East Haddam Water Pollution Control Authority
Municipal Office Complex

Regular Meeting Minutes
May 16, 2022

1. Call to Order

   Chairman Lord called the meeting to order at 7:23pm.

2. Attendance

   Members Present: Edward Blaschik, Bob Casner, Chairman Andrew Lord, Richard Pettinelli
   Members Absent: John Russell and Richard Fiala
   Other Present: Jim Ventres, Will Branton, Grant Weaver, Will Abramczyk. Robert Casner abstained.

3. Minutes
   a. Minutes review

      Motion by Mr. Blaschik to accept the minutes as presented. Second by Mr. Pettinelli and unanimously approved.

4. Discussion
   a. Clean Water Ops Report and Bills

      Mr. Grant Weaver introduced Will Abramczyk who is new to the company. Mr. Abramczyk noted that there is some general maintenance needed and some painting needed. He is cleaning up the office as well. Mr. Abramczyk has a stronger sales and account management which will be helpful to the company. He will start the certification process soon, but to run the company those certifications are not required. The Class III operators are the ones who need those certifications. The process controls are still in the hands of the professionals like Mr. Dutton. The company is hiring new staff as well.

      Mr. Ventres will send the emergency email contact list so that it is updated with the newest staff to ensure that if there is a problem, the Town can reach all the necessary people.

      Mr. Blaschik asked about the PFAS study. According to the State, there are Quality Assurance/Quality Control issues, but the data has not been shared with Clean-Water-Ops. There are additional follow up questions for the State, so there is no other information to be provided at this point. The Town was volunteered for this study; it has no industrial customers using the system which may be the reason the Town was included. PFAS is in fire retardants, Teflon, etc., and is now showing up in the water source. The issue is there is no way to treat it; at this point the State is engaged in information gathering. In terms of how the town was chosen, they will try to find out how the selection decided.

      As far as the general maintenance, there is nothing too exciting to report, even though we are over budget with the maintenance, we are under what it was compared to the last 3 to 5 years.

Typically, there is a run of grinder pump repairs that need to be addressed and then there is bit of a lull with replacements. There are no big repairs needed at this time. There are 3 backup grinder pumps at the plant right now just in case one of them fails. Mr. Ventres will check on the owner of the house at the bottom of Ray Hill Road and determine if the connection has been made prior to the recent sale.

The tanks at the plant have not been evaluated and switched from one to the other, they will make sure that that test is completed. Going forward, the tanks will be switched once a year. The WPCA has been asking for $25K from the Board of Finance for keeping the plant running. There are two 20-year-old generators that will need to be replaced at some point. For the next budget cycle, there needs to be further discussion around monies needed to replace the generators, the blowers, etc.

Mr. Lord would like an accounting of what we have in terms of financial reserve and then outline a capital improvement plan of what is needed for the next 5 years to ensure that there is enough money to fund the repairs.

It was noted that we have not had a contract for at least 4 years with Clean Water Ops. It has been a continuation of the original contract. He noted a rate increase at the last meeting. Grant noted that come July 1, the same fee schedule will remain, but the money used for routine lab testing will go on the maintenance fee. It is about $7,200.00 per year.

Mr. Casner asked Mr. Ventres about the first house on Landing Hill Road tying into the system. Mr. Ventres noted that he discussed with the owner who is going to price out the cost of an engineered system or tying into the sewer system. If the owner decides to connect to the sewer system, the contractor will oversee the connection if licensed.
the connection.

5. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Pettinelli at 8:15. Second by Mr. Casner and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon A. Goyette
Recording Secretary