

**Town of Montville Water & Sewer Commission**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**May 4, 2026 -- 6:00 PM**  
**Town Council Chambers – Town Hall**

**1. 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 were Chairperson Chuck Longton, Commissioners Frank Miceli and Deane Terry and Town Councilor Nick Sabilia (6:05 p.m.). Commissioner Richard Gladue was absent. A quorum was present.

Also in attendance were Superintendent Derek Albertson, Administrator Ronald McDaniel and Mayor Lenny Bunnell.

**d. Alterations to the Agenda**

**Motion** by Commissioner Miceli; seconded by Commissioner Terry to appoint a representative from the WPCA to the Plan of Conservation and Development Commission for Land Use and Development Department for discussion under Agenda Item I.n Reports/Referrals from Planning & Zoning. Discussion: none. **Voice vote, all in favor. Motion Approved.**

**e. Motion to approve Minutes of Regular Meeting on April 6, 2026**

**Motion** by Commissioner Terry; seconded by Commissioner Miceli to approve the WPCA regular meeting minutes of March 2, 2026. Discussion: none. **Voice vote, all in favor. Motion Approved.**

**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. Attorney Harry Heller representing KA&G LLC remarked on his presence regarding Agenda, Item M, 2 for any questions of the Commission.

**h. Report from Operations**

Superintendent Albertson submitted an Operations Report for activities in April 2026, as follows:

**1.0 Compliance/Process**

**1.1 Water Pollution Control Facility**

The Montville Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) oversees the Montville Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF)/Collection System and the Water Supply distribution system (WS).

WPCF treatment continued to improve in April with a cleaner (treated) effluent. Preparation was made for the May 1 disinfection season start. While significant rain events lead to some hydraulic overloading earlier in the month, the nutrient balance and drier/warmer weather improved process control.

Average daily influent flow to the WPCF for the month was approximately 2.6 million gallons per day (mgd) with a total (influent) treatment volume of 79 mg for the month. Each day, approximately 50% of the treated effluent (non-potable) was recycled (sold) to Rand-Whitney

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Container Board (RWCB) for re-use in their production of paper. The RWCB 30-hour shutdown on March 17 presented challenges due to the large fluctuation in hydraulic and BOD loading.

### 1.2 Water Supply

The WS met required state and federal standards. The summary of the Town water supply contractual agreements include a 1.96 mgd guaranteed from GU is guaranteed to the Town; the Town only uses (typically) 0.4 mgd so on paper there is a significant amount of the water supply available. However, contractually we owe MTUA (1 mgd) and DOC (0.35 mgd) and SCWA (0.0948 mgd). The Administrator calculated a water audit with water loss (non-billable, non-accounted for) of less than 6%.

GU reported flushing operations from April 27 to May 29.

## **2.0 Staff**

### 2.1 Health and Safety

No injuries were reported by the WPCA staff. In addition to formal training consistent with state and federal guidelines, the staff continue to use daily “tailgate meetings” to identify hazards and promote “situational awareness.” The TARP Committee wholeheartedly endorsed the new position (Collections Operator Trainee) description and applauded the WPCA for taking proactive steps in striving for a succession plan in the eventuality of retirements. They will forward to the Town Council for action.

Celebrating its 56th year, this year's Earth Day theme, "Our Power, Our Planet," calls for people worldwide to unite behind renewable energy and promote clean electricity. Engaged employees are invested in their work. They bring energy, creativity and focus to the table when the big picture (like Earth Day) is promoted.

### 2.2 Training/Certifications

Staff have continued to receive training (state/professional) to meet the CTDEEP/CTDPH annual requirements as well as support additional advanced certifications. In-house education includes discussions of the plant’s process control methodologies, conveyance system components as well as identified and seasonal safety issues. Jeff Dimmock of the CT Rural Water & Wastewater Association was met on April 17 to review training classes. Additionally, NEWEA and WEF and CSU, Sacramento personnel were consulted about available online training for laboratory certification. One staff member will sit for the CTDEEP Operator I certification exam this spring while another will sit for the CTDEEP Operator II exam.

Cyber threats are evolving beyond technology alone. All staff completed the *KnowBe4 Security Awareness Training* provided by the IT Department.

