

TOWN OF MONTVILLE
Water & Sewer Commission
Regular Meeting Agenda – August 3, 2020-- 6:00 PM
Town Council Chambers – 310 Norwich-New London Turnpike
VIRTUAL MEETING

The Town of Montville will be utilizing a virtual GoToMeeting service for this meeting.

Please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone at:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/310698133>

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: +1 (646) 749-3122

Access Code: 310-698-133

On March 14, 2020, Governor Ned Lamont issued an Executive Order 7B suspending in-person open meeting requirements, and to hold such meetings or proceedings remotely by conference call, videoconference, or other technology.

Link: <https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/Office-of-the-Governor/Executive-Orders/Lamont-Executive-Orders/Executive-Order-No-7B.pdf>

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

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

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

Live audio comments may be made via GoToMeeting by calling from your telephone.

Comments will only be accepted at times designated for public comment by the Chair of the meeting. The Water & Sewer Commission Rules of Procedure, decorum, timeliness, and suitability shall be followed and enforced in the same manner as if the meeting were held in person.

1. Water and Sewer Commission

a. Call to Order

Chairman 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 Commissioners Shawn Jinkerson (6:33 p.m./by phone), Anthony Siragusa, Town Councilor Tim May (by phone) and Chairman Chuck Longton. Also present was WPCA Chief Operator/Superintendent Derek Albertson, Mayor Ronald McDaniel, and Accountant Katherine Turker. Commissioner Brian Quinn was absent. A quorum was present.

d. Alterations to the Agenda -- *None*

e. To consider and act on a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 6, 2020. Motion by Commissioner Siragusa, seconded by Commissioner May to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of April 6, 2020. Discussion: none. Voice vote, 3-0, all in favor. Motion carried.

f. Communications pertaining specifically to matters which concern the Commission. -- *None*

g. Remarks from the Public Regarding Items on the Agenda with a three-minute limit
Chairman Longton asked three (3) times for remarks. There were none.

h. Report from Operations

Superintendent Albertson submitted an Operations Report for July 2020 as follows:

1.0 Compliance/Process

1.1 Water Pollution Control Facility

Effluent quality from the Water Pollution Control Facility (WPCF) met state and federal action levels. The July influent flow rate continued to be low. Mohegan Sun Casino reporting would suggest their operations are near 60% of normal. Approximately 54 lbs/day of Total Nitrogen were discharged in the treated effluent--well below the CTDEEP WPCF general permit limit (118 lbs/day). The most effective waste sludge thickening (6.1 % solids) was observed and will continue to result in (overall) fewer truck hauls for the new fiscal year.

1.2 Water Supply

The water supply (WS) met required standards. The Town WS continued to require less water purchased from City of Groton, Department of Utilities (GU) as compared to this time last year. The virus has not been detected in U.S. water supplies. The recently released *2020 Earth Day Survey of Americans* (SUEZ Water Technologies & Solutions, 2020) reported that nearly 75% of those surveyed agree that there is a global climate crisis, 69% say water scarcity is a significant concern of theirs, and 74% agree that more needs to be done in their communities to conserve water. The survey found widespread acceptance of recycled water: 34% of respondents say they would drink recycled water, and 48% are open to its use for irrigation. Only 5% say they would not be comfortable using recycled water for any purpose.

1.3 Health Crisis

In July, the CDC reported upticks in cases in 46 states in July with the WHO reporting the disease spread as the worst since the pandemic began. The Superintendent will be vigilant to conditions within Connecticut and continue to follow state and federal guidelines to control the spread of the illness within the workplace. The concentration of SARS-CoV-2 virus appears to be low in feces and raw wastewater and is typically inactive and later destroyed during treatment.

1.4 Weather

Hurricane season began on June 1. NOAA's *Climate Prediction Center* is forecasting a higher than normal (named) storm count, including hurricanes. Emergency response equipment has been inspected, maintained, and placed. In July, a check of the uninterrupted power supply (UPS) units was completed at the WPCF and collection systems; the Mohegan Brook and WPCF pump station units were replaced. A spare was kept for emergencies. The elevated temperatures have led to some "comm errors" at the pump stations.

