


Town of Stafford
Water Pollution Control Authority
 Regular Meeting
 Stafford Senior Center, ZOOM and Call-In
 Monday, March 15, 2021
 5:30 p.m.

RECEIVED
 STAFFORD, CT

2021 MAR 17 PM 3:20

4 pages


Members Present: Chairman Scott Bonett; Paul Burns; Richard Dobson Jr; and Roger Thomas; Al Warren arrived at 5:33 pm and Mandy Fisher and Dave Walsh arrived at 5:41 pm

Also present: Superintendent Richard Hartenstein, Jr.; Jane LaMorte, Business Manager WPCA

Index:

1. Call To Order
2. Minutes of February 8, 2021
3. Chairman's Comments – Board Members Comments
4. Old Business – Mixers – Update; Automatic Gate Openers – Update; Aeration Tank Paint Failure - Discussion
5. New Business – Review of 2019 Connecticut Sewer Rate Survey; Repair of Sewer Lines for 2021
6. Staff Reports (Superintendent) – Plant Update
7. Collector of Revenue Report – Review of Department Finances
8. Adjournment

1. Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. A quorum was established.

2. Minutes of February 8, 2021

Roger Thomas moved to accept the minutes of February 8, 2021. Richard Dobson Jr. seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 3-0-1 vote, with Chairman Scott Bonett abstaining.

3. Chairman's Comments

- Board Member Comments

No comments.

4. Old Business

- Mixers – Update

Mixers project is now complete. All invoices have been paid in full, including the WPCA being credited by GA Fleet for SCADA work performed regarding the mixers.

- Automatic Gate Openers - Update

Superintendent Rick Hartenstein stated that the gates and keypads have been installed. Extra electrical was necessary and a trench was dug. The driveway alert is in place and a proposal for a yearly service plan will be forthcoming.

- Aeration Tank Paint Failure - Discussion

Superintendent Rick Hartenstein explained that the tank, with previous paint failure, had been drained and cleaned for inspection by Wright Pierce and Corrosion Probe. Upon initial

inspection, it was recommended that a spot repair be performed. In a more recent inspection, it was found that the tank was losing another large sections of paint. Follow up discussions to be had.

5. New Business

- Review of 2019 Connecticut Sewer Rate Survey

Chairman Scott Bonett drew the members' attention to the Tighe Bond 2019 Connecticut Sewer Rate Study. The key findings of the study, point out the average annual sewer fee throughout the state has climbed from \$200 per year in 2001, to \$520 per year in 2019. It also shows an increase in the use of a flat rate fee structure used, which Stafford uses to determine its sewer rate.

Chairman Scott Bonett prepared a bar graph comparing the rates of similar sized Towns to Stafford. (See attached)

- Repair of Sewer Lines of 2021

Superintendent Rick Hartenstein stated that \$100,000 was placed in this year's budget to complete I/I repairs. Issues that were pointed out during investigations by Weston and Sampson were failing lines on Curtis Street, Converse Street and Quinn Street. Rick Hartenstein will prepare an RFP for these repairs.

6. Staff Reports (Superintendent)

- Plant Update

Superintendent Rick Hartenstein stated there have been many plug ups and rotted clay pipes that have been in need of repair. Due to the retirement of the previously used repair contractor, the WPCF has relied on Hirth Small Engine Repair to complete sewer line repairs. They have been performing satisfactorily.

The Town may be looking into another bond in a couple years. Something may be presented, at this time, for major sewer line repair.

Dave Walsh stated that a state grant would be coming to all Connecticut Towns and questioned how these funds will be dispersed. Superintendent Rich Hartenstein will investigate the amount appropriated to the Town and how it may be used.

The nitrogen bill for this year is approximately \$7,200.

The Stafford WPCF has been selected as a participant in the State DEEP study on PFAS.

The contract, with the MDC for sludge disposal, has been updated to reflect a \$5 increase per dry ton.

7. Collector of Revenue Report

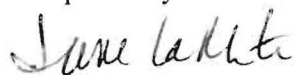
- Review of Department Finances

Total collections for the month of February were \$116,055 and the expenditures totaled \$108,310. The balance of the sewer reserve is \$894,017 and the balance of the sewer fund is \$1,277,802.

8. Adjournment

Dave Walsh moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:19 p.m. and Paul Burns seconded the motion. Motion carried with a 6-0-1 vote, with Chairman Bonett abstaining.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jane LaMorte
Recording Secretary

2019 Annual Sewer Rates for Small CT Towns

Source: 2019 Connecticut Sewer Rate Survey, Tighe & Bond

