

Town of Montville Water & Sewer Commission
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 3, 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, Vice-Chair Deane Terry and Town Councilor Nick Sabilia. Commissioners Frank Miceli 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 Vice-Chair Terry; seconded by Commissioner Sabilia to add Sewer Commission, New Business, Item M.2 regarding a presentation to the Planning and Zoning Commission to expand the WPCA Plant. Discussion: The Vice-Chair remarked that expansion is important with particular concern for capacity, continued development in Town and long-term expectations. **Voice vote, all in favor. 3-0-0. Motion Approved.**

e. Motion to approve Minutes of Regular Meeting on June 1, 2026—(July Meeting Canceled)

Motion by Vice-Chairperson Terry; seconded by Town Councilor Sabilia to approve the WPCA Regular Meeting minutes of June 1, 2026. Discussion: none. **Voice vote: all in favor. Motion Approved.**

f. Communications pertaining specifically to matters which concern the Commission

Administrator McDaniel reported on a meeting tomorrow morning with Johnson Cemetery on Route 32.

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 July 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 July with a clean (treated) effluent. Average daily influent flow to the WPCF for the month was approximately 1.9 million gallons per day (mgd) with a total (influent) treatment volume of 58 mg for the month. No significant issues (other than limited power/communication outages) were observed during the July storm events on the 4th, 18th, 20th, 22th and 29th). Each day, approximately 50% of the treated effluent (non-potable) was recycled (sold) to Rand-Whitney Container Board (RWCB) for re-use in their production of paper.

Thickened Waste Activated Sludge (TWAS) had an average over 5.5% total solids (TS). Approximately 160 dry tons of waste sludge was generated for off-site disposal which is 7% over the limit for disposal at the MDC incinerator (Hartford, CT).

1.2 Water Supply

The WS met required state and federal standards. Groton Utilities (GU) worked effectively with the Montville WS operators to ensure flow during the severe weather events. A WS capacity summary is provided in the attachment.

The CTDPH reduced the copper and lead monitoring requirements for the WS. The lead and copper samples have met the actions levels for two consecutive six month monitoring periods.

Even with significant rain events in July, eastern CT remains in a deficit with respect to rainfall for 2026. The USGS reported in July that low groundwater table and stream flow are most influenced by a combination of human causes and minimal precipitation during summer months. The *Interagency Drought Workgroup* (IDW) has classified the State in a Moderate drought (D1), with conditions expected to persist through summer. No water GU-directed usage controls exist at this time for the announced drought but is likely a continued drought will lead to some public requests for conservation.

2.0 Staff

2.1 Health and Safety

No work-related injuries were reported by the WPCA staff in July. Heat warnings and air quality alerts existed due to temperatures and forest fires in Canada and parts of the U.S. As part of their first aid training, staff are alerted to heat and air quality health signs such as headache, dizziness, nausea, cramps, heart palpitations, excessive sweating or unusual tiredness. Climatologists are watching the strengthening El Niño with increasing alarm, saying the forecasts from climate models in the coming months could deliver the hottest year on record.

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 and safety issues. Every effort is made to enhance safety through training. The Superintendent met with Jeff Dimmock (CT Rural Water & Wastewater Association) about upcoming training events as well as support for team's certification testing. The NEWEA Summer/Fall training events (virtual/in-person) were posted and reviewed with staff. The Superintendent submitted an abstract for the fall NEWEA conference.

The Superintendent has signed up for August Disaster Planning & Preparedness training. Throughout July the State Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection (DESPP) has issued warnings about rainfall and flash flooding. With this predicted weather, CTDEEP reminded the WPCF Superintendents about formal reporting requirements if weather adversely affects process control.

Teresa Jackman, Eversource *Senior Account Executive* invited the Superintendent to participate in an October 2026 customer panel about our fuel cell. The fuel cell (put on site by Eversource) has been instrumental for our energy and weather "hardening" goals. The Superintendent wrote a contribution to an internal monthly newsletter for our Eversource Employees.

Two RWCB college interns visited the plant for a tour on July 8; Wendy a chemical engineering student from UConn and Zach a chemical engineering student from UMaine.