2.0 Staff

2.1 Personnel

No reports of employee injury/accidents this month. None of the current Montville WPCF team has indicated symptoms of COVID-19. Wastewater operations are considered essential services for public health pursuant to Governor's EO No. 7H for public health, safety, and welfare. In its overview of the *Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce*, the US Department of Homeland Security and EPA designate water/wastewater workers as essential.

Due to the summer heat, several days included heat indices over 100 deg F. Information regarding heat-related illnesses (dehydration and heat exhaustion) was provided to staff. According to the CDC, currently one-third of all Americans are showing signs of clinical depression and anxiety during this time of the pandemic. The current EAP program(s) are available to staff and can serve as a resource during this stressful time. As previously indicated, the WPCA *Clerk* will be out of work for an extended period due to illness.

The Superintendent took part in a survey in support of the WEF/AWWA *Work for Water* initiative for the *National Work for Water Campaign*. Specifically, a survey and follow up discussion was completed to evaluate staffing needs for drinking water and clean water utilities across New England to address a large amount of skilled wastewater worker retirements. Staff were encouraged to rejoin the WEF/NEWEA professional organizations. The Superintendent completed the July 2020 *USEPA National Study of Nutrient Removals and Secondary Technologies* indicating the current plant's performance exceeds national averages for nitrogen removal. The *AFSCME Council 4 MAME*, Local 818 (management) Union approved a contract offer on July 14 (old agreement due to expire on June 30, 2020).

2.2 Response to Crisis

A two-step *COVID-19 Contingency Plan* was prepared by the Superintendent in March; it has been posted on the Town and WPCA websites. Staff that travel out of state may have to quarantine prior to return to work or show a negative test result. OSHA reports that current (wastewater) disinfection techniques have been proven adequate to prevent transmission--extra measures are not needed. The EPA reports that the COVID-19 virus has not been detected in U.S. drinking-water supplies. Based on current evidence, the risk to water supplies is low. As indicated there has been a spread of the illness in the southern U.S. so Governor Lamont pushed back the Phase III re-opening date (even though the State has shown a 0.6% positive test rate in July with hospitalizations at very low levels) due to a massive number of identified sick people in the southern U.S. The Superintendent has continued to implement controls for social distancing, provided PPE, and disinfection of work areas. Additionally, additional disinfection/cleaning products, signage, a disinfection fogger and non-contact thermometer were purchased to support those outlines detailed in the Governor's re-opening procedures. McCarthy Heating and Cooling completed cleaning and service for the wall (heating/cooling) units within the facility on July 8 and 9. Researchers have confirmed that the COVID-19 virus can be detected in the untreated waste of positive patients, and numerous treatment facilities across the U.S. are taking advantage of that and working to help track the spread of the outbreak. Several vendors have launched new tests based on the CDC test design for the detection/quantification of SARS-CoV-2 (virus) in wastewater to further support efforts to address the COVID-19 pandemic. Testing municipal wastewater for SARS-CoV-2 is being widely studied and used globally as an indicator of the prevalence of COVID-19 in communities. This week, The Water Research Foundation (WRF) released a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to identify a research team to optimize sample design for the quantification of SARS-CoV-2 genes in sewage and wastewater. The research will encompass a range of scales by conducting a sampling and analytical program in multiple locations within well-characterized community sewersheds of varying size. SECCOG has contacted the Superintendent about potential sewershed or facility-based sampling/ analysis efforts within the Town. A regional recovery effort is being organized through DEMHS (Division of Emergency Management and Homeland Security) Region 4 and SCCOG and the northeast COG (NECCOG) are providing staff support to a Recovery Steering Committee. The committee will mostly focus on human services type planning, but there's potential to stand up an infrastructure working group focusing on resilience/continuity of service issues and early detection testing.

The Connecticut Public Utilities Regulatory Authority (PURA) shut-off moratoriums close on August 1 (Commercial and Industrial) and September 9 (residential). PURA does not have authority over the Town's WS; the WPCA would have to make a decision whether to continue the shut-off moratorium.

2.3 Training

Since the July 2020 CTDEEP wastewater exams were canceled, water and wastewater organizations have cancelled training classes through July 1, 2020. The Superintendent purchased a publication: *Wastewater Treatment Fundamentals I – Liquid Treatment* for staff members for the WPCF library. The Superintendent and staff received online training in July from EPA, CTDEEP, WEF, NEWEA, HACH, IDEXX and AWWA. On July 14, the Superintendent received training as part of a webinar series *Advancement in Wastewater Monitoring for Rapid COVID-19 Community Spread Detection*. This online (remote) course detailed techniques (i.e., sampling, molecular genetic analysis) for determining community/facility testing in sewersheds (sub-systems in the collection system) to identify and quantify cases for advanced warning without the need for large population testing.

