Burrillville Sewer Commission

Regular Meeting of October 12, 2021

Board Room of the BWWTF

Members Present: William Andrews – Chairman

Richard Nolan – Vice Chairman

Gary Rouleau – Commission Member

Daniel Joubert – Commission Member

Member(s) Absent: Russell Fontaine – Secretary

Also Present: Timothy Kane – Attorney for the Commission

James Dyment – Consulting Engineer

Dennis Anderson – Town Council Liaison

Michael Emond – Superintendent

Stacey Richard – Office Manager

Mr. Andrews opened the Meeting at 6:32 PM.

**Agenda Item –** The question of accepting the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 14, 2021 and the question of dispensing with the reading of said Minutes.

**Voted –** Mr. Nolan made a motion to accept the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of September 14, 2021 and to dispense with the reading of said Minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rouleau. All in favor, so voted.

**Public Comment –** None

**New Business:** Letter from Michael Emond, Superintendent, to Joseph Cunningham, RIDEM, regarding Reservoir Road Pump Station UST spill sump tightness failure – Variance Request.

Mr. Emond stated that upon inspection, Nextest noticed that the tubing coming from the sump area did not have a boot, which failed the test. RIDEM gave the BWWTF 30 days to have the issue fixed. Mr. Emond requested a three (3) month variance from RIDEM, which was granted. The issue has since been fixed. The sump has not yet been retested. The Oakland Pump Station will also need to be tested.

**Voted –** Mr. Nolan made a motion to receive and file the variance request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rouleau. All in favor, so voted.

**Old Business –** None

**Correspondence –** None

**Invoices:** Beta Invoice #36 – Resiliency Planning Document in the amount of $12,200.00 – Fund 8300.

**Voted –** Mr. Nolan made a motion to pay Beta Invoice #36 in the amount of $12,200.00 from Fund 8300. The motion was seconded by Mr. Joubert. All in favor, so voted.

Beta Invoice #37 – SPCC and Training in the amount of $2,470.00 – Fund 8300.

**Voted –** Mr. Nolan made a motion to pay Beta Invoice #37 in the amount of $2,470.00 from Fund 8300. The motion was seconded by Mr. Joubert. All in favor, so voted.

**Engineer’s Report**: WWTF Fire Alarm Assessment

Nasonville Sewer Extension Feasibility

Mr. Dyment stated that there is quite a bit of work to be done in order to bring the fire alarm up to code.

Mr. Dyment stated that he, Mr. Andrews and Mr. Emond met with Mr. Anderson, Town Council Liaison, Mr. Wood, Town Manager and Mr. McCormick, DPW Director to discuss extension of sewers in Nasonville. Mr. Dyment will develop planning level drawings and take topography information from the Rhode Island GIS in order to lay out sewer alternatives for the Nasonville area, to include the Nasonville Mill and Wright’s Farm Restaurant. The estimated time frame for completion is sixteen (16) weeks, at the cost of $25,680.00.

**Voted -**  Mr. Andrews made a motion to pay Beta Engineering a sum not to exceed $25,680.00 to develop a plan for Nasonville Sewer Extension. The motion was seconded by Mr. Nolan. All in favor, so voted.

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

**Attorney’s Report**:

Mr. Kane stated that Stacey Richard, Office Manager, had reached out to him to review some legal paperwork for an easement for a new sewer connection. Mr. Kane determined that a new legal easement document would need to be drawn up.

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

**Superintendent’s Report**:

Report for the month of September, 2021

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

Average Daily Flow = 1.0974

Maximum Daily Flow = 1.5570 on 2-Sep

Minimum Daily Flow = 0.7320 on 26-Sep

Percent Average

Removal Concentration

1. Biochemical Oxygen Demand

EPA / DEM Permit Requirement = 85.0% min 10.0 mg/L

September achieved = 99.4% 1.0 mg/L

1. Total Suspended Solids

EPA / DEM Permit Requirement = 85.0% 15.0 mg/L

September achieved = 99.1% 2.4 mg/L

1. Total Phosphorus

EPA / DEM Permit Requirement = N/A 0.1 mg/L

September achieved = 99.5% 0.022 mg/L

1. Total Ammonia

EPA / DEM Permit Requirement = N/A 5.1 mg/L

September achieved = 98.7% 0.26 mg/L

1. Total Copper

EPA / DEM Permit Requirement = N/A 8.0 ug/L  
September achieved = 98.7% 4.6 ug/L\*

1. Disposed Sludge

Dry Tons Disposed of = 35.41

Number of Loads Removed = 35

Average Dry Tons / Load = 1.04

\*Note: Copper result for sample date 9/30/21 has not been reported yet by contract lab and is not included in average copper concentration listed in this report.

