



Town of Groton - Public Works

134 Groton Long Point Rd
Groton, CT 06340-4394
Public Works Administration
(860) 448-4083

Meeting Agenda

Water Pollution Control Authority

Chairman David Williams, Laura Baller and John Wirzbicki

Tuesday, April 7, 2015

6:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 3

1. **ROLL CALL**
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
February 3, 2015 Meeting Minutes
3. **COMMUNICATIONS & BILLS**
4. **REPORTS**
 - A) **Consultant Reports**
CH2M Hill - Results of the Condition Assessment of the Six Major Pump Stations
 - B) **WPCA Chairman's Report**
 - C) **Water Pollution Control Facility Report**
 - 1) *February 2015 Facility Report*
 - 2) *March 2015 Facility Report*
6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
7. **NEW BUSINESS**
8. **OTHER BUSINESS**
 - a) *Current State of Operations at the WPCF.*
 - b) *Update on Planned/Proposed Facility Improvements.*
9. **ADJOURNMENT**



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Meeting Minutes - **Draft**

Water Pollution Control Authority

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Tuesday, February 3, 2015

6:30 PM

Town Hall Annex - Community Room 3

1. **ROLL CALL**

*Chairman David Williams
Laura Baller
John Wirzbicki
Chris Lund, Assistant Director of Public Works
Derek Albertson, WPCF Operations Supervisor
Brandon Gonzalez*

Meeting called to order at 6:40pm

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The December 9, 2014 meeting minutes were approved unanimously by all three Authority members.

3. **COMMUNICATIONS & BILLS**

Chairman Williams approved the sewer use refund for 25 Middlefield Street after having been informed that the resident had submitted double payment by mistake.

4. **REPORTS**

A) Consultant's Report

B) Attorney's Report

The Authority was notified that the Town has made an offer to settle with the residents at 697 Noank Road and is still awaiting their response.

C) Public Works Director's Report

D) Chairman's Report

E) Water Pollution Control Facility Report

Chris summarized information contained within the December WPCF Report that was distributed to the Authority as part of the Agenda package.

5. **NEW BUSINESS**

a) Chris introduced Derek Albertson, the new WPCF Operations Supervisor. Derek informed the Authority of his education and professional background.

b) The Authority was briefed on the results of a study conducted by Fuss & O' Neill regarding the plant's capacity to act as a Regional Septic Receiving Facility in order to generate additional revenue. The findings of the study showed that the plant currently receives 12,000 gallons a week in septic waste. The plant's capacity is 46,000 gallons per day. Chris informed the Authority that more research would need to be conducted to determine feasibility from a business standpoint.

c) Chris reviewed the FYE16 Sewer Operating Fund with the Authority. It was explained to the Authority that the FYE16 Sewer Operating Fund handout that was distributed to them the day

prior did not reflect an additional \$800,000 of previously unused CIP funds that was recently discovered by the Town's Finance Department.

Capital Improvement Projects totaling \$1,319,000 have been requested and require the Authorities approval. The total request for FYE16 Sewer Operating Fund is \$7,042,165. It was explained that funding would come from the previously Unused CIP Funds, Unreserved Sewer Funds and a proposed \$1.00 residential and \$.0016 commercial Sewer Use Rate increase.

John Wirzbicki moved to accept use of Unused CIP funds, Unreserved Sewer funds and a Sewer Use Rate increase of \$1.00 on residential to \$29.00 and \$.0016 increase on commercial to \$.0462 per/cubic foot. Laura seconded the motion and Chairman Williams agreed. The motion was passed unanimously.

d) Chris informed the Authority that a Sewer Bond referral has been made and the Town Council will be briefed next week.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

7. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50pm

Water Pollution Control Division

February 2015 Monthly Report

Division Performance

During February, the treatment plant compiled the following statistics:

- A. Gallons Treated: 77.8 Million Gallons
- B. Sludge transported for final disposal: 208,000 gallons (Average 6.36% solids)
- C. Average Daily Flow Rate: 2.78 Million Gallons Per Day (MGD)
- D. Highest Observed Flow Rate: 5.0 MGD

December Commercial Account Billing: \$247,046.02

Items Previously Reported:

Gravel Street Pump Station Generator Failure (Downtown Mystic) – The generator has been repaired and returned to service. Funds for a replacement generator have been included in the FYE2016 budget.