3.0 Equipment

3.1 WPCF

As previously indicated, it was recommended that the (climate controlled) Administrator's Office be dedicated as the computer/internet/server hub location after an initial switch/router organization and server installation.

3.2 Collection System/Water Supply

The WPCF has issued guidance with recommendations for initial flushing for building plumbing lines and/or grease removal equipment left idle during the pandemic. Additionally, the WPCF requested that ratepayers not discard their non-flushable items (i.e. wipes, face masks, gloves) in ways that can hurt the wastewater system. Notices have been mailed and posted in problem areas and posted on the WPCA website.

On July 9, The WPCA assisted the property manager for Village Apartments to locate a lateral line leak. On July 15 and 16, CLA Engineers (Town Engineer) were met to discuss (bedrock) blasting operations for a drainage project along Orchard Drive. The (gravity) sewer line was inspected via CCTV before and after blasting/excavations. A water leak ensued during excavation activities on Orchard Drive on July 20; that is not part of the Town's WS.

A small drip of treated/recycle water was observed from the Rand-Whitney supply line (purple pipe) in a pressure relief vault adjacent to 267 Maple Avenue on July 23. The vault was vacuumed out. On July 24, WPCF, Rand-Whitney and P&H Construction & Septic System personnel were met at the vault to discuss the findings and remedy options.

A total of 9,640 linear feet of cleaning / CCTV inspection has been completed in 2020.

4.0 Projects

Project scheduling is ongoing; however, timelines have been extended due to the pandemic. Please see the engineering summary table for information about WPCA projects; also, the March 2020 FY 2021 capital improvement memorandum for proposed projects.

4.1 General

Woodard & Curran (Town Engineer) personnel were met on July 2 to formulate an appropriate response to the Town (IT) audit related to a WPCF internet and server configuration. Woodard & Curran made corrections to alarming at the Lathrop and Orchard Pump Stations as well as the Maple Avenue (water) station during the week of July 20. Also, staff met with the Engineers to review SCADA equipment purchases and a timeline for the CIP improvements to the Pheasant Run (aka Black Ash) PS.

New aerial photographs were taken on July 6 by the Town Engineer (Wright-Pierce); the photographs will be used in the site's CTDEEP filings, SWPPP, SPCC Plan and ERP and represents the current configuration (with recently installed fuel cell and chlorine system). The new photography will also be used in the WPCA website; the Superintendent met with Brian Pearson (Miranda Creative) to follow up on this. Follow up acoustic testing for the fuel cell was also completed on July 6 by Acoustic Technologies, Inc.

The Superintendent met with a representative of BioSafe Systems on July 10 and 17 and 30 to discuss liquid oxidizer/disinfection options to be used in the WPCF distribution boxes to prevent the buildup of hydrogen sulfide which leads to the destruction of concrete and support rebar. The newly installed Blower No. 7 (high capacity--turbo, positive displacement, Atlas Copco blower has been providing a high capacity/controlled air delivery to SBR-5 and SBR-6 (process tanks) since going online (May 29). Atlas Copco personnel were met on July 16 for a performance review. Woodard & Curran (WPCA Engineer) were also met on July 16 to discuss FY 2021 CIP projects, including SCADA improvement and flow meter improvements for the WS pump stations as well as the SCADA improvements for the Pheasant Run (Black Ash) PS.

Martinez Couch & Associates, LLC (MCA) provided an engineering schedule for the installation of the grit chamber. MCA had been contracted several years ago by the previous administration to complete a much-needed grit chamber. MCA personnel were met on July 17 and 29 to discuss the finalized documents/drawings and the formal bidding process. A 12-hour Rand-Whitney shut-down occurred on July 22.

Emergency response plan deadlines are nearing for compliance with the October 2018 *America's Water Infrastructure Act*. The WPCA had a published *Montville WPCA Water System Sabotage Prevention & Emergency Response Plan* (January 2016) which provided for a vulnerability assessment (VA) and an emergency response plan (ERP); however, the Superintendent met with Wright-Pierce (Town Engineer) on July 24 to summarize compliance issues to ensure the WPCA

responds appropriately to the federal act. The AWWA has provided a comprehensive approach (to evaluating water system resilience and emergency response plan) with a series of standards for 2021 compliance.

