Burrillville Sewer Commission

Regular Meeting of February 8, 2022

ZOOM Meeting ID: 927 7847 4351

Members Present: William Andrews – Chairman

Richard Nolan – Vice Chairman

Russell Fontaine – Secretary

Gary Rouleau – Commission Member

Daniel Joubert – Commission Member

Also Present: James Dyment – Consulting Engineer

Dennis Anderson – Town Council Liaison

Matt Baker – Fuse Energy

Stephen Jones – Fuse Energy

Bill Cagle – Fuse Energy

Bradley Lafontaine – GAK Real Estate, owner of 21-25 East Avenue

Michael Emond – Superintendent

Jacqueline Batalon – Financial Aide

Mr. Andrews opened the Meeting at 6:37 PM.

**Agenda Item –** The question of accepting the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 11, 2022 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 January 11, 2022 and to dispense with the reading of said Minutes. The motion was seconded by Mr. Nolan. All in favor, so voted.

**Public Comment –** None

**Correspondence: 22-08-01** Letter from Bradley Lafontaine requesting an abatement of sewer use charges for his property at 21-25 East Avenue due to a fire.

Letter from Joe Raymond, Building Official, regarding 21-25 East Ave

Mr. Lafontaine explained that there was a fire at his property at 21-25 East Avenue in December, 2020. The building has been vacant ever since. Mr. Lafontaine is asking for an abatement of the sewer charges that have been incurred since December, 2020. Mr. Andrews explained that it is the BSC policy not to abate past charges, but the BSC will suspend the sewer use fees moving forward until a Certificate of Occupancy has been issued. Mr. Lafontaine stated that he was unaware that the sewer charges were continuing to accrue on the property. He had spoken with someone at the water department and assumed that the shutoff of water to the property would stop the sewer use fees.

**Voted –** Mr. Joubert made a motion to reject the request to abate the past charges, and to suspend the current sewer use fees until a Certificate of Occupancy is issued by the Building Official. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fontaine. All in favor, so voted.

**New Business:** Discuss and take possible action on proposed modified Consent Agreement

(No. RIA-433) from RIDEM

-Copper Compliance Report (CCR) response letter

Mr. Emond stated that the WWTF has, at times, had trouble meeting the new Copper limit. The consent agreement gives the BSC an opportunity to come up with a plan to meet the Copper limit in the near future. Mr. Dyment explained that the BSC can fight the Copper limit through Water-Effect Ratio testing. Beta’s recommendation is to use an outside contractor, Tetra Tech, to perform the testing. Mr. Emond agreed with Beta’s recommendation as the most cost effective option. Mr. Dyment stated that he will look into the cost of the testing through Tetra Tech.

**Voted –** Mr. Fontaine made a motion to table this issue until further notice and to authorize Mr. Dyment to draft a letter to RIDEM regarding the Water Effect Ratio testing. The motion was seconded by Mr. Nolan. All in favor, so voted.

**Old Business:** (continued from January 11, 2022 meeting) – Discuss and take possible action on RI Solar Energy Program from Fuse Energy.

**Voted –** Mr. Fontaine made a motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the contract with Fuse Energy and to instruct the Superintendent, Mr. Emond, to research solar options specific to the BWWTF. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rouleau. All in favor, so voted.

Discuss and take possible action on Nasonville Sewer Extension.

Beta – DRAFT Existing Conditions, Buildout and Sewer Alternatives – Selected Alternative(s) for ARPA funding submittal by Town Council. Final alternative(s)

Report to be amended by Beta Group to reflect selected alternative(s).

Mr. Dyment stated that the focus is currently sub-area 1 on the chart. There was some discussion on this matter.

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

**Invoices:**

Beta Invoice #51 – Nasonville Sewer Extension Feasibility Study in the amount of $13,722.50 – Fund 8300.

**Voted –** Mr. Fontaine made a motion to approve and pay Beta Invoice #51 in the amount of $13,722.50 from Fund 8300. The motion was seconded by Mr. Joubert. All in favor, so voted.

Beta Invoice #52 – SPCC and Training in the amount of $1,140.00 – Fund 8300.

**Voted –** Mr. Fontaine made a motion to approve and pay Beta Invoice #52 in the amount of $1,140.00 from Fund 8300. The motion was seconded by Mr. Joubert. All in favor, so voted.

Beta Invoice #53 – WPCF Fire Alarm System Assessment in the amount of $1,105.50 – Fund 8300.

**Voted –** Mr. Nolan made a motion to approve and pay Beta Invoice #53 in the amount of $1,105.50 from Fund 8300. The motion was seconded by Mr. Joubert. All in favor, so voted.

