

**EAST LYME WATER & SEWER COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday, JULY 27th, 2010
MINUTES**

The East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission held a Regular Meeting on Tuesday, July 27, 2010 at the East Lyme Town Hall, 108 Pennsylvania Avenue, Niantic, CT. Chairman Formica called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

PRESENT: Paul Formica, Chairman, Dave Zoller, Steve DiGiovanna, Dave Murphy, Roger Spencer, Joe Mingo, Dave Bond, Carol Russell, John Jasper

ALSO PRESENT: Brad Kargl, Municipal Utility Engineer
Michael Giannattasio, Director of Public Works
Don Iannicelli, GeoInsight, Inc.
Chris Clark, Mohegan Tribe
Attorney Edward O'Connell, Town Counsel

ABSENT: No One

1. Call to Order

Chairman Formica called the Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission to order at 7:00 PM and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Approval of Minutes

◇ **Regular Meeting Minutes – June 22, 2010**

Mr. Formica called for a motion or any discussion or corrections to the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 22, 2010.

****MOTION (1)**

Mr. Zoller moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 22, 2010 as presented.

Mr. Murphy seconded the motion.

Vote: 7 – 0 - 2. Motion passed.

Abstained: Mr. DiGiovanna, Mr. Bond

3. Delegations

Mr. Formica called for anyone who wished to speak under Delegations. There were no delegations.

4. 43 Billow Road Sewer Lateral Repair/Reimbursement

Mr. Kargl explained that CL & P had installed a utility pole through the line even with the call before you dig. We fixed the lateral and he wants to make a claim back to CL & P. So far they have a bill for \$1772.00 but they still have a bill to come in from Niantic Plumbing and the homeowner wants reimbursement for unclogging the line.

Mr. Mingo said that he is not sure that they should be advocates for the homeowner reimbursement.

Mr. Bond asked if they went around the pole with the new line.

Mr. Kargl said that essentially they did. He asked what the consensus of the Commission was on paying the bill as it has only been a week or two.

The consensus of the Commission was that they would wait for the other bill to come in for now and pursue reimbursement from CL & P.

5. Billing Adjustments – from Attachment A

Mr. Kargl explained that these followed the '1 in 10' and that he had presented the information so that they would be aware of them. No action by the Commission was necessary.

Mr. Mingo commented that to have a 100,000 gallon leak that if they had the new meters in place, it would have been noticed very soon after it happened.

6. Approval of Bills – from Attachment B

Mr. Formica called for a motion on the Regional Interconnection bills.

****MOTION (2)**

Mr. Zoller moved to approve payment of the following Regional Interconnection bill: Geolnsight, Inc. Inv. #22887 in the amount of \$9,500.00.

Mr. DiGiovanna seconded the motion.

Vote: 9 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Mr. Formica called for a motion on the Chlorination – Treatment Upgrade bills.

****MOTION (3)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve payment of the following Chlorination – Treatment Upgrade bills: Maguire Group - Invoice #20 in the amount of \$18,170.50 and C.H. Nickerson & Co., Inc. – Payment Appl. #7 in the amount of \$144,147.07.

Ms. Russell seconded the motion.

Vote: 9 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Mr. Formica called for a motion on the Replacement Well 3B bills.

****MOTION (4)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to approve payment of the following Replacement Well 3B bills: Maguire Group - Invoice #21 in the amount of \$22,250.00 and C.H. Nickerson & Co., Inc. in the amount of \$97,855.70.

Mr. Zoller seconded the motion.

Vote: 0 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

7. Water Supply Improvement Project Updates

Mr. Kargl said that he had provided them with a project update listing in their packets.

- **Regional Interconnection**

Mr. Kargl said that he thinks that they are in pretty good shape here and that there is a meeting tomorrow with New London to discuss the draft Water Supply Agreement.

Mr. Formica noted that this is being titled the 'Regional Interconnection at East Lyme/New London' as the COG is looking to bring other areas down and this truly becomes a first step in a major regional project and in sustaining regional economic development.

