the conveyance system enhances project identification and tracking.

The high likelihood of an ISO-NE Coincident Peak Event taking place was considered high in July with high grid demand exceeding 23,000 MW. That is an indication that the 2024 system peak could be established. The notification is to help you prepare and implement necessary energy curtailment activities for your facilities. 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). Fuel cell/line (street) power is examined for sudden spikes which also are helpful in identifying equipment failure. Several lightning strikes in late June caused communication problems (i.e. internet disconnection). The fuel cell was down during the last part of June and early part of July. Full power 400 kW was established on July 2.

4.0 Projects

A summary of existing projects is provided in an attached project summary table. Additionally, the FY 2024 and FY 2025 CIP lists are provided.

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The CTDOT milling and resurfacing project was begun (Route 32) on June 17. The milling was completed June 17 to 21. The resurfacing was completed June 27 through July 3.

In an effort to lower costs associated with waste solids handling, thickening, transport and disposal, one SBR was converted to an aerobic digester. The digester allows for the waste solids (organisms) to feed on one another thus reducing total volumes.

The Superintendent met with the economic development board on July 14 to discuss existing and future sewer and water capacities.

4.1 WPCF/Collection System/Water Supply

An innovative project was initiated by Operator III (Marcel Antonini) in which one of the SBRs is converted to an aerobic digester. In the past, this conversion had showed a drop of more than 40% in waste sludge hauling costs.

Researchers discovered a file containing 10 billion unique passwords posted on July 4, 2024 on a popular hacking website. This compilation of passwords substantially increases the risk for affected individuals to become victims of identity theft or a cyberattack. As indicated, the WPCA will continue to search for improved ways to protect the utility.

Routine maintenance was performed at WPCF and collections system.

The d-box repair (engineering) project has received CTDEEP approval for grant fund use. Bidding advertisement(s) were made in July. A contractor will be used to apply a structural coating to the existing subterranean (concrete) tanks to prevent further degradation by hydrogen sulfide.

The pipe support bridge above the Stony Brook was identified as failing. The Superintendent had worked with the WPCA Engineer (Wright-Pierce) to remedy the sewer/water main corrosion related to (road salt) exposure. The 50-foot Pipe Bridge (for the 16-inch (water) and 21-inch (sewer) pipes) is structurally compromised. New England Infrastructure, Inc. was found to be low bidder and will begin work with completion expected by end of September. The project has been coordinated with the CTDOT paving operations proposed for Route 32. A new project schedule has been reviewed.

CCTV (Closed-Circuit Television) sewer inspections (of the 62 miles gravity sewers) were made in the priority areas to define Inflow and Infiltration (storm water and groundwater intrusion). The Manor is a target area due to its potential for I and I problems. Over 10,000 feet of pipe camera/cleaning was completed so far. Targeted inspections of some of the 1,650 manholes in the collection system were made. Eighty-seven manholes were directly inspected. Several manholes/sewer pipes were found to have I and I contribution and will be remedied via contracted vendor in the future. Three may require remediation. Additionally, The Heights was considered for investigation. Fifty-one manholes were completed with 5,000 feet of pipe camera/cleaning was completed.

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SCADA improvements for D’Amato I PS and Partridge Hollow (FY 2023 CIP) were completed in July.

As previously indicated, a replacement project is proposed for Cook Water Tower. The glass fused to steel construction is state of the art and represents a low maintenance option to conventional steel tanks. Additionally, the mixing equipment will reduce the amount of TTHMs in the stored water as well thermal stratification issues. A construction update meeting was held in July. Staff inspections of work were made throughout the month.

4.2 Regulatory Oversight

The Montville WPCF is required to meet state and federal standards for effluent discharged to the Thames River (Horton Cove). The WPCF adheres to the federal standards in the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and state (general) permit standards related to nitrogen discharges in the effluent and stormwater discharges to surface water bodies. Additionally, state and federal mandates (CMOM, Capacity, Management, Operation and Maintenance) exist for care of the sewer collection system.

Required (monthly, quarterly or annual) discharge reporting is signed (certified) by the state-licensed CTDEEP Operator IV (Superintendent) in responsible charge of the designated Class IV WPCF facility. The certification required for the collection system is from a professional organization (NEWEA, *New England Water Environment Association*). The Superintendent has the highest certification required (Class IV).

