Burrillville Sewer Commission

Regular Meeting of October 13, 2020

ZOOM Meeting ID: 920 5266 6671

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

Dennis Anderson – Town Council Liaison

Michael Emond – Superintendent

Jacqueline Batalon – Financial Aide

Mr. Andrews opened the Meeting at 6:32 PM

**Agenda Item –** The question of accepting the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 11, 2020 and the Regular Meeting of September 8, 2020 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 August 11, 2020 and the Regular Meeting of September 8, 2020 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:**

To consider and act upon RACO 4G Upgrade (Quotation included)(Fund 8300).

Mr. Emond explained that the current RACO system works on 3G technology. RACO will be upgrading their equipment to work with 4G technology only. In order to continue using RACO alarm services, the BSC will need to upgrade to 4G technology. The quote of $15,280.00, plus freight includes upgrades to 4G at all pump stations and the plant.

**Voted –** Mr. Nolan made a motion to approve the expenditure of $15,280.00, plus freight, to upgrade the pump stations and wastewater plant to 4G technology from Fund 8300. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rouleau. All in favor, so voted.

To discuss and take possible action on the replacement of the air conditioning compressor at the Wastewater Treatment Facility.

Mr. Emond explained that Industrial Refrigeration regularly services the only remaining compressor for the air conditioning unit for the wastewater facilities. Out of three (3) compressors, there is only one still operating. The service technician informed Mr. Emond that the remaining compressor will likely not last another season. Also, the plumbing will need to be upgraded in order to meet current codes. The compressor will be approximately $10,000.00. Mr. Andrews suggested that individual units may be more efficient for the long term. There was some discussion on this matter.

**Voted –** Mr. Nolan made a motion to authorize BETA to look into the workings of the HVAC system and advise the BSC on how best to proceed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Rouleau. All in favor, so voted.

**Correspondence:**

**21-04-01 –** Correspondence from Habitat for Humanity West Bay & Northern RI requesting an updated current connection approval letter. Previous approval letter dated March 2, 2007.

Mr. Andrews asked Mr. Kane for advice on this matter. Mr. Kane stated that a letter was received today, October 13, 2020, by Ms. Richard, Office Manager, from Habitat for Humanity regarding these properties. The letter states that they have encountered ledge and would like to install the sewer connections on Oakland School Street instead of Oakland Avenue. Mr. Dyment and Mr. Kane both advised that this will require a new application, as new plans must be submitted. The old plans are no longer valid for these connections.

**Voted –** Mr. Andrews made a motion to submit a letter to Habitat for Humanity stating that a new application, along with new connection plans, must be submitted for approval. The motion was seconded by Mr. Nolan. All in favor, so voted.

**Invoices:**

Walker Wellington Invoice #092220VNH in the amount of $23,800.00 for Vaughan Model Submersible Chopper Pump – Fund 8300.

Mr. