Burrillville Sewer Commission

Regular Meeting of May 19, 2020

Board Room of the BWWTF

Members Present: William Andrews – Chairman

Richard Nolan – Vice Chairman

Russell Fontaine – Secretary

Gary Rouleau – Commission Member

Daniel Joubert – Commission Member

Also Present: Timothy Kane – Attorney for the Commission  
 James Dyment – Consulting Engineer

Michael Emond – Superintendent

Dennis Anderson – Town Council Liaison

Stacey Richard – Office Manager

Mr. Andrews opened the Meeting immediately following the Public Hearing of May 19, 2020.

**Agenda Item –** The question of accepting the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 10, 2020 and the question of dispensing with the reading of said Minutes.

**Voted –** Mr. Fontaine made a motion to accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 10, 2020 and to dispense with the reading of said Minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Nolan. All in favor, so voted.

**Public Comment –** None

**New Business:** To discuss/consider/take action on Burrillville Sewer Commission Purchasing Policy

CPI All Urban Customers

Mr. Kane gave a brief summary of the Burrillville Sewer Commission Purchasing Policy.

**Voted –** Mr. Nolan made a motion to approve the Purchasing Policy subject to changing the wording of Section E (a) to state “When the Commission determines that it needs the services of professional architect…” The motion was seconded by Mr. Fontaine. All in favor, so voted.

**Correspondence –** None

**Engineer’s Report:** Oakland Pump Station Grant Award

Chapel Street Sewer Alternatives Analysis

Headworks Design Budget

Mr. Dyment stated that the BSC was awarded a state grant for the Oakland Pump Station project. The grant awards payment for half of the cost of the project, which will be reimbursed to the BSC after the project has been paid for.

Mr. Dyment explained that there are options included in the Meeting packet for review, which includes both gravity and force main sewers.

Mr. Dyment stated that the budget for the entire Headworks project is $450,000.00, with a possible additional $100,000.00 to $250,000.00 for cleaning out the wet wells.

**Voted –** Mr. Nolan made a motion to accept the Engineer’s Report. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fontaine. All in favor, so voted.

**Attorney’s Report:**

Mr. Kane stated that over the past month, he worked on the Purchasing Policy. He also worked with Mr. Emond and Mr. Dyment to file an appeal to RIDEM for the RIPDES permit. There is a telephone conference scheduled on May 27, 2020 to discuss a consent agreement regarding the Copper limits. Mr. Kane stated that the PUC requested that the BSC does not terminate service to any properties during the COVID pandemic, which is irrelevant, as the BSC does not terminate sewer services for any reason. Ms. Richard stated that per the Town Manager, Michael Wood, the tax sale has been postponed, date TBD.

**Voted –** Mr. Fontaine made a motion to accept the Attorney’s Report. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rouleau. All in favor, so voted.

**Superintendent’s Report:**

Report for the months of March & April, 2020

Month of March 2020

1. **WWTF OPERATIONS**
2. Influent to Treatment Facility – MGD

Average Daily Flow = 0.9350

Maximum Daily Flow = 1.1920 on 30-Mar

Minimum Daily Flow = 0.7320 on 15-Mar

Percent Average

Removal Concentration

1. Biochemical Oxygen Demand

EPA / DEM Permit Requirement = 85.0% min 30.0 mg/L

March achieved = 98.7% 2.8 mg/L

1. Total Suspended Solids

EPA / DEM Permit Requirement = 85.0% 30.0 mg/L

March achieved = 98.3% 3.0 mg/L

1. Total Phosphorus

EPA / DEM Permit Requirement = N/A 1.00 mg/L

March achieved = 90.9% 0.454 mg/L

1. Total Ammonia

EPA / DEM Permit Requirement = N/A 31.5 mg/L

March achieved = 19.6% 20.64 mg/L

1. Total Copper

EPA / DEM Permit Requirement = N/A 8.0 ug/L

March achieved = 96.8% 4.6 ug/L

1. Disposed Sludge

Dry Tons Disposed of = 35.93

Number of Loads Removed = 27

Average Dry Tons / Load = 1.33

Callout Alarms

There were two (2) after hour alarm callouts for the WWTF.

3/13/20 – Power Outage at Plant – On-call operators responded to alarms and found much process equipment offline. Plant was on generator power when operators arrived. Reset alarms, restarted equipment, and repeated tasks when commercial power was restored.

3/20/20 – Power Bump at Phosphorus Building – On-call operators responded to alarm and reset compressors. Reset all other equipment and checked all pumps, tanks and comminutor. Checked RACO for pump station alarms.

1. **COLLECTION SYSTEM OPERATIONS**

There were four (4) after hour collection systems call-in responses for the month of March 2020. Find the call-in table below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Location | Nature of Call / Alarm Condition | Issue Found |
| 3/1/20 | Church Street | Sanitary Sewer Overflow – SSO | Blockage in main. Details were reported in the February 2020 Superintendent’s Report. |
| 3/11/20 | Oakland PS | High Wet Well | Pumps clogged. |
| 3/13/20 | Mapleville PS | Power Outage | Power outage in area. |
| 3/13/20 | Glendale PS | Power Outage | Power outage in area. |

1. **CURRENT ISSUES**

3/24/20 – Minor Plant Upset – When performing the daily chemical inventory the superintendent noticed that there was more than a 500-gallon drop in the potassium hydroxide (KOH) tank. The KOH system had been offline for several weeks. The process operator investigated the KOH system and found a pipe tee had cracked and chemical was leaking into the floor drain. The operator isolated the section of pipe with the cracked tee and closed the valve to the tank. Lab Tech Don Shurtleff reported high pH’s in the morning primary effluent and mixed liquor samples. Settling tests also showed murkiness in the supernatant indicating activated sludge floc damage. The SCADA trend for the KOH tank level showed the leak started about 8-9PM the night before. Approximately 500 gallons leaked over the 12-hour duration. Initially the plant did not show strong signs of an upset but as the day turned to mid-afternoon, the final effluent steadily became more and more turbid. To mitigate the extent of the upset, the RAS rate was increased and the offline primary clarifier was placed into service. Bill Patenaude of RIDEM was notified of the minor upset. The plant fully recovered in three days. There were no permit excursions due to the upset.

Month of April 2020

1. **WWTF OPERATIONS**
2. Influent to Treatment Facility – MGD

Average Daily Flow = 1.0434

Maximum Daily Flow = 1.59090 on 14-Apr

Minimum Daily Flow = 0.0000 on 01-Apr

Percent Average

Removal Concentration

1. Biochemical Oxygen Demand

EPA / DEM Permit Requirement = 85.0% min 30.0 mg/L

April achieved = 98.9% 1.5 mg/L

1. Total Suspended Solids

EPA / DEM Permit Requirement = 85.0% 30.0 mg/L

April achieved = 98.8% 2.2 mg/L

1. Total Phosphorus

EPA / DEM Permit Requirement = N/A 0.10 mg/L

April achieved = 96.8% 0.095 mg/L

1. Total Ammonia

EPA / DEM Permit Requirement = N/A 31.5 mg/L

April achieved = 14.9% 16.3 mg/L

1. Total Copper

EPA / DEM Permit Requirement = N/A 8.0 ug/L

April achieved = 96.7% 4.8 ug/L

1. Disposed Sludge

Dry Tons Disposed of ` = 30.83

Number of Loads Removed = 26

Average Dry Tons / Load = 1.19

Callout Alarms

There were two (2) after hour alarm callouts for the WWTF.

4/9/20 – Phos Alarm – Power bump caused a High Headloss #2 alarm to occur. Alarm reset. Checked pumps in channel; all were normal. Phosphorus influent pumps #1 and #3 were in a “not ready” mode. Reset influent pumps and put into Auto.

4/9/20 – Blended Tank High Alarm – Blended tank #2 level was at 11 feet. Crew pumped down tank to 10.2 feet and reset alarm.