No regulatory oversight or action is ongoing for the WPCA. No existing *Consent Decrees* or *Consent Orders* currently exist. No formal reporting was required other than the typical monthly permit submittals. No complaints have been received from the appropriate regulatory bodies.

The existing federal WPCF (NPDES) effluent permit is expiring this year (October 31, 2024). The 5-year permit renewal package was submitted to the CTDEEP before April 30 as stipulated by the USEPA. Additional effluent sample analysis was completed as part of the renewal package. A review of the analytical results did not indicate concerns. The CTDEEP performed a preliminary review of the application for the permit renewal and found it to be sufficient.

Currently, there are no United States federal level regulations specifically for water reuse, including non-potable or indirect/direct potable reuse. Non-potable reuse regulations have historically been developed and implemented at the state and local level for decades.

The Federal *Lead and Copper Rule Revisions* (LCRR) requires all community and non-transient non-community public water systems (PWS) to conduct materials inventory of the distribution system including water lines to all service connections supplied water by the PWS. This materials inventory must be completed and submitted to the Connecticut Department of Public Health (CTDPH) by October 16, 2024. The Montville WS is currently compliant with the directive, but is working to improve the understanding of all materials used within the distribution system.

5.0 Development

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Several inquiries for potential development projects have been presented to the WPCA for review/comment.

6.0 Financial

The WPCA operates with an *Enterprise Fund* which is operated like a private sector business account except it contains a goal target of zero-balance (year) ending. In other words, it is understood that a utility is a customer service business.

The FY 2024 WPCA Sewer and Water Budgets began on July 1, 2023 and ended on June 30, 2024. The FY 2025 WPCA Sewer and Water Budget began on July 1, 2024.

The Town of Montville Financial Statements (FY Ended 2023) showed a static “net position” for the utility which is good. Some unexpected costs were encountered during this time, including the Avery II PS force main break and the first light iron fire.

A septic receiving (cost) survey was completed by the Administrator. By increasing all categories by 25% the WPCA would generate estimated \$6,350 additional revenue per month based on this year's average to date. If we begin in January it should yield \$38,100 for this fiscal year and \$76,200 next year.

A Montville WS rate increase is necessary. The WPCA authorized rate study will consider the current reserve funds and the typical revenue received as compared to the costs increases associated with several GU rate increases, inflation, and new water tower (as well as the unaccounted-for water). The study will likely indicate a need to include an increase in the quarterly rate along with a reduction of minimum water allotted. Commercial accounts will also be adjusted accordingly. Notification will be made on the WPCA website for public hearing. A formal notification for approval will be made to the Town Council. The last time the WS rates were increased was via *Resolution 2014-50* (July 1, 2014).

6.1 Accounts Review

Asset management is the process for maintaining a desired level of customer service at the appropriate cost and lowering asset risk.

6.2 Assets

The WPCA will enhance its understanding of the WPCF and Water Supply assets with the permanent/inspection attributes positioned on the water and sewer GIS platforms. ArcGIS is the system of record for geospatial information and assets. The ArcGIS platform is in a unique position: It is both a system of record (permanent and inspection attributes) and a system of engagement for the operator/mechanics. They use it to collect, manage, and compile geospatial information in maps, which represent reality in a lucid way and allow for better analysis and more sound decision making.

As previously noted, the cost of depreciation is provided in utility spread sheets, but it is not an “out-of-pocket” expense. This data is an important portion of the four part approach to asset

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management: planning, financial foresight, capital visibility, and data collection/review. Old assets can be sold on third party websites (i.e. Municibid) leading to revenues.

An old emergency generator (Avery IPS) was sold via a state bid site in July.

6.3 Grants/Funding

Per existing contract, the WPCA is responsible for the upkeep of the RWCB discharge and recycle water lines. As indicated in previous meetings, an ongoing (approximately \$3 million) replacement/repair project is ongoing along Depot Road, Route 32 and Maple Avenue. The Montville WPCA is financing the project, but will be repaid at a rate of \$200,000 per year.

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 influent d-boxes.

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). Reimbursements for WPCA expenditures have been received on a timely basis. The repayment is scheduled for a 20-year amortization with a 2% rate.

A loan balance 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 for extending the water utility into the Town was \$2,642,792.

Connecticut's Community Investment Fund 2030 (CIF) will foster economic development in historically underserved communities across Connecticut. CIF will provide a total of up to \$875 million to eligible municipalities as well as not-for-profit organizations and community development corporations that operate within them. Grants are available for capital improvement projects, small business capital programs, and planning for capital projects.