On April 14, the USEPA kicked off an effort to refresh the agency’s *Water Workforce Initiative*. Originally launched in 2020, this initiative coordinates resources across government and industry to more effectively bolster water sector careers and to reach the next generation of water protection specialists.

## **3.0 Equipment**

### 3.1 WPCF/Collection System

The WPCA continues with a more proactive, data-driven asset management strategy that delivers measurable financial, operational, and community benefits without requiring disruptive or costly system overhauls. FY 2026 and FY 2027 WPCF sewer/water CIP project summary tables are included in the submittal. Note that there is an expectation of grant/bond funding.

The Ledyard WPCF Superintendent was met on April 28 to review their SBR operation and collect some “seed sludge” to enhance our process.

Septic receiving increased significantly with the warmer months. The fuel cell went offline on April 3 and April 15 but was quickly repaired for onsite power generation.

Significant inflow was discovered to the sewer main in the vicinity of 29 Vermont Avenue during CCTV activities. SCWA was notified and reported to be not from a water leak from their system.

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The breach which allowed for approximately 30,000 gpd to enter the collection system was repaired. Quotes were requested for repair either by band clamping or interior (pipe) resin injection.

Following the formal approval of the WPCA sewer CIP, RFPs were sent out for among other things, composite sampler(s) and sludge blowers.

An overnight flow study directed by the WPCA Engineer was completed in March to examine high flow situations during typical low flow conditions. Storm related Inflow and Infiltration (I and I) concerns identified by the existing collections team or by previous reports were addressed. Two manhole repairs were immediately completed in late March to seal up and estimated infiltration of 0.2 mgd (under high flow conditions). Two additional manholes were repaired on Route 32 in April to prevent potential I and I. A complete influent flow data review of previous reporting from 2007, 2010 and 2011 as well in-house studies were conducted. Hydrographs for 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026 was inspected to define flow conditions leading up to process upset. The WPCA Engineer was met on April 7 and 17 to review the Superintendent's 2025 *Wet End Operations Process Control Program* as it related to appropriate influent flow. RWCB personnel were met onsite on April 17 to discuss current flow conditions at the facility.

War is causing shortages/delays in supply as evident fuel/chemical price increases outpacing the CPI. There is a 20% fuel surcharge on hauling at this time. Of note, the availability of fluoride has caused some potable water treatment plants to decrease their induced levels.

A typical data breach could cost a utility; an average at \$5.17 million per incident — mostly due to business disruptions and regulatory fines. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and its Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) component provide recommendations for appropriate controls which the WPCA has enacted.

#### 4.0 Projects

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

The WPCA staff is making every attempt to improve process operations “soup to nuts”, including better effluent detections, residual solids reduction, chemical dosing effectiveness as well as treatment efficiency. The WPCA Engineer was met in April to define optimal influent flow conditions for the plant and to consider the active I and I reduction plans. Influent modeling and collection system modeling were also conducted to confirm hydraulic conditions leading to rain induced infiltration and inflow. Research is being conducted to find stand-alone flow monitoring equipment to be used in storms to provide additional information.

The WPCF is required to conduct disinfection from May 1 to October 31 each year. Water is chlorinated just prior to inflow in the contact chamber. A close review of mixing conditions as well as chlorine dosing is showing promise to ensure good disinfection while using a minimal amount of chlorine.

The Superintendent and Administrator met with the *Director of Land Use and Development* on April 22 to define actual versus contractual sewer and water capacities. The Actual Sewer Numbers consider influent of 4.5 mgd allowed per federal permit. In 2025 (and in earlier studies), the WPCF received on average 2.3 to 2.7 mgd leaving a good deal of capacity for Town development. However, climate change driven rain events have caused high instantaneous flows and pump surging and adversely affect process with flows exceeding design standards. We are actively studying I and I to reduce it thus freeing up more capacity to dampen the effect of storms on the flow entering the plant. Contractually the WPCA must allocate for MTUA (1.6 mgd) and RWCB (1.1 mgd) thus leaving the town with 1.8 mgd only for influent contribution.

Sewer water entering (on average) CT WPCFs have monthly averages of BOD (biochemical oxygen demand) of 220 mg/l and TSS (total suspended solids) of 150 mg/L. Any concentrations that exceed these numbers would be considered high-strength wastewater. Typical concentrations of these parameters in the Montville WPCF are well above normal residential treatment influent levels.

