

**Town of Montville Water & Sewer Commission**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**May 5, 2025-- 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 was Chairperson Chuck Longton, Vice-Chair/Town Counselor Kevin Lathrop and Commissioner Deane Terry. Commissioners Richard Gladue and Frank Miceli were absent. A quorum was present.

Also in attendance were Superintendent Derek Albertson and Administrator Ronald McDaniel.

**d. Alterations to the Agenda -- None**

**e. Motion to approve the Discussion Minutes of the April 7, 2025 Regular Meeting**

**Motion** by Commissioner Lathrop; seconded by Commissioner Terry to approve the Discussion Minutes of the April 7, 2025 Regular Meeting. Discussion: none. **Voice vote: 3-0-0. Motion carried.**

**f. Communications pertaining specifically to matters which concern the Commission**

Administrator McDaniel reported that the Certificate of No Tax for the Kingsborough property was filed with Judge McNamara of the East Lyme Probate Court. It is not known whether the certificate has been signed by the Judge, but the document helps to advance the residence easement process.

**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 activities in April 2025, as follows:

**1.0 Compliance/Process**

**1.1 Water Pollution Control Facility**

The Montville WPCA operates the 4.5 million gallons per day (mgd) wastewater treatment plant and sanitary sewer collection system (pipes and pump stations.) The wastewater treatment plant is a vital part of the Town's efforts to control pollution and protect our local water sources. The wastewater treatment plant protects public health from disease-causing bacteria and viruses and monitors influent. By protecting the water quality of our rivers and streams, the wastewater treatment plant allows us to enjoy the natural beauty of our community.

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 was approximately 2.6 million gallons per day (mgd) with a total (influent) treatment volume of 80 million gallons (mg) for the month. Each day, over 50% of the treated effluent (non-potable) was recycled (sold) Rand-Whitney Container Board (RWCB).

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Plant treatment was good with permit effluent parameters met. Average Total Nitrogen (TN) loading was discharged in the treated effluent below the permit (loading) level.

Thickened waste activated sludge (WAS) was calculated to be over 5.25% total solid (TS) which is considered good due to volume reduction (lower truck hauls/disposal tonnage).

### 1.2 Water Supply

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

The Montville Water Supply (WS) purchased 1,191,075 cubic feet (8,909,241 gallons) of water from Groton Utilities (GU) in April (2% less than last year). An April 2025 Water Audit indicated approximately 9% lost water.

## **2.0 Staff**

### 2.1 Health and Safety

No injuries were reported by the WPCA staff. *National Work Zone Awareness Week* was noted for the week of April 21. Routine work starts with a job hazard analysis. All employees have been given authority to stop work when a hazard or unsafe condition exists. Risk is inherent to the water industry. Routine training is a key component to a safe workplace- often a regulatory requirement. The Superintendent wishes to make “safety first” a familiar mantra to all staff with near constant reminders either through formal or informal training.

The April Fire Services & Emergency Management WPCF inspection was completed to determine compliance with the *Connecticut State Fire Protection Code* and applicable standards adopted pursuant to Chapter 541 of the *Connecticut General Statutes*. No violations were cited.

### 2.2 Training

Staff continued to receive training (state or professional organization sponsored) to meet the CTDEEP/CTDPH requirements. The Superintendent met with staff on April 23 to review available courses from NEWEA. Marcel Antonini was promoted to Senior Operator, Class III. Emily Spring passed her NEWEA Lab Operator exam. Gerard Manfredi passed his CDL testing. Chad Cota has completed his CSU, Sacramento correspondence course and is petitioning the CTDEEP for Operator I recognition. Will Dudley will sit for his CTDEEP Operator I exam upon his high school graduation on June 13.

## **3.0 Equipment**

### 3.1 WPCF/Collection System

A FY2026 WPCF sewer/water CIP project summary table is included in the submittal.

The sludge hauling included 145 sludge trucks (April 2024 = 177 trucks). That is 32 trucks less than last year (18% less). This represents a large money savings.

During an April 2 routine Collections System inspection, a Kitemaug PS force main breach was observed. The release was quickly contained (bypass of the PS with the pumper truck) with repairs completed by the emergency response contractor. A new pump was placed at the D’Amato I PS.

The annual Travelers risk control inspection(s) of boilers and water heaters occurred on April 24.