6.4 Energy

Generally, a decrease in plant energy demand has been observed associated with the (more controlled) lower dissolved oxygen (DO) settings (as compared to last year at this time) in the process tanks due to the new fine-bubble diffusers as well as the new (more efficient) turbo blowers. In, the Administrator/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.

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. Typically, the Pure Cell (400 kW) unit is the best performing unit of its kind in Connecticut and provides over 90% of the energy required by the WPCF; thus, 90% of the electrical energy does not have the higher transmission charge. July showed some lower production of the fuel cell due to equipment failures. The recent contract with the energy broker (Balanced Rock Energy) defines the new electrical costs with an approximate 35% increase (rising from \$0.06114 to \$0.09136 per kWh). An increase to the Public Benefits portion of Eversource bill (for state-mandated and approved energy programs, policies and initiatives) took effect this month.

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. The Hunters Mountain #1 project's Petition and Siting Council documents are in preparation, and almost complete. MLG is still waiting to hear back from Eversource on the *Interconnection Application* (which is undergoing a transmission study). The developer (TRITEC) estimates *Permission to Operate* (PTO) will be achieved in Q4 2025.

Superintendent Albertson summarized his monthly report as follows: July was a good month with efficiencies removal for the three (3) primary contaminants that are monitored--99% for BOD, 95% for total suspended solids and 80+% for nitrogen—all very good. In conjunction with Administrator McDaniel, calculations were done today regarding solids handling. Over 6% of waste is from sludge thickening—the best in his six (6) years with the plant in addition to 3.7 trucks per day—and a 15% sludge volume drop in July. There was also discussion with the Administrator about the fuel cell, the source of 75% of the energy at the plant although there were recent problems with the fuel cell due to structural issues. Though normally at 90%, the fuel cell was lower by 20% compared to last year. The record levels of efficiencies removal are attributed to the record temperature levels and contaminants are active in warm weather, i.e. bugs like warm weather. The aerobic digester has been online for 30 days and hauling of 2.37 trucks per day

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equates to tens of thousands of savings for the plant per day. With cooler temperatures there will be less activity and kudos were given to the operators for the attention paid to this process.

i. Report from Administration

Administrator McDaniel reported on the retirement of Bob Fish (with big shoes to fill) at the beginning of June and the hiring of Operator Marc Antonini who is in training and is progressing well. The opening for a new mechanic is in the hands of HR. Computers issues occurred at the plant as the result of a lightning strike that knocked out services for 4-5 days that required the assistance of the Town IT department, Mercury Computers, and Woodard and Curran and stalled billing collection. Once the finances are complete, funds to holistically readjust IT will be reviewed. With receipt of the permit for the Stoney Brook project, work will begin on Wednesday and is scheduled to be completed by the end of September. All manhole covers were assessed and some were ordered and will be contracted for completion. The d-box project bid opening is Wednesday, August 8th; three (3) bidders will be at the conference. New parts were ordered for septage receiving station and are due the week of Thanksgiving. Septage rates that average over \$80 will be discussed at another Commission meeting. Long hauls for septage are fewer with a \$25 increase annually; a reduction from \$75 to \$60 would mean a savings of \$76,000 annually.

j. Report from Mayor

Mayor Bunnell reported that CBA Union negotiations are ongoing and noted that he is proud at what is going on and the successful operation of the Plant. Administrator McDaniel commented on the upcoming ratification of the contract. Per a question by Commissioner Lathrop regarding Rand-Whitney, Administrator McDaniel responded that the work on Maple Avenue is necessary and will get done.

k. Report from Engineers

Superintendent Albertson reported on having met with the engineers concerning increasing the water rates but nothing has been formalized pending the closing of FY2024 to bring financial information current. Everidge is now activated for all employees at the Plant and brought to his attention by Fire Marshal Barnes.

l. Old Business

Administrator McDaniel gave an update on the Rand-Whitney project noting that all pipe is in the ground and connections to the effluent line via a bypass will be done on Wednesday or Thursday. During the Rand-Whitney shutdown, August 19- August 25, tie-ins to the other two (2) lines will occur, removal of the purple hydrants and will revert back to Public Works for any road maintenance. All work should be completed by Labor Day. Per a question by Commissioner Gladue, the Administrator described the extent of the existing old piping that remains and indicated there was no knowledge the lining of those pipes had been compromised. Once the as-builts are received that can be determined. Potential discussion about remaining old pipes can be discussed at a later time per Chairman Longton; Administrator McDaniel noted that there is not much old pipe left and it is a matter of getting funds and excavating etc.