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The Superintendent and lab operator have been working with a post-graduate student and startup company to determine the effectiveness of fungi on wastewater treatment. Twelve different strains were applied to the WPCF influent with six found to be effective. Additionally, one strain showed exceptional treatment.

The collections team follows the 2019 *Capacity, Management, Operation and Maintenance* (CMOM) Program to provide better asset management, customer service, regulatory compliance, as well as to protect human health and the natural environment. CCTV (Closed-Circuit Television) sewer inspections (of a portion of the 62 miles of gravity sewers) were made in the priority areas to define Inflow and Infiltration (storm water and groundwater intrusion). Roughly 65% of the Town is sewered. Routine maintenance inspections are made of all the 24 lift stations and 1,650 manholes. Manhole inspections were conducted post-paving on the northern extent of Route 32.

Solids handling (thickening/dewatering and hauling/disposal) is the second largest cost for the WPCA. Waste solids consist of material removed from secondary (biological) process to support the proper food to microorganism ratio for ideal wastewater treatment control. Typically, a “jar test” is conducted annually to ensure that the de-watering polymer is the best for our typical (biological/waste) sludge. Operators pay close attention to the Gravity Belt Thickener (GBT) to ensure best thickening (dewatering to 5 – 6%) with minimal polymer dosing. Will Minner of Nalco Water (chemical supplier to RWCB) was met on April 7 to discuss chemical usage for process and dewatering. Mr. Minner and Kathy Pflugbeil, Technical Manager were met at the paperboard company for jar testing and further discussion of chemicals and the scheduled May 6 RWCB shutdown.

An evaluation is made each month by the Superintendent of the sewer receiving as well as septage receiving to ensure there are no blind spots (unauthorized dumping), no lost revenues, no regulatory compliance risks, and minimal plant treatment equipment/process strain from wipes, grease and chemicals. Additionally, the energy billing is reviewed to determine the performance of the fuel cell (onsite generation of electrical power to lower number plant cost).

To combat water loss from the (potable) water supply, the WS team evaluates potential leaks and water loss (through a monthly water audit). Calculations of revenue water, non-revenue (accounted for) water versus non-revenue (unaccounted for) water were completed for the diversion permit. Typically, lost water is under 10% whereas the national average is greater than 16%. As previously indicated, a replacement project was completed for Cook Water Tower. The CTDPH annual reporting was completed for the GU Interconnection, the Inter-Regional Interconnection (Waterford and Norwich) and the Hillcrest Interconnection between SCRWA and the WS. Actual Water Numbers show a GU daily allowance of 1.96 mgd and a small usage of 0.4 mgd. However, contractually the Town is obligated to provide 1 mgd to MTUA, 0.25 mgd to the CTDOC and 0.0948 mgd to SCWA.

#### 4.2 Regulatory Oversight

The Montville WPCF is also known as a publicly owned treatment works (POTW) initially constructed with federal monies for residential (sanitary) wastewater treatment. It is required to meet state and federal standards for (point) effluent discharged to the Thames River per a NPDES (federal) permit and the (state general permit) for the *Long Island Sound Nutrient Reduction Program*. A new reporting form Monthly Operations Report (eMOR) was supplied by the CTDEEP. Biosolids (laboratory analytical) reporting is summarized for the USEPA on both a quarterly and annual basis. Due to its SIC listing, the plant must comply with state and federal stormwater regulations. Additionally, state and federal mandates (CMOM) exist for care of the sewer conveyance system. OSHA governs most (safe) workplace operational work.

Discharge and emergency reporting is signed (certified) by the state-licensed CTDEEP *Operator IV* (Superintendent, August 2014 Log Number 2312) in *Chief Operator 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*) and is certified by the NEWEA Grade IV Operator (Superintendent, June 2010 Certificate Number C-5170). The Superintendent has the highest certification required (Class/Grade IV) for both treatment and collections. Reporting is all electronic through various portals including the Region I USEPA NetDMR. On Friday, April 17, NetDMR v14.0.7 was released into production.