Fifteen percent of U.S. employees now use AI daily in their role. This has risen from when it was first measured in the second quarter of 2023, when only 4% of employees reported the same. More than half of U.S. employees (52%) now use AI to some degree in their role. This could represent a problem. The WPCA staff are expected to rely on their expertise and education to make decisions about the day-to-day operations.

3.0 Equipment

3.1 WPCF/Collection System

A well-designed WPCF is not merely a wastewater treatment facility- it is a resource recovery system that simultaneously: 1) produces treated water suitable not only for safe discharge but for reuse, 2) targets the reduction of energy usage during treatment and the use of renewable energy, and 3) reduces sludge volume and disposal impact/costs.

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. A strong CIP program leads to proactive commitment to the utility infrastructure. Appropriate rates are a cornerstone for a utility's financial stability and long-term infrastructure planning. WPCA rates were increased in 2025 and 2026. The water rate increases included MTUA and RWCB. Negotiations are ongoing for an increase for RWCB for sewer.

In July, destructive winds and heavy rain disrupted power and communication. Due to the excellent staff response, no significant problems are outstanding. The precipitation total for the July 18th storm was 4.75 inches of rain (Uncasville) which showed a significant increase in overnight baseline flow. UConn professor, Dr. O'Donnell (Director of the *Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation*) reports that it is likely that extreme precipitation events will increase in frequency.

The number one main pump failed on July 6; significant damage was observed in the volute and impeller. The previous months saw a slug of sand laden influent that likely was the cause of the damage.

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The Lead Operator (Marcel Antonini) helped define the flow-paced chlorine delivery system enhancement leading to a 30% reduction in chlorine usage in the first two months of the disinfection system. This was a FY 2027 CIP project along with a valve replacement and enhanced metering. Flow-based chlorine dosing is a common method in water treatment because it ensures consistent disinfection by matching chlorine injection to the actual water flow rate. Based on the first two months of the disinfection season, the reduction represents up to \$7,000 savings per month.

As indicated for the last couple years, sludge disposal will become expensive (currently the second highest WPCF cost). Sludge thickening (dewatering) is a crucial step in wastewater treatment; reducing sludge volume to lessen the number of expensive truck hauls. Currently, the staff maintains the thickening equipment well so performance is optimal, but dry tonnage (dt) limits have been established at the primary disposal location (MDC, Hartford, CT: 150 dt/month) which can be difficult to meet due to the high BOD influent. Daily testing of the thickened sludge (TWAS) is conducted for quality control. The Superintendent has had various vendors onsite to test polymers as well as mechanical methods for the best dewatering practices. At this time, the goal is to reach 6% total solids (TS) for the TWAS; eventually reaching 15% TS with new technology (i.e. polymer dewatering, mechanical thickening).

The Collections Operator (Dennis Kexel) located 93 of the 97 “lost manholes” identified in previous reporting. The find enhances the collections system by guaranteeing access to the system (pipe access every 300 to 500 feet).

Electrical demand “peak day” of the summer for New England occurred on July 2 and 3- the capacity tags are set to define the cost of electrical use. Energy demand at the plant has been lower than the previous year; likely related to the low flows (lower treatment volumes). The fuel cell generated approximately 85% demand by onsite generation.

4.0 Projects

4.1 WPCF/Collection System/Water Supply

The WPCA Engineer was met to define optimal influent flow conditions for the plant and to consider the active I and I reduction plans. This is establishing background for the eventual plant capacity study and response to the June 2025 notice of violation (NOV). The plant is cited as having a realistic design of 3.6 mgd (URS, 2011) which is considerably less than what is stated in the federal and state permits.