1. **COLLECTION SYSTEM OPERATIONS**

There were none (9) after hour collection system call-in responses for the month of April 2020. Find the call-in table below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Location | Nature of Call / Alarm Condition | Issue Found |
| 4/3/20 | School St PS | High Wet Well | Wet well normal when crew arrived. Station running on lag and pump. Back-flushed both pumps and waited for wet well to go down. Checked motor amps. |
| 4/7/20 | Beach Rd ES | High Wet Well | Station plugged up. Nothing going into pot. Back-flushed multiple times. Pulled rags from wet well. Pumped down. |
| 4/8/20 | School St PS | High Wet Well | Both pumps went out on fault. Cleared faults. Removed large mop head from transducer. Pumped down wet well. |
| 4/13/20 | Mohegan PS | Loss of Power | Generator running but pumps keep tripping. Generator will not run pumps. Waited for power to restore and monitor wet well. |
| 4/13/20 | Oakland PS | High Wet Well | Most likely with Mohegan without power and wet well high, when power was restored Mohegan pump to Glendale and Glendale to Oakland causing high wet well at Oakland. Also found alarm panel all lit, but only HWW alarm was real. Reset panel. |
| 4/14/20 | Beach Rd ES | High Wet Well | Warrick control tripped. Probe dirty so system was short cycling. Reset power to control, ejected pot, cleaned probe and adjusted air. |
| 4/21/20 | School St PS | High Wet Well | Pump #2 breakers tripped. Reset and instantly trips when called to run. Pump #a put in lead position and pumped down wet well. Pump #2 needs to be lifted out and inspected. |
| 4/28/20 | Beach Rd ES | High Wet Well | Station plugged with rags. Back flush and pump wet well down. |
| 4/30/20 | Beach Rd ES | High Wet Well | Station plugged with rags. Back flush and pump wet well down. |

1. **CURRENT ISSUES**

4/22/20 – Williamson Pump was scheduled to lift and inspect pumps at School Street pump station and install new Vaughan chopper pump at the Glendale pump station. Friday, 4/24/20.

4/24/20 – Williamson Pump arrived and immediately they realized their truck crane did not have a long enough cable to reach the pump in either pump station. The wet wells are very deep. Williamson crew investigated the power issue with Pump #2 at School Street and concluded that issue was with the motor and not the soft start. Until they could lift the pump to see if it was ragged up or not, the investigation was inconclusive. The Williamson crew delivered the new pump to Glendale and installed the rail guide from the old pump onto the new pump to prep for a reschedule on 4/28/20.

4/27/20 – Veolia vacuum truck service on site at plant to remove rags accumulated in grit chamber from septage hauler discharge. Veolia also vacuumed the School Street pump station wet well which was very heavy with rags and grease.

4/28/20 – Williamson returned to School Street pump station and lifted Pump #2 out of the wet well. There were no rags in pump volute. Each leg of the 3-phase power to the motor tested to ground. The pump motor fried. Immediately BSC Chairman Bill Andrews was informed of the pump status and he gave permission to proceed with the emergency purchase of a new pump. Williamson then moved to the Glendale pump station and installed the new Vaughan chopper pump.

4/28/20 & 4/29/20 – Veolia returned to vacuum and wash the pump station wet wells that were heavy with rags and grease; Glendale, Maplehill Mobile Home Park, Mapleville, Reservoir Road, South Main, Eagle Peak and Mohegan. Spring Lake and Oakland did not require cleaning.

Mr. Emond gave a brief summary of the Superintendent’s Report. He stated that a pump was lost at the School Street pump station, possibly due to a storm. Mr. Emond informed the Commission that the new truck has been delivered.

Mr. Fontaine mentioned that he would like the Commission to receive the monthly budget reports, as they have not been received for the past few months.

**Voted –** Mr. Fontaine made a motion to accept the Superintendent’s Report. The motion was seconded by Mr. Nolan. All in favor, so voted.

**Sewer Use/Sewer Assessment Write-Offs –** None

**Adjournment –** Mr. Fontaine made a motion to adjourn the Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Nolan. All in favor, so voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jacqueline Batalon

Financial Aide

I have read the Minutes of the previous pages and hereby ratify the same.

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William Andrews Richard Nolan Russell Fontaine

Chairman Vice Chairman Secretary

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Gary Rouleau Daniel Joubert

Commission Member Commission Member