The 5-year federal wastewater discharge permit was effective on November 1, 2019. The current effluent permit has an expiration date of October 31, 2024; a renewal package was submitted to the CTDEEP prior April 30, as required (6 months prior to the expiration date). It is expected the permit will be reissued soon. Disinfection of the treated effluent is required after May 1 each year (until October 31). The primary objectives of wastewater disinfection are to eliminate pathogenic microorganisms, protect public health, and prevent environmental contamination.

The Administrator and Superintendent updated the Sewer Overflow Plan (part of the CMOM directive) to reflect recent reporting requirements.

The USEPA released the 308 Letter, officially announcing the opening of the DMR-QA 45 Study in June 2026. The study provides “spiked” samples to WPCF labs for analysis for a QA/QC check, as required. Appropriate samples will be ordered.

The CTDEEP Stormwater General Permit regulates stormwater discharges. As such, a stormwater pollution control plan (SWPPP) is required under both state and federal requirements for a WPCF with a design flow over 1 mgd. The Superintendent is cited as the CTDEEP/USEPA *Authorized Subscriber* for the stormwater permit and formally registered with the eFiling System on April 8. The permit requirements are more robust than previously, including significant outfall sampling and enhanced inspections.

The CTDEEP/USEPA will eventually re-issue our discharge permit. They are now establishing the maximum daily limit for TSS limit of 50 mg/l (not 45 mg/l) in almost every permit issued since 2019. Somehow, we got stuck with the 45 mg/l TSS limit. The only exceptions with limits for TSS even lower than the TSS 30/ 45 mg/l are POTWs with extremely high IWCs (i.e. New Hartford, Ridgefield, Vernon, Norwalk, Bristol).

The Superintendent’s June, November and December 2025 and January 2026 technical memorandums (TMs) outlined corrective actions to be taken to address Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD<sub>5</sub>) and Total Suspended Solids (TSS) exceedances (as outline in the June 2025 CTDEEP *Notice of Violation* NOV #WRMU 25-004). The formal responses were submitted prior to deadlines. Following the timely TM submittals, the Superintendent and WPCA Engineer met with the CTDEEP to confirm findings and improvement projects.

On April 16, 2026, the USEPA launched the *Water Reuse Action Plan* (WRAP) 2.0 to harness the power of water reuse for American industry, amongst other things. This plan is the first-ever nationwide framework for advancing water reuse. Currently, the Montville WPCF recycles up to 60% of the treated effluent for industrial usage.

There are several CTDPH compliance documents for the WS, including the 2015 Milone & MacBroom reports: *Water Supply Plan*, *Water Conservation Plan* and *Emergency Contingency Plan*. These should be updated every 10 years. The Superintendent and Administrator met with the WPCA Engineer on April 15 to discuss and then notified the CTDPH of our intent to update the reports along with a timeline for submittal(s). The principal regulatory change related to water supply planning since the time of the previous plan is the passage of Public Act 17-211. This Act required separate submission of a redacted water supply plan that could be released under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), identified the types of information a water system could maintain as confidential, and required that drought management protocols be maintained as public information. The *Emergency Contingency Plan* remains protected from FOIA.

The 2025 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) was placed on the WPCA website in April.

The USEPA, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), and National Security Agency (NSA) issued a joint advisory warning to U.S. organizations, including those in the water sector, for an urgent and ongoing Iranian-affiliated cybersecurity threat. Organizations are experiencing exploitation and, in some cases, disruption of commonly used operational technology at drinking water and wastewater systems that are diligently working to ensure that Americans can rely on clean and safe water.

## 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. On February 10 and 19, the staff met with the Public Works Director, Town Engineer (CLA) and representatives of Haley Ward (Glastonbury, CT) to discuss a large residential unit development project east of Route 32. 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 2021. 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. Of concern is the noted high I and I into the system during the last rain event. The snow melt made for a high-water table increasing the stormwater/groundwater contribution to the influent flow.

## 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. FY 2027 sewer and water budgets were approved in April 2026. Appropriate end-of-year accounting will identify areas whereas budgeting should be adjusted in future cycles.

Appropriate rates are a cornerstone for a utility's financial stability and long-term infrastructure planning. As indicated later in this report, a WS rate increase has occurred. Now, a sewer rate increase must occur. State and federal funding must also be explored to supplement AR to meet the demands of our two utility systems. Low-income loans are more viable funding alternative than grants.