Process control problems in the plant are related to large storm events whereas “surges” disrupt the biological (secondary) treatment by intermittent hydraulic overloading. I and I studies were completed in 2025 and 2026 to determine the potential impact of two large potential contributors to the WPCF. The findings show very little overall (daily) impact. RWCB brings in rainwater, if it is mostly used in their production, it does not contribute to their effluent rate significantly. RWCB is looking to alter their existing SWPPP to ensure smaller volume contributions are made to the WPCF. During a recent storm (July 18), RWCB’s contribution jumped 42% suggesting some stormwater contribution. Additionally, MTUA completed a stormwater separation project thus reducing their contribution to the plant influent. The concern continues to be the sudden (short-term < 2-hour event) increase in influent during large storm events in wet months, particularly arising from Subsystem 2 (*The Manor*). The hydraulic overload is short and typically (caused by groundwater table mounding and subsequent infiltration flow into sewer pipes) but leads to a disturbance in the sludge blankets (during the settling cycle) thus solids effluent carryover thus a sudden rise in TSS and BOD in the effluent via “carryover”. The (4.75-inch) rain July 18 event showed a 35% daily total flow (mgd) increase in influent flow due to I and I. The (2-inch) rain July 21 event showed a 25% daily total flow (mgd) increase in influent flow due to I and I. Two times the influent flow (100% increase) due to I and I is considered a benchmark for describing the actual flow into a treatment plant is twice what it should be because of inflow and infiltration. The effect was mitigated due to recent repair operations as well the drought-level (low) groundwater table conditions being well below sewer pipes.

Recent in-house pilot studies conducted by the Lead Operator showed a 2.1% TS achievement just with gravity thickening prior to the GBT. A (artifact/secondary) clarifier was used to settle the sludge (over 2 % TS) with gravity; separated water (supernatant sent to the headworks). Subsequently, the gravity thickened sludge led to a higher TS (7.5%) from the GBT. This in-house trial led to lower operating time, polymer demand and volumes thus freeing monies for other disposal options if the MDC (incinerator) disposal option is limited. By simply thickening more onsite (at no cost), an approximate (hauling) savings of \$12,000 per month could be achieved. A pilot study thickening (screw press) is scheduled for August 17 and will involve two types of feed sludge and three different polymers. Additionally, a pilot study will happen at the nearby Mashantucket WPCF (high speed centrifuge).

Odor complaints were received as a result of the gravity thickening trial. The gravity thickening trial was discontinued on July 21. Odors were primarily due to the temporary grit storage onsite due to the hauler

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breaking the roll-off and returning it with 1/3 load still present. The hauler was contacted to prevent future problems.

CCTV (Closed-Circuit Television) sewer inspections (of a portion of the 62 miles of gravity sewers) were made in the priority areas to define I and I (storm water and groundwater contribution). 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. Line and manhole repairs have reduced identified I and I contributions. The collection operators are met with daily leading to their works at or exceeding national standards (20% system cleaned and 10% system inspected).

The Superintendent completed a technical survey for the eventual USDA grant application for the proposed sewer extension project to The Meadows Apartments.

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. Additional, weekly phone calls are made with the two largest contributors (RWCB and MTUA) to ensure no surprise loading appears in the influent.

The Montville WPCA continues to support water reuse. Currently, reclaimed water (treated effluent) is directed to RWCB. While every community's needs are different, water reuse (purple pipe water) can help conserve potable water, improve operational flexibility, and support long-term planning.

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. An update to the *Water Supply Plan* and *Sabotage Prevention & Emergency Response Plan* is being prepared by Scott Bighinatti of Resilient Land & Water who was met on July 16.

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*. 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 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*. Electronic submittals have been adversely affected by connection issues. 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. The EPA's Integrated Compliance Information System (ICIS) and Facility Registry Service (FRS) are the primary public databases.

Final 2025 TN discharge reporting was made. The final nitrogen credit price was announced in July in accordance with CGS Section 22a-527(c)- Public Act 15-38 which made the *Nitrogen Credit Exchange Program* self-sufficient, thus the payouts for credits earned is significantly less when the program was supplemented by the State. The Montville WPCF discharged less than allowed by the General Permit load allocation (for sellers); therefore, the Exchange Program will make payment described in the invoice from the Office of the State Treasures. The Montville WPCF continues to be one of the best performers for nitrogen removal (50% under the permitted limit for nitrogen loading in effluent/high removal efficiency). Water quality trading is an attractive way for clean-water agencies to meet nutrient reduction goals.