m. New Business -- *None*

n. Report/Referrals from Planning & Zoning -- None

II. Water Commission

a. Report from Operations

Superintendent Albertson that all is well so far and there have been no DPH complaints. A meeting is scheduled with Groton Utilities (“GU”) on Wednesday concerning the replacement of a valve. There has been no indication of discolored water, loss of pressure, and no significant fires. The meeting will include GU, MUTA, and the Town. The accounted water percentage is low and with the help of the Administrator it is better as the percentage is becoming more accurate. The Administrator is also involved all the billing for water usage.

b. Report from Administration

Administrator McDaniel reported on the Cook Water Tower per a question by Commissioner Gladue. Concerns were raised by the Plant due to issues in Texas and Chicago concerning the build. The delays may require obtaining temporary financing and discussion with DPH. The Administrator noted problems with the contractor although delivery is on schedule for the third week in August and completion of the project by the end of September. Approval was obtained for an antenna a no significant cost in addition to an easement with Eversource and discussion as to who will pay for the build. The Commission discussed the same in addition to possible damage to the tank by the antenna above it, the moving of Town communication, better cell quality—all reasons for Administrator McDaniel having attended the meeting with the Fire Marshal. It was also noted that the longest feed is with Groton for the tower.

c. Report from Engineers

Superintendent Albertson referenced the Cook Water Tower and involvement with a study to increase the water rate as the last increase was in 2014. Part of the discussion is that there are not many Town water connections that will be reviewed at year’s end. Discussed was a 6% - 7% increase in rates and proprietary enterprise thus trying to raise the water rate so the ratepayer will understand paying the cost for utilities in addition to the 20-year debt for the water tower. Administrator McDaniel responded to Commissioner Miceli about what will occur with a water rate increase. He reported that GU water rates has gone up six (6) times but the Town rate has not and with a 20-year amortization of the water tower the aim is to break even with operating costs and having reserves. The WPCA water consultant who has experience of 28 years in the field is reviewing and creating a working model; any rate increase would require a public hearing where discussion would include the irresponsibility of carrying a low water rate. Currently, the average ratepayer pays \$45 per quarter; there are 500 customers in Town and its possible to increase commercial versus residential rates. All water is metered and data will be provided to the Commission. As to the national water rate average, the biggest comparison is with SCWA.

d. Old Business -- None

e. New Business

Chairperson Longton reported as the Town representative for SCWA that met on July 18. He is getting his feet wet and reported on coordination with Montville Manor and Public Works and discussion with Mayor Bunnell concerning maps for the service area. SCWA meets quarterly and the Chairperson asked that discussion of the same be added again to the agenda (Item f) as done previously. Superintendent Albertson reported on 10,000 feet of camera work done at the Manor as part of an inspection where two (2) leaks were found and SCWA was notified. In Oakdale Heights, there were two (2) water breaks that were responded to quickly. Commissioner Lathrop was appreciative of the Chairperson's involvement; Chairperson Longton thanked the Commissioner and Administrator McDaniel noted that SCWA does need another member.

III. Remarks

a. Remarks from the Public with a three-minute time limit

Chairperson asked three (3) times for remarks. There were none.

b. Remarks from Commission Members

Commissioner Gladue remarked that it sounds as though operation at the Plant is going well, new employees are getting properly trained, and Mayor Bunnell is doing well with it. Commissioner Miceli inquired whether there are three (3) areas with old pipe on Maple Avenue that are not connected to the Plant; Administrator McDaniel clarified that those pipes are lined, are connected to the Plant, but are not brand new noting the further away from the Plant the better the effluent. As well, the Public Works Department does plan to repave the section from the Route 395 bridge to Route 32 that will cover a portion of pipes that are not new. Commissioner Lathrop remarked that the Plant is running well and acknowledged that Superintendent Albertson is doing a good job. He also expressed kudos for having two (2) chiefs who are working well together.

c. Adjournment

Motion by Commissioner Lathrop; seconded by Commissioner Miceli to adjourn the meeting at 6:53 p.m. Discussion: none. Voice vote: 4-0-0. **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.**