Utilities are entering what could become a new "golden age." Electrification, renewable expansion, AI-driven grid management, and demand from data centers are pushing utilities back to the center of economic growth.

### 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 FY 2026 WPCA Sewer and Water Budget began on July 1, 2025. A cursory review FY 2025 budget/CIP expenditures did indicate immediate concerns. Future budget must develop appropriate AR to match proposed AP without tapping into the Fund Balance (as a source of revenue). A significant reduction in AR was observed.

The FY 2027 budgets/CIPs were approved by the WPCA and the Town Council. The budgets will begin on July 1, 2026 and 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 budgets 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 40% lower than the current utility market. The WPCF has made reclaimed water a revenue source for many years, but plans should be considered for additional outlets. A formal announcement was made for the intent for the WPCA to raise sewer rates. The formal notice needs to be run in the paper once and for at least 10 days before the Public Hearing.

A Montville WS rate was approved by the Town Council on May 12, 2025. The last time the WS rates were increased was via *Resolution 2014-50* (July 1, 2014). Connecticut's largest water company, Aquarion Water Company (largest CT water company), announced its intention to seek a 42% rate increase after state regulators last month blocked a deal that would have transformed the company into a nonprofit quasi-public entity. The proposed rate hike, worth \$88 million annually, would be first in more than a decade for the company, which serves roughly 209,000 homes and businesses in Connecticut.

### 6.2 Assets

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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 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.

Various funding sources are available for consideration in order to finance the planning, design and construction of infrastructure improvements and expansion. The outside funding allows for grants, bonds or loans to support a robust annual CIP.

### 6.3 Grants/Funding

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.

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. 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). The repayment is scheduled for a 20-year amortization with a 2% rate beginning on October 31.

The Administrator is managing the annual \$200,000 RWCB payment (to WPCA) related to sewer O & M.

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

The (electrical) energy is the single largest monthly WPCA expenditure. The current inflation rate for energy is twice the total inflation rate or CPI. On average, the WPCF consumes 360,000 kWh per month. As such, the Superintendent examines each point of use to ensure best efficiency.

Blowers can consume up to 60% of the wastewater treatment plant’s total energy—and over 90% of the energy used in aeration. Between May 2024 and May 2025, the national average electricity rate jumped 6.5%—from 16.4¢/kWh to 17.5¢/kWh. Thus, the Administrator and the Superintendent are constantly looking at ways to optimize energy usage within your water treatment plant/collections system and water supply.

Electrical Energy is mostly 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

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transmission charge. Based on the recent storms and brutally cold weather, the spot market/ daily price for natural gas will increase significantly.

On February 28, 2025, ISO-NE launched the *Day-Ahead Ancillary Service Initiative* (DASI), replacing the Forward Reserve Market. This change introduced a new pricing structure for ancillary services, with costs now fluctuating daily based on market conditions. As a result, ancillary service costs have become higher and more volatile, particularly during periods of renewable intermittency and load uncertainty.

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. 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. Hunter's Mountain #1 is undergoing an ecological study. As of January 14, Hunter's Mountain #2 (not the same project as the Montville WPCA account is attached to) was not approved by CSC, but a judge has ordered a review and further justification of that project's non-approval. The CSC made a decision based on some false information and did not request clarification. It will be resubmitted for reconsideration to the CSC. Hunter's Mountain #1 (the project that the WPCA and City of Windham are attached to is still moving forward. It has not yet been submitted to CSC. Eversource has this project in their feasibility study. Our best estimate right now is Q2 2027.

The 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 CTDEEP requested "hardening" response to climate change.

The Administrator is working with Adam Teff, TitanGen General Manager for electrical energy savings programs.