Chris Clark from the Mohegan Tribe noted how Montville handles connections for developers and how they are paid.

Don Iannicelli of GeoInsight updated the members on the meeting that was held today where they met with Lori Matthews, Dave Cooley and Steve Messer. He noted that Mr. Lanzafame from New London had a discussion with Mr. Messer regarding a concern by New London regarding if they could supply water to East Lyme. The problem was that they were not understanding the concept of East Lyme sending water over a nine (9) month period and getting it back during a three (3) month period and that it would be a 'net neutral' exchange. They would be clarifying these issues at the meeting tomorrow and are glad that this issue is out there for discussion and explanation as Mr. Lanzafame is doing a very good job since he has taken over as evidenced by Lake Konomoc being at a higher level this year than it previously was at this time last year.

Mr. Kargl noted that he had asked GeoInsight to put together a scope of services to take them through September as the current contract has come to an end. He said that they would find in the proposal that they are proposing up to \$10,000 per month for engineering consulting services. He asked that they make a motion to cover the July 2010 through September 2010 time frame.

****MOTION (5)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved to allocate up to \$30,000 for GeoInsight in conjunction with proposal #5743-010 for Engineering Consulting Services to secure additional public water for the July 2010 through September 2010 period.

Mr. Jasper seconded the motion.

Mr. Zoller asked if the blending study was essentially done.
Mr. Iannicelli said yes.

Vote: 9 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Mr. Kargl said that the Regional project has moved up in the ranking to No. 6 following the public hearing and the subsequent information that they provided. This means that they have made the cut and includes a \$1.4M subsidy.

- **System-wide Chlorine Disinfection/Treatment Project**

Mr. Kargl noted that they are moving ahead on this. The relocation of the utility pole along the Bride Lake Treatment plant access road is being completed. It has been extensive work which also involves CL & P and has been done to allow for access by large trucks bringing chemicals/materials. Also, Maguire has indicated that they have incurred additional time associated with the relocation of the primary electrical service work. They are 90% complete and are requesting \$9000 extra on the contract. They will summarize the work in a letter to follow.

Ms. Russell asked when the flushing of the system occurs for the chlorination.
Mr. Kargl said that it should take place in late fall.

- **Replacement Well 3B**

Mr. Kargl reported that Nickerson has completed the building foundation and that the building would be set on Friday July 30, 2010. They are looking at a mid to late August time frame for the start up.

- **Stream Augmentation**

Mr. Kargl reported that the DEP is excited over this concept proposal. This proposal will allow them to pump at least one well rather than not being able to pump either well during the summer months. Capital funds were redirected in the amount of \$125,000 to establish a budget for this. Base line data is being collected on this. It was noted that temperature is an interesting factor.

- **Other**

There was none.

8. Water & Sewer Capital Projects

Mr. Kargl said that the Capital Improvement Group has been meeting and that the list that they have, is of items that have been identified as a result of these meetings. He noted that the regional project funding could also affect items as they do not have all of the answers yet on that.

Ms. Russell said that she was concerned with filters on Well 6 for MTBE.

Mr. Bond said that he would move the meters up to the top of the list as that will help with many other things and also identify the bigger users and when they have leaks which overall will save them money that can be used for the other items. He noted that we fall well below any range for MTBE and that the filters could be done in the order that they are listed as there are more important items that they need to get to.

Mr. Kargl agreed that they are well below the range for MTBE but said that he could understand being proactive. He noted that this is a listing that will continue to be discussed and changed as other information becomes available and as projects happen. It is a fluid document.

9. Crossley Court Sewer Extension Bid Results

Mr. Kargl explained the listing of bid results and said that they had compared the three (3) lowest bidders which still had a considerable range in price between them. In evaluating all three of them it was found that the lowest bidder – Engineered Septic & Sewer did not submit a complete bid as they did not address all of the addendum items.

Mr. Murphy asked if they had checked them out financially.