Permit Excursions

No permit excursions for September 2021. The last permit excursion was in December 2020 for the 4th quarter bioassay chronic toxicity portion of the test. The acute toxicity portion of the bioassay passed.

Callout Alarms

There were six (6) after hour alarms for the wastewater treatment plant in September 2021.

9/8/21 – Possible potassium hydroxide (KOH) shortage. Superintendent called in crew and went to plant to investigate cause of lower than normal initial chlorine residual when sodium hypochlorite pump was at maximum speed. Possibility KOH pumps couldn’t provide adequate dosage of chemical due to a low tank level, which would cause a low pH, preventing sodium hypochlorite to stay in solution and provide proper concentration for disinfection. Superintendent collected a final effluent sample at outfall to measure pH in lab. The pH was 6.4 SU, which was good. Crew cleaned initial chlorine analyzer, removed Ferric residue on sample cell and flushed lines. The initial chlorine residual climbed significantly after cleaning. Then Superintendent and crew went to KOH tank and pumps to determine if pumps were air bound due to a low chemical level in tank. All pumps were pumping chemical. Then verified tank level via SCADA trend chart.

9/10/21 – High Blended Sludge Tank Level – Tank #1 high level. Purged bubbler level system and drained water from separator. Tank level dropped.

9/12/21 – High Blended Sludge Tank Level – Tank #2 high level at 11.3 feet. Set point is 10 feet. Purged bubbler level system and drained water from separator. Tank level dropped to 9.5 feet.

9/14/21 – High Blended Sludge Tank Level – Purged bubbler level system and drained water from separator. Tank level dropped.

9/17/21 – High Blended Sludge Tank Level – Tank #1 level set at 10 feet, Tank #2 set at 9.8 feet. Purged system lines. Mixed tanks. Set both tanks to 9.8 feet. Purged bubbler level system and drained water from separator.

9/23/21 – High Blended Sludge Tank Level – Purged bubbler level system and pumped some sludge back to primary clarifier.

1. **COLLECTION SYSTEM OPERATIONS**

There were two (2) after hour collection systems call-in responses for the month of September 2021. Find the call-in table below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Location | Nature of Call / Alarm Condition | Issue Found |
| 9/9/21 | Jesse Smith Library – Tinkham Lane | Back flow into restrooms and boiler room. | Manhole on sidewalk in front of library full. Torti Septic called to vacuum out manhole. Snaked invert; no resistance. Followed direction of snake and found hatch to a pump station. Torti Septic vacuumed wet well. Crew discovered floats all tangled up. Untangled floats and tipped floats while observing pump controls. HiHi alarm float set off alarm. High float called for pumps, but both pumps failed. Library staff called for pump station service. |
| 9/14/21 | Oakland Pump Station | High Wet Well | Station not keeping up with flow. Pulled pump and removed rags. Purged bubbler system. Return to normal. |

1. **OTHER ACTIVITIES & CURRENT ISSUES**

9/7/21 – Special Meeting of the Burrillville Sewer Commission to discuss and act upon the removal and replacement of the UST at Mapleville Pump Station

9/9/21 – After hours, on-call operator Steve Jones called Superintendent Mike Emond at 7:20 PM to report a backflow into the Jesse Smith Library at 100 Tinkham Lane. Steve Jones was notified of the backflow by Office Manager Stacey Richard, who learned of the issue. Mike Emond called Paul Rodman of Veolia to have his crew on standby in case a Vactor truck for jetting the lines was needed. Mike Emond met Steve Jones, Dan Coffey and Stacey Richard at the plant to try to find plans of the site. Then Mike Emond called Larry Torti of Torti Septic Services to assist. The crew could not find plans, so the crew and Superintendent went to the library while Stacey kept searching.

When Torti Septic Services arrived at the site, Larry Torti vacuumed out the surcharged manhole. The invert was snaked, but there was no resistance. Larry Torti spotted a hatch on the sidewalk in the direction that snake appeared to be traveling. Mike Emond opened the hatch and discovered it was a pump station in distress; high wet well, full of trash and tangled floats. Torti Septic Service vacuumed the pump station, while the crew found in the library boiler room the pump VFD’s and a small panel with an alarm buzzer. Seems one pump is nonfunctional, and the other only ramps up to 15Hz and not any further.

The RI Trust called in Providence Fire Remediation to service the library as soon as possible. The library staff called Boydco, the company that installed the pump station, and arranged for them to be at the Library first thing in the morning. As a courtesy, the Superintendent sent Veolia to clean the library pump station first the next morning, since Veolia was coming to Burrillville for plant purposes. All left the library at approximately 10:20 PM.

9/28/21 – Closing of the SRF Loan for the Headworks and Oakland Pump Station upgrades.

Mr. Emond gave a brief summary of the Superintendent’s Report.

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

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

**Adjournment –** Mr. Nolan made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rouleau. 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