The WPCA Engineer (Wright-Pierce) is scheduling the installation of the new recycle water pumps. Reportedly, significant delays have been encountered due to the pandemic with respect to the VFD and pump purchases. The Superintendent met with the WPCA Engineer and Rand-Whitney on July 27 to confirm a VFD option to move the project forward.

Rockwell Automation personnel were onsite for a VFD, PLC, HMI inspection (Installed Base Evaluation) as part of an existing maintenance contract.

4.2 New Permitting

The Superintendent has been made aware of proposed changes from the CTDEEP to the *Pretreatment Programs* that will affect local responsibilities. The current effective date of the new *General Permit for Discharges from Miscellaneous Industrial Users* (MIU GP) is October 31, 2020. The expected changes to the MIU GP will require local (Superintendent) authority to regulate and enforce non-significant industrial users (non-SIUs). The new *General Permit for the Discharge of Wastewaters from Significant Industrial Users* will be effective October 31; the CTDEEP and USEPA however will continue to regulate and enforce the SIUs. In anticipation of the reissued MIU GP, the WPCA will need to implement the changes to sewer regulations and sewer connection registration and approval procedures, to prepare a current industrial user list that would be permitted under the new MIU GP, and to develop a pretreatment program framework to monitor, inspect, certify, and register non-SIUs subject to the new MIU GP. Industrial inspections will expand the Superintendent's knowledge of the collection system. A July 16 work plan from Wright-Pierce (Town Engineer) outlines their assistance in this matter.

4.3 CMOM

All pump stations were inspected during the month of July with FOG pumping of wetwells at the Mayo, Chesterfield and D'Amato pump stations on July 6. All work is documented for CTDEEP submittal.

Permitting is being completed for the cross-country sewer project with clearing (construction) efforts to begin soon. On July 7, a walk-through was conducted to determine the extent of the project that extends onto Eversource property. On July 20, Wright-Pierce (WPCA Engineer) was met to discuss options for reducing the wetland permit(s) requirements. Additionally, the owner of the 27 and 37 Fellows Road properties was met to discuss the sewer easement alteration and proposed work for the utility driveway. Recent developments in legislation may have changed the definition of "waters of the United States" thus limiting permit requirements.

The Superintendent met with Aaron of CAI Technologies on July 20 and 21 and 27 to address CTDEEP CMOM and CTDPH directives for the GIS utility mapping for both and water and wastewater. If no other Town GIS contractor is now used, CAI Technologies will be contracted

via an initial (low cost) WPCA proposal to outline how the current GIS work can be enhanced (via *Access ESRI GIS* platform with *GIS Collector/ Editor* and *Arc GIS Online*). We will examine the existing GIS transponder to determine if it has appropriate (*Blue Tooth*) capability for real time adjustments of asset locations. Additionally, mapping from the former collection reports (URS, 2011) was scanned and will be geo-referenced to determine accuracy. Training will be provided for staff, if required.

Manhole repairs considered priority have been scheduled as part of the FY 2020/2021 CIP (locations along Routes 32 and 163, Chesterfield Road, and Kitemaug Road) for the Spring/Summer. The Superintendent met with a contractor on July 10 and 28 to conclude repairs along Route 163 and direct new repairs along Route 32. On July 21, the WPCF received a report of a manhole cover starting to sink into the road on July 21 (Jeffrey Manor and Lochdale Roads--inactive line). The cover and apron were inspected that day with repairs made by staff the next day.

A remote meeting with Wright-Pierce personnel occurred on July 29 to define the asset management program requested by the CTDEEP during their October 2019 inspection. The program is instrumental in defining the 5-year CIP plan based on condition of major assets. The plan will also assist in gathering institutional knowledge from employees. Along with the 2021 CIP engineering project for the Chesterfield PS, all concerns raised by the CTDEEP have been addressed. No formal follow-up reporting is requested by the CTDEEP.