On a daily basis, the WPCF and collection systems transmit data via sensors with the *Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition* (SCADA) software (*Factory Talk View* by Rockwell Automation) and eventually read via a computer- HMI, human machine interface) or smart phone. Settings are established for process control purposes with alarming when outside of parameters. Alarm notification is a critical function of SCADA and has been fine-tuned by the mechanics/operators to limit false or insignificant alarms. A RA representative confirmed equipment inventory in March 2025 and confirmed the facility has the correct inventory necessary for VFDs.

The WS operators responded to the light iron fire at DW Scrap on April 23. Fire control can have a significant strain of the system via pressure variance due to water demands. The system is considered robust with no identified weaknesses. Approximately 40,000 gallons of water was used to put out the fire.

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A recent article by *Consumer Reports* investigates the hidden costs of so-called "flushable" wipes, exposing their failure to disintegrate and the resulting environmental and economic damage. The article quotes from industry experts, highlighting the \$441 million annual burden on U.S. utilities and the severe impact on aquatic life due to microplastic pollution. The piece debunks biodegradable claims by wipes manufacturers, citing studies that show these wipes don't break down in sewer systems.

Despite an increasingly sluggish economy, the public water sector is outpacing the overall market. The aging infrastructure and regulatory mandates are driving construction in the U.S. market. The WPCA will address these concerns with a healthy CIP, good revenue recovery and lowering costs. In the face of economic volatility, aging infrastructure and efficiency complexities, it is more crucial than ever to consider the WPCA team's actions for our state or local community as "countermeasures" - strategic responses to offset emerging threats.

All product lines will be impacted by a surcharge. Currently, tariffs in amounts of 10, 20, and 145% have impacted the cost of over 100 raw materials utilized in the U.S.

#### **4.0 Projects**

##### **4.1 WPCF/Collection System/Water Supply**

Kovacs Construction won the bid for the FY2026 CIP Chesterfield PS improvement project. HI Stone was awarded the sludge hauling contract for FY2026.

The Atlantic hurricane season is from June 1 through November 30, when tropical or subtropical cyclones are most likely to form in the North Atlantic Ocean. Forecasters are predicting an "above-average" 2025 Atlantic hurricane season, with 17 named storms and 9 hurricanes expected; of those 9 hurricanes, 4 are expected to be major. Ahead of every major storm, the WPCA team confirms that appropriate materials, equipment, and personnel are in place to respond; in some instances, the team may pre-stage vehicles and equipment to allow for a more immediate response to an emergency. The WPCA participates with the Connecticut's Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security (DEMHS) to review and discuss state-wide hurricane response policies and procedures with more than 200 state and municipal officials.

Several factors have made the current situation for managing biosolids very challenging and uncertain. States are banning land application, sale, and distribution of "sludge and sludge-derived products". Most WPCAs are left with few options to manage biosolids: incineration.

The CTDEEP gave a tentative determination to renew the *General Permit for the Discharge of Wastewater Associated with Food Establishments* (FOG general permit). The general permit was established to prevent excessive fats, oils and grease discharges to the municipal system. FOG inspections are ongoing. The current general permit expires on October 4, 2025.

The 55<sup>th</sup> *Earth Day* was celebrated on April 22. This year the theme was *Our Planet, Our Power*.

Overall, plant process has been a success in the new year for four months running with high levels of removal efficiencies for key effluent parameters. The collections system is running well with a continued reduction of asset deterioration and inflow by increased O & M, decrease in risk of failure/pipe blockages and finally, reducing flow rates in wet weather conditions. The plant does not typically see a 2 x (total) influent flow during storm events which is a metric to define Inflow and Infiltration (I and I) issues; however, the continued escalation of heavy rain occurrences will require some type of pre-plant holding in the future.

CCTV (Closed-Circuit Television) sewer inspections (of a portion of the 62 miles gravity sewers) were made in the priority areas to define Inflow and Infiltration (storm water and groundwater intrusion). Routine maintenance inspections are made of all the lift stations. When the ground thaws, it can put a lot of stress on sewer pipes; leading to cracks, leaks, and blockages that could cause expensive issues down the line. On April 9, a large stormwater connection (to sewers) was confirmed via the use of the camera trailer and skilled collection operators.