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 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, 2026. The recently revised permit requirements are more robust than previously, including significant outfall sampling/analytical parameters as well as enhanced inspections. Stormwater samples (revised permit benchmark samples) were collected for analysis, and lab reporting was received on July 21.

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 (BOD₅) and Total Suspended Solids (TSS) exceedances (as outlined 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 will meet with the CTDEEP to confirm findings and improvement projects. At this time, there is an assumed compliance with the NOV.

Both industrial and municipal wastewater discharges require a Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit administered by CTDEEP. Municipal permits regulate domestic wastewater from residential and commercial sources processed through a publicly or privately owned treatment works. Industrial permits regulate process wastewater, cooling water, wash water, and other non-domestic effluent generated by manufacturing, commercial processing, or industrial operations. In accordance with Title 40 of the CFR, the CTDEEP provides notice of significant industrial sewer users (SIUs) that were in non-compliance with pretreatment standards and other pretreatment requirements during the preceding federal fiscal year. RWCB was cited due to a Q1 report non-submittal. Upon discussion with RWCB staff, this was incorrect and all reporting has been done for 2026.

The USEPA is replacing a draft scientific assessment that warned PFAS, commonly known as "forever chemicals," in sewage sludge could pose health risks to farming families and rural communities with a shorter guidance document, the agency says, that better reflects real-world conditions. Individual New England states have established their own drinking water maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for multiple individual PFAS, often also in single parts per trillion (ppt) concentrations. It is anticipated that once discharge limits and surface water quality limits are established, they will be comparable to, or even less than, those for drinking water.

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* and *Water System Sabotage Prevention & Emergency Response Plan*. It is suggested by the CTDPH that these should be updated every 10 years. No formal CTDPH has been received. The Superintendent and Administrator met with the WPCA Engineer to discuss and then notified the CTDPH of our intent to update the reports along with a timeline for submittal(s).

5.0 Development

Sewer and water assets are essential to protecting public health as well as for economic development for the Town. The Administrator and Superintendent meet with the Land Use and Development Department (as well as other departments) weekly about various development matters. 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.

Appropriate rates are a cornerstone for a utility's financial stability and long-term infrastructure planning. A new sewer rate/fee schedule was approved in April (to begin in FY 2027- July 1, 2026). A WS rate increase occurred in 2025. State and federal funding can supplement AR to meet the demands of our two utility systems. Low-income loans (i.e. bonding) are typically a more viable funding alternative than grants.

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 2027 WPCA Sewer and Water Budget began on July 1, 2026. The rate increase will add to the AR significantly to this budget cycle.

The FY 2026 cannot be closed at this time. Outstanding revenues and payments will continue for several months in FY 2027. A cursory review FY 2025 budget/CIP expenditures did indicate concerns; it was determined that future budgets 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 in FY 2025 with the actual revenue well below projections. All said, an AR was 13% below the AP with a necessary draw

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on the reserve fund beyond what was placed in the approved budget. The reserve fund is appropriate to GAAP recommendations.

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 ArcGIS platform is in a unique position: it is both a system of record (permanent attributes) and a fluid system of engagement for the operator/mechanics (inspection attributes).

As previously noted, the cost of asset depreciation is provided in utility spreadsheets for cost consideration of the financial health of the utility, 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

Jeff Dimmock (CT Rural Water & Wastewater Association) was met onsite to discuss the potential for grants (i.e. USDA, NRWA). The National Rural Water Association is the nation’s largest rural water and wastewater utility association.

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.

The Town of Montville is requesting proposals from qualified professional civil engineering firms to provide engineering services related to the preparation of a *Preliminary Engineering Report* (PER) which meet the requirements specifically outlined by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) *Water & Waste Disposal Predevelopment Planning Grant*, from which this project is solely funded. The scope includes a sanitary feasibility study for the properties located at The Meadows Apartments, conceptual plans for housing expansion on the Meadows Apartment Site, and expansion possibilities of the WPCF. Following the completion of the PER, and Town concurrence to proceed, the Town may apply for a USDA Development Grant to fund the construction of the sanitary sewer extension to the Meadows Apartments.