4.4 Sludge

Jason Kahen, Senior Profiled Waste Sales Manager and Rowena Rico of *Covanta Environmental Solutions* were met on July 14, 16, and 28 to discuss the potential sludge disposal option of the Preston (waste to energy) incinerator for waste solids for a sustainable option. Initial due diligence included supplemental laboratory testing (i.e., total solids, paint filter test) completed on July 15, to assist in determining if the project was plausible. A concern is the plant's waste sludge classification as a biosolid. Additional information was sought from the CTDEEP regarding this matter to review the strict standards for biosolids which have to with vector control, pathogen reduction, etc.

It is suggested that \$15,000 of the \$50,000 reserved in the FY 2020 CIP (originally set for RAS metering) be used for flow meters for each of the SBRs. Last winter, flow variation to the process tanks lead to plant upset--the meters will allow for equalization of influent.

5.0 Development

The former West Rock (Rock Ten) facility (125 Depot Road) has been sold. There is proposed demolition of existing structures. LVI Environmental and P & J Sprinkler personnel (and WS operators and Fire Marshal) were met at the site on July 10 to discuss construction work and water/sewer shutoffs. P & J Sprinkler is tentatively scheduled to excavate the fire line on Dock

Road on August 4. P&H Construction & Septic System will reportedly disconnect the sewer line. The demolition permit application has reportedly been submitted.

6.0 Finances

6.1 Accounts Review

FY 2021 began July 1, 2020. June 2020 accounts were reconciled. Year to Date and project FY 2020 Budgets were completed and reviewed. Please see the June 2020 budget sheets for financial information about the WPCA WS and WPCF.

6.2 Budget(s)/Assets

Ledger values will need to be adjusted in anticipation of balancing the year end (FY 2020--ended June 30). The original budget was an estimate of expected expenditures. An inventory of existing, new, and acquired assets was begun for FY 2020 end.

6.3 Pandemic Response

A line item in the budget will be added in anticipation of State/Federal reimbursement purchases for the COVID-19 pandemic. As Congress and the White House continue negotiations on a coronavirus economic recovery package, support should be available for water/wastewater utilities. The Governor announced a \$75 million relief fund earlier this year.

The FY 2021 water and sewer budgets for the WPCA were approved; as indicated, a conservative approach due to the expected loss of revenue stream due to the pandemic. The new budgets included CIP projects specific to this coming year.

6.4 Grants

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) was passed by Congress on March 27, 2020. Since then, many local governments and public safety agencies had the opportunity to benefit from these measures. This included direct allocations, among other things. Even though most CARES federal applications are closed, States directly received funding through this Act, as well, and many are choosing to distribute this funding in the form of grants (pass-through funding).

Recently, the USEPA announced \$6 Billion in new funding for water infrastructure projects. The funding availability is under its *Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA)* program, including funding for the new *State Infrastructure Financing Authority WIFIA (SWIFIA)* program. These funding programs accelerate investment in critical water infrastructure through innovative and flexible financing that can support diverse projects in both large and small communities. This year's funding will provide up to \$6 billion to support \$12 billion in water infrastructure projects.

The 2020 CTDEEP Draft *Integrated Water Quality Report* was prepared to satisfy statutory reporting requirements pursuant to the Clean Water Act (CWA) to assess designated uses

established by the State's Water Quality Standards (CTWQS). Relative to the document, the treatment plant is a point source of discharge and is available for federal funding (grants and low interest loans) for wastewater infrastructure improvement projects. Additional CTDEEP grant monies were applied for via the Connecticut Clean Water Fund Request to Place Project on Priority List for monies for constructing a (sewer) collection system asset management plan.

Potential water grant needs were sent to the CTDPH via their *Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Project Eligibility Application*. Specifically, grant monies would help pay for the evaluation and/or replacement or painting of the Cook Tower water storage facility (a FY 2021 CIP project). The CTDPH notified the Superintendent on June 19 that it had reviewed the *Eligibility Application* (EA) submitted for the *Cook Hill Tank Evaluation and Rehabilitation* project under the DWSRF Program. Based on DPH review of the materials submitted, the proposed project is eligible for DWSRF funding. The study, design and construction will be covered by 50% grant and 50% low interest loan (2%, 20-year term) that can be pre-paid at any time. A proposal for engineering for that project was received by the Town Engineer (Wright Pierce) on May 28.