While jetting of sewer lines is made, when necessary, "flushing" is considered the best option. This less intrusive cleaning pushes solids out of lines (toward the WPCF). Post (snow) plowing surface inspections were made of all but a few of the 1,650 collection system manholes in February

and March. Of particular concern are those manholes located in the cross-country routes. Cross-country sewer runs pose an inherent liability to the utility- with 24-hour access by the public, the risk for vandalism is high. The team has worked on an awareness campaign to educate ratepayers as to the concerns about what to flush (not FOG or wipes).

Water utilities globally manage large value assets, requiring powerful tools to maintain their networks effectively. GIS enables utilities to model, visualize, and analyze systems with precision for improving overall performance. Every time an asset is “touched” (i.e. inspected, repaired, maintained), the work is recorded within the GIS system. By identifying concern area, CIP and O & M budgets are made more accurate.

To combat water loss, the WPCA evaluates potential leaks and water loss. Previously when a leak was identified, acoustic leak detection solutions and strategic system inspections were made of the distribution network. The sensors and inspections and current identified a previous leak and provide early detection of leaks.

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.

#### 4.2 Regulatory Oversight

The Montville WPCF and associated collection system 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 storm water 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 and emergency reporting are 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) for both treatment and collections.

No regulatory oversight or action is ongoing for the WPCA. No existing *Consent Decrees* or *Consent Orders* currently exist. Formal notifications include normal monthly, quarterly and annual reporting.

The CTDEEP (public) noticed its intent to reissue the *General Pretreatment Permit for Significant Industrial User Discharges to Publicly Owned Treatment Works* (SIU GP) and Non-Significant Industrial User Discharges to Publicly Owned Treatment Works (Non-SIU GP) in April. The CTDEEP has recently been requesting WPCFs to sample for PFAS. Those facilities being requested to test for PFAS have been identified. Weston and Sampson (on behalf of the CTDEEP) sampled our influent, effluent and TWAS. The CTDEEP may require a facility to conduct additional sampling either with a new permit or a permit renewal (like the Montville WPCF is undergoing). The proposed conditions require the facility to 1) retain a qualified professional within 30 days of permit approval. Within 10 days of retaining the professional, notify the CTDEEP commissioner. The commissioner will approve or reject the choice. The facility and its qualified professional will submit a sampling plan to the commissioner, within 120 days. The commissioner will determine and approve the appropriateness of the plan. 2) The facility will collect the samples no later than 90 days after plan approval. 3) Submit the results in writing to the commissioner, within 30 days of receiving the data.

In March and April 2025, the USEPA announced an aggressive rollback of environmental regulations. Overall, many historic actions were undertaken by the agency in the most consequential and momentous day of deregulation in U.S. history. USEPA Administrator Lee Zeldin hinted that the agency could make several announcements on PFAS-related regulations in “coming weeks,” during a press conference on April 21.

As indicated, our utility relies on automated systems and digital tools to manage infrastructure and maintain operations, but with increased connectivity comes a higher risk of cyberattacks.

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Cybersecurity challenges include awareness and costs. The *Cybersecurity Infrastructure and Security Agency* (CISA) and the FBI aim to assist utilities to identify problems and offer support to secure systems. Several years ago, the Superintendent worked with a contractor to assess current exposure conditions and enact appropriate responses such as supporting a no network facility, fire walls, securing PLCs and managing/monitoring insider privileges.

Looking forward, the wastewater/water utility is managing a number of regulatory challenges including the PFAS rule, LCRR and cyber security. The LCRR priorities for the coming year: identifying unknown service line materials in your inventory, preparing for new sampling requirements, and developing a funding strategy.

## **5.0 Development**

Several inquiries for potential residential development projects have been presented to the WPCA for review with the proposed work and connections to sewer/water.

## **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.

The core function of the Administrator/Superintendent is associated with finance. Whether this involves general financial management revenue collection or debt management, utility finance is crucial for funding essential public services. The financial burden on the utility has never been greater. Development in town, the aging infrastructure and the potential for climate change affects costs with revenue drops exist due to poor collection rates and / or a drop in usages. In an uncertain rate environment, the right strategy will protect our business-like account from unpredictability and uncertainty. As indicated, rate increases are necessary. The WPCA will rely on appropriate engineering rate studies to evaluate your needs and make necessary adjustments to gain better control over liquidity and minimize risk.

Clifton, Larson and Allen LLP arranged for a WPCA accounts review on May 6 and 7.