Personnel/Training

Assistant Director Lund and Shift Operator Salvatore have been selected to attend the CT Water Pollution Abatement Association's 2015 Wastewater Management Leadership Program.

WPCF Staff conducted training on managing an emergency bypass at the WPCF.

Projects Under Development

Underground Storage Tank Removal – WPCF staff met CH2M-Hill engineers on February 16 to address size & location specifications for the new tanks and other requisite information for this project to remove three underground fuel tanks and replace them with above ground tanks.

Operations

"Call Before You Dig" - Responded to 18 requests.

Process Control – We saw significant reductions this month in the Total Nitrogen in the plant effluent related to ongoing adjustments to the process. These changes have also had the added effect of reducing the amount of sludge being hauled from the plant by several truckloads each week.

The US Coast Guard contacted the WPCF to inform us the outfall buoy had been reported off station. The ice floes in the river had dragged the buoy and its mooring several hundred feet downriver to the Hess piers. Shoreline Scuba was hired and returned the buoy to its proper location on February 28. The annual inspection of the mooring chain and anchors were also completed during the relocation.

Outreach/Education

Included below is a photo taken of the Ella T Grasso Technical School students during their tour of the WPCF in late January.



Water Pollution Control Division

March 2015 Monthly Report

Division Performance

During March, the treatment plant compiled the following statistics:

- A. Gallons Treated: 125 Million Gallons
- B. Sludge transported for final disposal: 292,500 gallons (Average 5.69% solids)
- C. Average Daily Flow Rate: 4.03 Million Gallons Per Day (MGD)
- D. Highest Observed Flow Rate: 10.0 MGD

January Commercial Account Billing: \$238,321.90

Items Previously Reported:

Underground Storage Tank Removal – CH2M-Hill engineers are working on preliminary designs for the fuel tank removal and replacement. The first submittals are due in April.

Personnel/Training

WPCF Staff attended various training opportunities on and off site this month. Two operators participated in a very informative Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) course. Other operators continue to complete various correspondence classes in anticipation of completing Operator Certification examinations in July 2015.

Projects Under Development

Lestertown Road Enclosure Replacement – Debbie Marshall-Baker started designing a replacement structure for the Lestertown Road Pump Station building. The new structure is modeled after the recently completed structure at the Ann Avenue Pump Station. The new design will provide better accessibility to equipment thereby enabling regular maintenance and repair to be performed more easily than at present. The site work will also include new fencing and better vehicle access and parking.

Operations

“Call Before You Dig” - Responded to 46 requests.

Outfall Buoy Replacement – The buoy in the Thames River was dragged off its assigned position by heavy ice floes. The foam buoy and its mooring system were retrieved and inspected. Due to its age and condition, it was decided to procure a new buoy and replacement chain and shackles. The new Sewer Outfall buoy was installed on March 20 in its proper location marking the outfall. During the installation, the contractor also completed the annual outfall inspection and found it to be in good condition.

Process Status – The plant met all permit requirements this month in all categories. No exceedances occurred.

Before the snow started melting, the Effluent Total Nitrogen (TN) concentrations for March 2015 (5.86 mg/l) were approximately 24% lower than TN concentrations for March 2014 (7.74 mg/l). With a normal daily flow

(2.5 MGD) the load would be expected to be 122 pounds per day which is below the permitted requirement. However, the snowmelt resulted in a monthly average flow above 4MGD. Overall, TN results have responded very favorably to the process changes that have been made since January.

Miscellaneous

Included below are a couple photos of the rescue of a Canada Goose that became trapped and fatigued in the primary clarifier. The rescued bird was turned over to wildlife rehabilitators. It has successfully recovered and will soon be returned to the wild.