6.5 Town Audit

Matthew E. Bonin, CPA-Manager and John Grelish, Senior Accountant from Blum Shapiro (Town Auditor) and Chris Melnyk (IT Security) have contacted staff about the annual Town audit. The formal interviews have been intensive. A list of accounts, investments along with financial statements for FY 2019 and YTD FY 2020 were requested. A review of the control of workstations and software (including SCADA) was completed for current and future conditions. Additionally, a review of fixed asset accounting was provided for. The FY 2020 Blum Shapiro *Review of IT Controls* was received on June 12 and indicated that the overall control environment at the Montville WPCA remains generally satisfactory in areas of high risk. The WPCA must make and execute plans for how long data will be kept and when to delete data, particularly those most susceptible to security threats. A RFP was extended to Woodard & Curran (Town Engineer) to address concerns identified. According to experts, local public entities are often specifically targeted for cyber-attacks due to the vulnerable and open nature of their operations. Cyber-attacks, data theft, ransomware, spoofing, and phishing incidents are escalating in type, number, and creativity with cyber criminals exploiting human nature as much as the technical vulnerabilities of hardware and software systems.

6.6 Energy

The WPCA currently has an October 2016 contract with Balanced Rock Energy (energy broker) scheduled to end in December 2021. The current price for electrical energy is \$0.0725 per kWh which is consistently been lower than market level. The pandemic has dropped demand for energy. Consequently, there is a potential to leave the existing contract to gain a 10% (or more) in savings for electrical energy costs (current power cost: \$0.0725 per kWh).

The Fuel Cell final connection work was completed on June 1. The unit began producing power (operating at 460 kW) on June 24 with the first month of service ending July 24; a review of billing

was conducted to determine its power generation. A 6-foot extension will be placed on the generator exhaust pipe to limit interference with the fuel cell. Preliminary results indicate a significant drop in street (grid) power demand. The Eversource billing will be reviewed as well as the formal monthly kWh output report from VFS/Doosan. Reportedly, Eversource has applied for an increase in their “transmission costs” with the State regulatory board. VFS will create the first month’s invoice using a cost of \$.1029/kWh. Because it is onsite power generation, there will be no transmission fee which show overall energy cost savings. The installation of the *PureCell Model 400* was documented in April 16 and 30 and July 4 *New London Day* articles. Savings will be detailed on the WPCA website.

Lighting (bulb) replacement (from fluorescent to LED for energy savings) was ongoing in July throughout the WPCF for trucks and other applications. Purchases were made with the *Energize Connecticut* incentive. *Energize Connecticut* supports a variety of programs that provide education and financial incentives to help Connecticut residents reduce the amount of energy used in their home or business

Superintendent Albertson summarized his monthly report and spoke of the plant working well, the rise in Covid-19 counts in our country; the beginning of the hurricane season on June 1 and the pending tropical storm from Hurricane Isaias; and no reports of injuries, accidents or Covid infection at the plant. He responded to Commissioner Siragusa that the crane truck was given to Public Works stating it had no value. He also agreed to mail the budget spreadsheets to Commissioner Siragusa using a larger font.

i. Report from Mayor – *No report*

j. Report from Engineers

Superintendent Albertson referred to Section 4 of the Superintendent’s report regarding these items which covers most projects and also mentioned grants being pursued and details from the accounting audit.

k. Old Business

1. CMOM-CTDEEP Insp Response, CCTV, Manhole Covers, XC Project, Operator

Superintendent Albertson reported on capacity at the plant and inspection of pump stations, flushing and visual pictures of the system totaling 9040 linear feet; the prioritization of repairs to manhole covers; and obtaining permits for the cross-country sewer project.

2. Sewer Regulation Changes – Connection Fees

Superintendent Albertson said he would continue to work on information regarding edits to connection fees in 2009 and thereafter and present his findings to the Commission once complete.

l. New Business

1. Sewer Regulation Changes – MIU

Superintendent Albertson reported on changes to permitting regarding pretreatment programs that the current regulations do not address. He said he was working with the engineers regarding his response.

2 Covid-19 Response.

Superintendent Albertson stated Covid-19 is peaking in the south and will eventually move north. He reported that social distancing, disinfection, fogging, and PPE are in place at the plant in addition to cleaning of the heating/cooling system.