### 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.

The FY2025 WPCA Sewer and Water Budget began on July 1, 2024. A cursory review of the first two quarters budget/CIP expenditures did not indicated concerns. A proposed FY2026 budget/CIP will be presented to the WPCA and the Town Council. The budgets call for economic efficiency with the minimum resource consumption and maximum performance of the equipment required to supply potable water and treat the municipal sewerage. The budget must establish appropriate funding for reliability of the utility.

A Montville sewer rate increase would increase revenues. Informal reviews of other town's rates show the Montville WPCA sewer rate to be approximately 30% lower than the current utility market.

A Montville WS rate increase is necessary. Initially, the WPCA evaluated the rate study for the Water Supply (WS) then will create a study for the sewer.

The WPCA authorized WS rate study considered 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 WPCA Engineer has been consulted to establish a model to include many aspects of utility status and future needs. 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).

### 6.2 Assets

The WPCA will continue to 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 specific information of the utility assets. The

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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.

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 management: planning, financial foresight, capital visibility, and data collection/review. A review was conducted of both water and sewer asset details to remove those no longer containing value. Old assets can be sold on third party websites (i.e. Municibid) leading to revenues.

### 6.3 Grants/Funding

The USEPA Administrator, with the assistance of the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), cancelled more than 400 grants totaling \$1.7 billion. This marks the fourth round of EPA-DOGE partnered cancellations of spending. Likely, this means less money available for water/wastewater grants.

Per existing contract, the WPCA is responsible for the upkeep of the RWCB discharge and recycle water lines. As indicated in previous meetings, the (approximately \$3 million) replacement/repair pipe project was completed in August 2024. The Montville WPCA financed the project via the Reserve Fund but will be repaid at a rate of \$200,000 per year.

Some current wastewater projects were 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 grant monies were used for infrastructure improvements within the plant including the new chlorine system, new recycling pumps, restoration of the influent flow distribution boxes and grit removal system. Additionally, the aeration systems for SBR-1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 were replaced. Vincenzo Gagliardi, Accountant for the CTDEEP Bureau of Central Services, noticed funds for the grant have now been exhausted. Wright-Pierce was met to discuss future grant funding from the CTDEEP for collection system studies/projects.

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 MTUA 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. The current balance is around \$500,000 which is paid down when connection fees are collected.

### 6.4 Energy

This Earth Day, the WPCF staff reaffirm our commitment to protecting the planet by advancing innovative energy solutions and reducing our environmental impact. Here is how we are shaping a cleaner, more reliable energy future: 1) Innovating our energy infrastructure. Through our partnership with Eversource, the fuel cell has proven to be an innovative solution for a cleaner energy transition away from line power. 2) Expanding renewable energy. We’re interconnecting more solar energy options as well as searching for battery storage to our plant — essential steps in transitioning to a cleaner grid that will reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and enhance resiliency against climate change issues. 3) Providing energy efficiency solutions. Our energy efficiency programs include VFD installation and better SCADA alarming as well as enhanced O & M (to the plant and pump stations) to save energy and reduce our GHG footprint. We are

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committed to using resilient, reliable and increasingly clean energy, while keeping energy bills as low as possible.

The (electrical) energy is the single largest monthly expenditure. April 2025 saw a significant decrease in grid power demand and overall electrical demand.

With energy utility rates on the rise over 2024 and 2025, the drive to create smarter, more efficient buildings has never been more critical. 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. Additional efforts to control energy expenditures include the proposed improvement of the plant water system with VFDs and onsite battery storage. Variable Frequency Drives (VFDs) are essential for controlling the speed and flow of the main pumps, aligning with the flow of raw sewage into the plant as well as oxygen demand in the SBRs.

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 that does not have the higher transmission charge. 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 (cost) of Eversource bill (for state-mandated and approved energy programs, policies and initiatives) took effect. Additional cost increases will be seen in December 2024.

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.

WPCA personnel met with Garrett Cudgma of Resource LE to discuss battery (electrical energy) storage. *Battery Energy Storage Systems* (BESS) are technologies for the storage of electrical energy. It ensures consistent power availability amidst unpredictable energy supply due to factors such as weather changes and power outages and peak demand periods (BESS converts and stores electricity during off-peak times when electricity is more economical). It releases stored energy during peak demand, using components like rechargeable batteries, inverters for energy conversion, and sophisticated control software. This technology reduces reliance on costly peak-power plants, lowers greenhouse gas emissions, and enhances grid stability. It also represents a "hardening" response to climate change.