Superintendent Albertson reported that there are still issues with influent, an operational upset that is improving overall as organisms are improving in addition to some biology from Ledyard that seems to be helpful. Per Federal permit, chlorination occurs from May 1 to October 31 annually for potential exposure to seasonal infectants.

i. Report from Administration

Administrator McDaniel submitted a monthly report of activities as of April 2026 as follows:

- (W) We plan to install the three phase power at Cook Drive Water Tank. The area was cleaned up from winter damage. The property was rezoned from R20 to Government. A Certificate of Zoning Compliance was issued.
- (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. We also have asked the Town to please renew licensing for NEARMap.
- (S) We continue to look into energy saving initiatives. We are exploring a couple of solar initiatives (off site).
- (S) The TARP Committee endorsed the position description for the Collections Trainee (Will Dudley) and has forwarded to the Town Council for approval.
- (S) Savy & Son performed extensive rehabilitation of 2 manholes on Route 32 near Fort Shantok.
- (S) Due to the high water table we are experiencing unusually high flows at the plant as a result of Inflow and Infiltration.

- (W&S) We have experienced several power outages that affected the plant and some pump stations. Everything is operating normally. Preventative Maintenance has been performed on the generators.
  - (W) The Town Council approved the adopted Budget for Water at its April meeting.
  - (W&S) We continue to provide support and guidance to the Land Use Department for the numerous proposed development projects around town.
  - (W&S) We continue to change out the manhole frames and covers on Route 32 as a result of the recent paving project.
- (S) = Sewer (W) = Water (W&S) = Water and Sewer

Administrator McDaniel reported on the completion of the electrical work that passed inspection at the Cook Water Tower so Eversource can run wiring for the transformers for 3-phase power. The work regarding the manhole covers on Route 32 was completed and two (2) others that failed, near the transfer station and the former Dunkin Donuts, were also completed today. News regarding the NERS Solar award was received today and a \$21,000 check will be received annually for doing absolutely nothing. Paperwork will need to be signed by Mayor on the same.

**j. Report from Mayor**

Mayor Bunnell reported on discussion with USDA for funding for sewer to the metal departments as the system is failing. The work for the same would be at no cost and information to Commission will be forthcoming. To conserve water and sewer use, the Commission was urged to see whether a project has been approved by Planning and Zoning before reservations are made.

**k. Report from Engineers**

Superintendent Albertson added to his Operations report that the Plant intern has passed the certification for Collections Operator I and the CT DEEP Operator I and at 18 years old he can get a job anywhere. The relationships with the area technical schools and to do something creative and significant right of high school says a lot about the work effort of W. Dudley. Significant work has been done at collection systems since July 1<sup>st</sup> that include cleaning and CCTV inspection. A leak of 30,000 gallons into the system per day per manhole locations at Virginia Drive. Also, discussion was had with a consultant regarding Rand-Whitney discharges and compliments were given to Plant team for process control particularly with the cold temperatures and snow melt. Surcharges for two (2) high priced items are a significant cost increase for sludge loading and polymers due to the Iran conflict was reported. Administrator McDaniel commented on the investment in W. Dudley, who started as an intern who has done the work that says a lot about his work ethic. According to the Superintendent the average age of a plant supervisor is 58 years old and 75% of operators are within 5-7 years of retirement. Discussion was had concerning an internship and the ongoing relationship with Norwich Tech and Grasso Tech in the last three (3) years in addition to the buddy system that is required when working with interns given the dangerous climate of the Plant.

**l. Old Business -- None**

**m. New Business**

1. To Consider and Act on a Motion to revise sewer rates.

**THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES** to Consider and Act on a Motion to raise Sewer Usage Rates as follows:

Water and Sewer Commission Proposed Sewage Usage Rate Schedule (Effective Date July 1, 2026)

	<u>Current/Quarter</u>	<u>Proposed/Quarter</u>
Residential-	\$80.00	\$100.00
Commercial-	<u>Current/Gallon</u>	<u>Proposed/Gallon</u>
	\$.004981	\$.006226

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 Motion -- Discussion -- Roll Call

**SAR NO. 2026-06: THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES** To Consider and Act on a Motion to raise Sewer Usage Rates as follows: Water and Sewer Commission Proposed Sewage Usage Rate Schedule (Effective Date July 1, 2026).