Attorney O'Connell said that they would have a payment and performance bond.

Mr. Kargl said that they had called all of the references that were given.

Mr. Giannattasio said that with King Construction they would back out the \$25,608.00 for the permanent pavement as it works out better if they do it themselves separately later. King Construction is a big company and certainly qualified to do the job.

****MOTION (6)**

Mr. DiGiovanna moved that it be resolved that the East Lyme Water and Sewer Commission hereby accepts the bid submitted by King Construction, Inc. as submitted with Item 4b (Permanent Pavement) removed in the amount of \$181,999.69 for the installation of sanitary sewers and related work in connection with the Crossley Court Sewer Extension Project. The Commission hereby authorizes the Chair to execute, in the name and on behalf of the Commission, a contract for such work with King Construction, Inc. and to execute such other documents as may be necessary to implement the Project, upon submission of the required bonds and certificates by the contractor.

Mr. Mingo seconded the motion.

Vote: 9 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Ms. Russell asked when they thought that this project would be worked on.

Mr. Kargl said that he thought that it would be started in late fall and would not take that long.

10. Communications

◇ **See Correspondence Log**

Correspondence was made available.

11. Chairman's Report

Mr. Formica said that the items that he was going to discuss here had been presented and discussed earlier.

12. Staff Updates

a. Water Department Monthly Report

Mr. Kargl noted that they had a copy of the report in their packets. He recalled to the Commission that some people had come in awhile ago complaining about dirty water and had brought some in. They tapped the service and the water was okay for awhile however now it is back to being what it was that they had originally complained about. Consequently they will now put a hydrant in that area as that will flush the line regularly and will help with the water.

b. Sewer Department Monthly Report

Mr. Kargl noted that they would be switching from Bioxide to Bioxide Plus to determine if the odor control can be improved at the Bride Brook and Route 156 Pump Station.

c. Saunder's Point Sewer Extension

Mr. Kargl said that he received an email from the DEP stating that they would not approve funding for this sewer extension project.

d. Other

There was none.

13. New Business

There was no New Business.

14. Hypoxia/Eutrophication Presentation – John Jasper

John Jasper explained in a PowerPoint presentation the Niantic River Estuary Eutrophication – What is Killing the Eelgrass?

Eutrophication is the effect of too many nutrients coming into the water, sinking to the bottom and eating up the oxygen causing hypoxia. Salinity is high at the bottom of the river but lower where fresh water comes in. The Niantic River has nitrate coming in but little phosphate since phosphates have been banned. However, phosphates do come from oceanic sources and both to these cause organic matter to be produced. Sediment buildup over time eventually fills in water areas and becomes dry land. Some of these changes can be evidenced around the edges of bodies of water where plant matter has taken over. Hydrogen Sulfide inhibits or kills Eelgrass. They need to control the amount of nitrate coming into the system from groundwater.

Mr. Formica asked how they would go about implementing a solution.

Mr. Jasper said that there is a grant that they have that is for a scientific study to see what is driving the process – Marine Organic Matter (produced with water-column nutrients) or Terrigenous Organic Matter (runs off from the land and is amplified by riparian erosion).

Mr. Formica asked if once this has been determined, they would be able to re-introduce eelgrass.

Mr. Jasper said yes and noted that they could see very real results in five years time as the issue is one of light to the grass and of sulfides which kill the eelgrass. He added that if they implant oysters that they would clarify the estuarine waters as oysters process a lot of water each day and would greatly help the process and keep the water moving.

Mr. Mingo suggested that other Commissions would also benefit from this presentation.

The Commission thanked Mr. Jasper for an interesting presentation.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Formica called for a motion to adjourn.

****MOTION (7)**

Mr. Murphy moved to adjourn the July 27, 2010 Regular Meeting of the East Lyme Water & Sewer Commission at 9:27 PM.

Mr. Mingo seconded the motion.

Vote: 9 – 0 – 0. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Zmitruk,
Recording Secretary