3. FY 2020 Year End

Superintendent Albertson introduced accountant Kathryn Tucker and said the fiscal year close-out of shows the 2020 budget as being under the projected water/sewer budget for the year. He said the pandemic put a damper on some projects. K. Tucker confirmed that outstanding payables and receivables for 2020 are complete; Superintendent Albertson said it will be brought forward for review by the Commission.

4. To consider and act on a motion to leave the existing 2016 energy contract with Balanced Rock Energy and initiate a new contract to gain energy savings.

SAR-No. 2020-18 THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES to leave the existing 2016 energy contract with Balanced Rock Energy and initiate a new contract to gain energy savings.

Motion – Discussion – Roll Call

Motion by Commissioner May; seconded by Commissioner Siragusa. Discussion: Superintendent Albertson responded to Commissioner Siragusa a new contract would be sought for less than the current since the demand is high and prices have dropped. A broker is being used for this action. Roll Call vote: *In favor:* Commissioners Longton, May, and Siragusa. *Opposed:* none. Vote, 3-0. Motion carried.

5. To consider and act on \$15,000 reserved in FY 2020 CIP (originally set for RAS metering) be sued for influent flow meters for each SBR.

SAR-No. 2020-19 THE TOWN OF MONTVILLE WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION HEREBY RESOLVES to act \$15,000 reserved in FY 2020 CIP (originally set for RAS metering) be sued for influent flow meters for each SBR.

Motion – Discussion – Roll Call

Motion by Commissioner Siragusa; seconded by Commissioner May. Discussion: Superintendent Albertson responded to Commissioner Siragusa that gate valves instead of individual flow meters would be implemented. He said each basin would get the same amount of flow and could be readjusted with the gate valve that would be hooked up to SCADA. Commissioner May asked if it would help with chemical use. Superintendent Albertson said it would be effective with removing contaminants, help reduce sludge, reduce chlorine use; improve treatment; and pay for itself over the years. Roll Call vote: *In favor:* Commissioners Longton, May, and Siragusa. *Opposed:* none. Vote, 3-0. Motion carried.

m. Reports/referrals from Planning & Zoning -- *None*

n. Payment of Bills -- *None*

Mayor McDaniel reported he had been countersigning checks and reviewing activities.

II. Water Commission

a. Report from Engineers

Superintendent Albertson reported water quality has met all standards and the purchase of it from Groton has reduced due to Covid. He also said Mohegan Sun operations seem to be near to 60% normal, but their water use is lower as they purchase from Norwich Utilities.

is

b. Old Business

1. GU Rate Increases for October 2020.

Commissioner Siragusa asked about the special deal for water, referencing the \$25.00 rebate. Superintendent Albertson said the clerk has been out so the period for it was extended. Accountant Turker said the bills for them were reissued. Commissioner Siragusa also asked if a bill was submitted to the Town for fire hydrants. Mayor McDaniel said it was not for the budget just approved. Commissioner Siragusa said he wanted to have it submitted for next year's budget. He also asked about a water rate increase. Superintendent Albertson said water usage is low and Mayor McDaniel said connection rates should be evaluated before consideration. Commissioner May asked is there a deficit on the water side if rates are not adjusted. Superintendent Albertson said it was not and said water sold is done 17%. Mayor McDaniel added you cannot sell more than you buy despite flushing and said you only buy what you need to sell that was the practice even before Covid-19 started.

c. New Business

Superintendent Albertson spoke of the impending deadline for emergency response plan and Covid-19 guidelines for the same. The WPCA plan drafted in 2016 will be updated with input from engineers. Commissioner Siragusa asked about water safety control measures. Superintendent Albertson said there are lock gates and doors to prevent vulnerability.

d. Remarks from the Public

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

e. Remarks from Commission Members

Commissioner Siragusa said it was nice being able to sit in the same room again. Commissioner May thanked Chairman Longton and Superintendent Albertson for keeping the Commission informed and for the meeting this evening. Chairman Longton said he was glad to be back instead of at home. Commissioner Jinkerson had no remarks.

f. Adjournment

Motion made by Commissioner Siragusa, seconded by Commissioner May to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m. Discussion, none. Voice vote; 4-0, all in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,

Gloria J. Gathers
Recording Secretary, Town of Montville

**AN AUDIO RECORDING OF THE MEETING IS AVAILABLE ON THE TOWN OF
MONTVILLE WEBSITE.**