	<u>Current/Quarter</u>	<u>Proposed/Quarter</u>
Residential-	\$80.00	\$100.00
Commercial-	<u>Current/Gallon</u>	<u>Proposed/Gallon</u>
	\$.004981	\$.006226

**Motion** by Commissioner Miceli, seconded by Commissioner Terry. Discussion: none. **Roll Call vote: In favor: Chairperson Longton, Commissioner Miceli, Vice-Chairperson Terry. Opposed: none. Vote: 4-0-0, all in favor. Motion Approved.**

2. To consider and act on a motion to reserve water and sewer usage capacity.

**THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES** to Consider and Act on a motion to Reserve Water and Sewer Usage capacity in the amount of 48,750 gallons for a period of 24 months expiring on May 31, 2028.

Motion -- Discussion -- Roll Call

**SAR NO. 2026-07: THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES** to Consider and Act on a motion to Reserve Water and Sewer Usage capacity in the amount of 48,750 gallons for a period of 24 months expiring on May 31, 2028. **Motion** by Vice-Chair Terry; seconded by Commissioner Miceli. Discussion: Attorney Harry Heller representing KA&G LLC reported on the request for reservation of water and sewage capacity indicating that a procedural application cannot be filed with Planning and Zoning without that approval. There is a hierarchy regarding this process and determination must be obtained regarding treatment capacity for water and sewer and given that the Maple Avenue area is stagnant. Request is being made to the Commission for capacity approval to follow through with application to Planning and Zoning. The Commission noted that it did not realize that application had not been approved. The Attorney explained that the process requires seeking approval from Inland Wetlands as the next step as going to Planning and Zoning first is illegal without a factual basis and capacity for the request. Without allocation the project cannot move forward. The Attorney also confirmed that the request before the Commission is the initial step in the process and that the homes for the project will have 80 double-wide manufactured homes that are not modulars and will not be on a slab. Data was given by the Administrator on capacity per gallon per day of 56,250 and a calculated day per use of 195 gallons. Design capacity was not deemed undoable per regulatory approval and existing contractual agreements. A list of all pending projects and an expiration date of approval is information the Commission does not currently have nor has a formal request been received for projects previously by the Commission. The Attorney noted projects that had come before the Commission for allocation. **Roll Call vote: In favor: Chairperson Longton, Commissioner Sabilia. Opposed: Vice-Chairperson Terry, Commissioner Miceli. Vote: 2-2-0. Motion Failed.**

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

Chairperson Longton reported on the 3-hour marathon of the last meeting about a lot of projects going on lists and several at this time that do not have an impact on the WPCA. A bone of contention does not need to occur concerning the lack of information; the Chairperson will speak to the concerns of Commission on which he sits. As to the representative to Land Use and Development for the Plan of Conservation and Development, discussion has been had on Town development long term for several decades, so spending is done wisely. Each Town commission has been asked for an advisor. Vice-Chair Terry volunteered and Commissioner Miceli will serve

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as back-up; their names will be passed on to the Land Use and Development office. The meetings will be held quarterly.

## II. Water Commission

### a. Report from Operations

Superintendent Albertson reported on updating the water supply plan that is done every 10 years. RFPs have been sent out in addition to contact with the former engineer who prepared the existing plan. On the GU website, a Consumer Confidence Report can be found. GU is currently flushing lines so there may be some water cloudiness but typically it is not visible. The flushing will continue to May 29<sup>th</sup>.

### b. Report from Administration -- None

### c. Report from Engineers

Superintendent Albertson referred to the revision to the water supply plan. If anything occurs concerning it the Commission will be noticed.

### d. Old Business -- None

### e. New Business – None

### f. Reports from SCWA – No meeting held 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

Commissioner Terry remarked that his objection to the Maple Avenue development was the proposal for manufactured homes instead of well-constructed modular ones that he would have preferred. Commissioner Sabilia disagreed with the reasoning as this Commission is not Planning & Zoning, it is the WPCA. Superintendent Albertson remarked to development proposals that do not come to fruition and the WPCA steps for development that are an application and plans so that its engineer can review them for feasibility. Commissioner Miceli remarked to wasting limited water and sewer on manufactured homes, a deluxe mobile home Mayor Bunnell advised that we stop playing with the future and instead look to increasing water/sewer capacity to begin to look for funding.

### c. Adjournment

**Motion** by Commissioner Terry; seconded by Commissioner Miceli to adjourn the meeting at 6:52 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  
UNDER “RESOURCES” ON THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WEBSITE.**