Based on a review of the WPCA’s Eligibility Application the CTDPH DWS had determined that the Cook Water Tower replacement project received DWSRF funding. 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, 2025 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, 2025.

The Administrator is managing the annual \$200,000 RWCB payment (to WPCA) related to sewer O & M. A MTUA loan balance remains on the (non-amortized/no interest) 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. Recent water connection fees continue to lower the principal.

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 350,000 kWh per month. As such, the Superintendent examines each point of use to ensure best efficiency (e.g. pump stations, WPCF). The blowers (which deliver air to the biological process tanks) can consume up to 60% of the wastewater treatment plant’s total energy.

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 fuel cell passed its sixth-year anniversary at WPCF. The grid 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 85% of

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the energy required by the WPCF; thus, most of the electrical energy that does not have the higher transmission charge.

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. An email on June 8 reported that the USDA letter had been received and the CTDEEP Core Forest Certificate had also been received on June 5 (both in support of the project). Those were the final requirements needed before submitting the project to the Siting Council, which we plan to do by June 12.

Superintendent Albertson reviewed points of interest from his July 2026 report as follows: (1) very good process control; (2) the significant July storm events having been notified by the State via emergency response; (3) the July 18th storm that produced 4.75 inches of rain with credit given to the Plant team for keeping the process going; (4) the motion on tonight's agenda concerning the pump bid waiver to replace the main influent Pump No. 1; (5) 3% less energy cost in July 2026 compared to the July of last year that equals 13,000 less KW hours; (6) the electricity costs to put air in the tanks concerning solids and bugs to food ratio given costs for electricity is #1 and solids is #2 with credit again attributed to the team for keeping the process going and limiting it to 150 tons per month; (7) the inhouse pilot study concerning gravity thickening was successful with credit given to the lead operator M. Antonini and use of inhouse equipment increased total solids from 5 1/2 % to 7 1/2% reducing truck hauls but this was eventually shut down due to the smell; and (8) numbers for the State general permit to remove nitrogen from effluent was 50% under the loading limit—it was one of the highest. Also referenced were (1) the cyber issues in Michigan where 40 water utilities were affected by way of 3rd-party intrusion; (2) acquisition of the fuel cell that reduces energy by 80%; (3) a meeting with MUTUA last week and studies done concerning strong separate process and flow data information received; (4) MUTUA studies per a meeting last week concerning water restoration at Riverside Boating Dock that is not contributing to flow; and (4) flow data from Rand-Whitney in two (2) instances related processes as not being storm water.

i. Report from Administration

Administrator McDaniel submitted his monthly report for July 2026 included hereto as follows:

- (W) We ran our power supply to Cook Water Tank and are awaiting Eversource to install their equipment and begin service.
- (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) The septage receiving station has been repaired and is up and running.
- (W&S) We continue to provide support and guidance to the Land Use & Development Department for the numerous proposed development projects around town.
- (S) The Planning and Zoning Commission issued a favorable 9-24 review to apply for a planning grant to look at the feasibility of connecting with the Meadows Apartments on Leffingwell Road into the sanitary sewer system. The Land Use Director is filing the grant application with USDA.
- (W&S) We have completed the change out of the manhole frames and covers on Route 32 as a result of the paving project and submitted a bill to the State DOT for reimburse. The State has approved our reimbursement and are awaiting payment.
- (W&S) FY2025 is finally closed out, and we are finishing FY2026 invoices. The FY 2027 budget was been entered.
- (W&S) The new software interface for our customers that will allow them to go into their account and look at bills, usage and payment histories went live on 7/31. We will also be looking to begin charging a "convenience fee" like most businesses and all other Town government assess. We are currently absorbing these fees charged by the credit card processing companies.
- (W) We resolved our first Water Bill Dispute under the policy approved by the Commission.
- W&S) The new water heater and sewer rates have been entered into the system and are in effect as of July 1.