Superintendent Albertson reported on a 98% removal efficiency and recycled water of good quality. Two (2) staff are training for testing. Kudos were given to the team concerning the Kittimaug line break pump station that was done rapidly.

i. Report from Administration

Administrator McDaniel submitted his report of activities in April 2025 as follows:

- (S) Bid has been awarded for the replacement of the pump system at the Chesterfield Pump Station to Kovacs Construction for \$201,900. Work anticipated to begin July 1.
- (S) Bid has been awarded for sludge hauling and disposal to H.I. Stone, Inc. There is a slight cost increase to current contract which was slated for an increase. Contract to begin July 1.

- (S) Our new Operator In Training Chadwick Costa began March 17 and he is fitting in nicely with the other staff.
- (S) Marcel Antonini was promoted to Senior Operator effective April 27. Position was approved by Town Council on April 14.
- (W) We temporarily suspended the regular monthly Cook Drive Water Tower meetings due to the easement delays. We have been granted a 6-month extension due to the easement issue. The paperwork is completed with the State, and we are now awaiting the probate process to issue approval for Mrs. Kingsborough to execute the easement.
- (W) The Public Hearing is scheduled for tomorrow night (5/6) at 6:30 for the Water Rate Structure.
- (S) We are looking at our sewer rates structure for comparable communities.
- (W&S) We continue to enter data into the GIS system for all aspects of our system. This is an invaluable tool for our staff and clients.
- (S) We are continuing our energy evaluation done at no cost to see if we can take advantage of current Eversource incentives. One large item is the potential for battery storage at no cost to the Authority.
- (W) The Water Budget was approved by the Town Council on April 14.
- (W&S) We are nearing changeover to a new vendor for our credit card processing to save money and have the ability to charge the service fees to the end user. We are currently absorbing that cost.
- (S) We are upgrading desktops as Windows 10 will no longer be supported after October 1.
- (W) We responded to another fire at the scrapyard. We calculated that we used about 45,000 gallons of unbillable water.
- (S) = Sewer (W) = Water (W&S) = Water and Sewer

Administrator McDaniel reported that his monthly report was self-explanatory and noted that the biggest thing was the Town Council meeting tomorrow night concerning the public hearing for revision to the water rate. The Administrator addressed a question as to how the battery for energy will be charged—by fuel cell—that has the potential for power during severe weather. This energy method is still in the exploratory phase as a third party electric provider reviewed that option as it will help with peak service periods or if the fuel cell goes down as the demand is increasing. The engineering for this proposed project is at no cost to the WPCA nor will installation of the same.

**j.**     Report from Mayor -- None

**k.**     Report from Engineers

Superintendent Albertson reported on a letter received regarding an intrusion from surcharge due to excess flow. None was found.

**l.**     Old Business -- None

**m.**     New Business -- None

**n.**     Report/Referrals from Planning & Zoning

Chairperson Longton reported on potential development on Powerhouse Road.

## **II. Water Commission**

**a.**     Report from Operations

Superintendent Albertson thanked the water operators for their assistance with the fire at the scrap yard. He noted that less water was used—40 thousand gallons. Commissioner Terry questioned whether the water is captured at the Plant and used. The Superintendent reported that water for flushing lines is drawn from Oxoboxo River. Administrator McDaniel explained that the water used was city water and cost of demand is higher due to the fire.

**b.**     Report from Administration



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Administrator McDaniel reported on the public hearing at the Town Council meeting tomorrow evening regarding the increase to water rates that he described as a break even proposal. He noted that Town Council Caron would be chairing that meeting. The Administrator also reported on call received from the Mohegan Tribe concerning data for their budgeting needs in 2026.

**c.     Report from Engineers**

Superintendent Albertson noted that Administrator McDaniel had answered all questions including the increase in electricity and the emergency systems. He again commended the water operators for the great job they did.

**d.     Old Business -- None**

**e.     New Business -- None**

**f.     Reports from SCWA**

Chairperson Longton reported that SCWA did not hold a meeting last month.

**III.    Remarks**

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

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

**b.     Remarks from Commission Members**

Chairperson Longton remarked that he was glad to be back from Texas.

**c.     Adjournment**

**Motion** by Commissioner Terry; seconded by Commissioner Lathrop to adjourn the meeting at 6:14 p.m. Discussion: none. **Voice vote: 3-0-0. 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  
UNDER “RESOURCES” ON THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WEBSITE.**