**Engineer’s Report:**

RIIB (Account CW #2 – BURR-CW-FY22)

RI Infrastructure Bank – Pay Request #1 in the amount of $27,808.72

Exhibit A – Project Payment Requisition Form

Exhibit F – Wage Rate Requirement Certification Form

Exhibit G – Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters

Exhibit H – American Iron and Steel Certification

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

**Attorney’s Report:**

There was no Attorney’s Report, as the attorney was not present at the Meeting.

**Superintendent’s Report:**

Report for the month of January, 2022

**1. WWTF OPERATIONS**

1. Influent to Treatment Facility – MGD

Average Daily Flow = \*1.4248

Maximum Daily Flow = 1.8600 on 04-Jan

Minimum Daily Flow = 0.7160 on 29-Jan

Percent Average

Removal Concentration

1. Biochemical Oxygen Demand

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

January achieved = 98.9% \*\*1.9 mg/L

1. Total Suspended Solids

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

January achieved = 98.5% 3.5 mg/L

1. Total Phosphorus

EPA / DEM Permit Requirement = N/A 1.0 mg/L

January achieved = 84.0% 0.795 mg/L

1. Total Ammonia

EPA / DEM Permit Requirement = N/A 20.0 mg/L

January achieved = 90.1% 2.21 mg/L

1. Total Copper

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

January achieved = 97.0% \*\*\*5.1 ug/L

1. Disposed Sludge

Dry Tons Disposed of = 32.29

Number of Loads Removed = 26

Average Dry Tons / Load = 1.24

\*Flows from 1/1/22 to 1/9/22 incorrectly measured due to problem with flow meter.

\*\*Last daily BOD results for January have not completed test cycle at time report drafted.

\*\*\*Last week of month copper result has not been reported by the contract lab.

Permit Excursions

There were no permit excursions for January 2022. The last excursion occurred in December 2021 when the chronic toxicity test for 4th quarter bioassay failed. This same test failed in December 2020 with the exact same result. The acute toxicity portion of the bioassay passed.

Callout Alarms

There were two (2) after hour alarms for the wastewater treatment plant in January 2022.

1/22/22 – High Final Chlorine Residual – Residual returned to normal before arrival at plant. Crew measured bisulfite residual in laboratory to verify online analyzer was in range. Checked bisulfite pumps for proper operation.

1/27/22 – Superintendent observed remotely that initial chlorine residual and final effluent bisulfite residuals were maximum values. Superintendent called crew in to investigate. Crew found a plastic bag had clogged the sump pump, which provides sample flow to the analyzer restored. Readings returned to expected values.

**2. COLLECTION SYSTEM OPERATIONS**

There was one (1) after hour collection systems call-in responses for the month of January 2022. Find the call-in table below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Location | Nature of Call / Alarm Condition | Issue Found |
| 1/26/22 | School Street Pump Station | High Float Critical Alarm | Wet well at 4.1 feet upon arrival. Cleaned off floats and transducer. Rags stuck to floats and level transducer. Return to normal. |

**3. OTHER ACTIVITIES & CURRENT ISSUES**

1/4/22 – Town of Burrillville WWTP fully registered for the CDC National Wastewater Surveillance System (NWSS) monitoring project for Covid-19. LuminUltra has partnered with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Water Environment Federation to monitor the presence of SARS-CoV-2 in wastewater on a national scale. Wastewater surveillance has emerged as an important tool in the public health response to COVID-19, allowing for rapid, non-invasive insights into the health of communities. In addition to providing information on overall trends in COVID-19, wastewater testing can also provide data on the presence of SARS-CoV-2 variants. Samples collected as part of this contract will be tested for total SARS-CoV-2, as well as genetic mutations associated with the Delta and Omicron variants. There is no cost to the Burrillville Sewer Commission for participating in this project.

1/10/22 – Shipped out first raw influent composite sample to LuminUltra for the CDC NWSS program. Samples will be shipped twice a week, Monday and Wednesday, for the next three months.

1/13/22 – James Dyment performed a rough measurement of the water height over the contact chamber weir to calculate flow. The flow was estimated to be approximately 1 MGD. The flow meter was reading 1.8 MGD.

1/20/22 – RE Erickson Tech, Bob Briscoe on site to perform flow meter calibration due to the suspect flow readings experienced since early December, which resulted in a permit excursion. Bob found air in the DP transmitter unit, which he believes caused the high flow issue with the meter. Bob calibrated the DP transmitter using the water column and then checked 4-20 mA output to SCADA. Flow meter readings returned to expected values.

1/31/22 – James Dyment and Mike Emond had a conference call with Matt Puglia of RIDEM in regard to the questionable flow meter readings in December which lead to a permit excursion. Matt explained that because there is no way to precisely determine a factor by which the flows could be recalculated, the flows documented in the DMR cannot be changed. However, an updated DMR cover letter explaining the issue with the flow meter can serve as provision that would allow the flow data to be excluded from any calculation such as plant capacity or infiltration and inflow volumes.

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

**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