- (W&S) We are almost fully recovered from the July 4th and subsequent storms. There are still a couple of communication issues from the pump stations that we are working out.
(S) = Sewer (W) = Water (W&S) = Water and Sewer

Administrator McDaniel reported that most of his report was self-explanatory and expressed happiness for new hire Will Dudley as of July 1st as a full-time employee and asset to the team—a success story attributed to Superintendent Albertson’s work in the schools. Also reported was a glitch in the new software whereby residents can look at their utility billing account online and setup autopay. The software allows for charging back the fee for credit and debit cards that the Plant consumed for years. Additionally, the State has approved the manhole cover repair on Route 32 at \$.60 on the dollar and possible help with the administrative charge. The fuel cell is down but tomorrow it should get back up and running. The water and sewer rates are in effect and have all been entered in the system. Per a question by the Chairperson, ratepayers will be notified by the website interface and their paper billing. The card charges are standard and differ per company; a lot of ratepayers have signed up for e-billing that required six (6) hours of work on Friday but is up and running today.

j. Report from Mayor

Mayor Bunnell echoed the comments of the Supervisor and commended the plant operators for keeping the plant going during the heavy rain that would otherwise have resulted in a lot violations.

k. Report from Engineers

Superintendent Albertson reported the Plant is focused on trying to do studies in-house—one (1) was done on gravity regarding waste sludge thickening and dewatering, a move from 5 ½% to 13% solids that equates to savings on truck haul costs by half. Also, a formal pilot study concerning equipment from August 17–August 21, for jar testing of polymer sludge types. Flow studies have been done inhouse for storm events to determine problems within the parts of the collection system during these events. As to chlorine levels, the dosing was changed from 500 to 600 per month for examination during peak seasons to save on the cost of chlorine.

l. Old Business -- None

m. New Business

1. Consider and Act on confirming the Bid Waiver for the Replacement of the Main Influent Pump No. 1.

THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES To Consider and Act to confirm the waiving of the sealed bid requirements in Section 708(a) of the Town Charter for the replacement of the Main Influent Pump No. 1, as it is in the best interest of the Town. There was a consensus approval by email communications that will be attached to the minutes of this meeting. The same pump will be purchased from Carlsen Systems for \$55,592.

Motion – Discussion—Roll Call Vote

SAR NO. 2026-09: THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES to Consider and Act to confirm the waiving of the sealed bid requirements in Section 708(a) of the Town Charter for the replacement of the Main Influent Pump No. 1, as it is in the best interest of the Town. There was a consensus approval by email communications that will be attached to the minutes of this meeting. The same pump will be purchased from Carlsen Systems for \$55,592. **Motion** by Vice-Chairperson Terry; seconded by Town Councilor Sabilia. Discussion: Superintendent Albertson reported the urgent need to replace the existing main pumps as they are aging and move through each stage at the plant—waste removal, grit removal and rag removal. Waste from the Town goes through a water treatment process. The Plant crew has had to manually remove rags which is a danger to them. Pump 1 and Pump 2 were replaced, and Pump 3 was rebuilt. A replacement for Pump 1 would allow the rags from the pumping system to go to the deragger; additionally this pump was damaged due to sand along with rocks in the soil that got into the system and there is no idea where it came from. Due to this emergency situation that occurred right after the cancellation of the July meeting, the Commission was contacted ASAP by email. This discussion will be included herewith in the meeting minutes for purposes of clarity and full transparency. [See Addendum A—Pg. 14-15] Per a question by Vice-Chair Terry as to a Plant storeroom for storage of critical parts, Superintendent Albertson explained that \$3,200 per month is paid toward supply parts through a vendor. Additionally, costs are high due to tariffs and fuels costs noted Administrator McDaniel including controller modules and supply disruption due to covid. The old pump will be repurposed per removal and repair of it. **Roll Call vote: In favor: Chairperson Longton, Vice-Chairperson Terry and Town Councilor Sabilia. Opposed: none. Vote: 3-0-0. Motion Approved.**

2. Discussion by the Commission concerning WPCA Plant capacity and expansion.

Vice-Chair Terry remarked that solid data and a feasibility study are needed to provide information toward Plant expansion—the how, where and the cost of the same. Review of the plant and projections regarding capacity are a concern. Administrator McDaniel reported on the Meadows and discussion had by Planning & Zoning. The USDA wants to provide for more hookups and to expand capacity. Flow capacity and BOD capacity are critical elements as part of the Meadows flow application grant. Plant capacity would be an add-on to the PDR grant for the Meadows for analysis and costs for plant capacity as well geo-technological information as to where and how to expand with this grant of \$60,000. The data obtained will be sent out to bid to get a high level idea to proceed regarding the capacity. Further discussion was had concerning the following:

- A 5-year expansion with a full cost analytical and process review;
- Talk about a countrywide sewer system;
- All available kinds of funds that Norwich gets as it has the most capacity;
- Clean water projects with a special bond issue;
- A study grant that is a 25% match that property owners will cover at no cost for the entire thing;
- How Connecticut has been shortchanged concerning USDA funds formerly headquartered in Massachusetts but has plenty of funds to offer;
- Discussion with the CT Rural Water Association;
- How dire is the Meadows situation that has 36 pumps that are pumped monthly.

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

II. Water Commission

a. Report from Operations

Superintendent Albertson reported that both water operators monitor lead and copper that has decreased with frequent sampling that is below action levels.

b. Report from Administration

Administrator McDaniel reported on one(1) nearby lead exceedance due to an old faucet. A new faucet was purchased for \$7.00 from Home Depot and installed.

c. Report from Engineers

Superintendent Albertson reported on work to update the water plan with a vendor and an engineer to establish a portal for the project for the transfer of data that will be reviewed and put into process.

d. Old Business -- None

e. New Business -- None

f. Reports from SCWA

Chairperson Longton reported that a SCWA meeting was held online but he was unable to attend as he was out of town. He asked for the minutes of the meeting but has not received them yet.

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

Town Councilor Sabilia thanked Superintendent Albertson and Administrator McDaniel for all of the information conveyed about bringing the plant up to capacity.

c. Adjournment

Motion by Town Councilor Sabilia; seconded by Vice-Chairperson Terry to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 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.**

ADDENDUM “A”

From: Chuck Longton <chuck2200@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 9, 2026 1:16 PM
To: Deane Terry <dterry@montville-ct.org>
Cc: Nick Sabilia <nsabilia@montville-ct.org>; Ronald K. McDaniel <rmcdaniel@montville-ct.org>; Frank Miceli <magnumrex@aol.com>; Derek Albertson <dalbertson@montville-ct.org>; Leonard Bunnell Sr. <lbunnell@montville-ct.org>; Jon Lilly <jlilly@montville-ct.org>; Kevin Loiler <kloiler@montville-ct.org>
Subject: Re: Pump



CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

We have a consensus to replace the failed pump as an emergency measure. This will be the first order of business of the August 3, 2026 meeting, to make the consensus official with a formal vote to approve.

Chuck

On Thu, Jul 9, 2026 at 7:51 AM Deane Terry <dterry@montville-ct.org> wrote:
Approve

Get [Outlook for iOS](#)

From: magnumrex@aol.com <magnumrex@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, 08 July 2026 13:50:54
To: C Longton <chuck2200@gmail.com>; Deane Terry <dterry@montville-ct.org>; Nick Sabilia <nsabilia@montville-ct.org>; Ronald K. McDaniel <rmcdaniel@montville-ct.org>
Cc: Derek Albertson <dalbertson@montville-ct.org>; Leonard Bunnell Sr. <lbunnell@montville-ct.org>; Jon Lilly <jlilly@montville-ct.org>; Kevin Loiler <kloiler@montville-ct.org>
Subject: Re: Pump



CAUTION: This email originated from outside the organization. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Approve.

Frank Miceli
Senior Multimedia Designer

860.367.4782

www.bluefireanimation.com

On Wednesday, July 8, 2026 at 11:32:02 AM EDT, Ronald K. McDaniel <rmcdaniel@montville-ct.org> wrote:

All,

We lost our Main Pump #1 that handles our influent. Attached is a quote for a one-for-one replacement. As this is time critical, I am asking for a consensus approval to waive the official bid process and get this ordered today if possible. We can then have a vote at the next meeting to get it into the record.

Ron

*Ronald McDaniel
WPCA Administrator
83 Pink Row
Uncasville, CT 06382
860-848-6711*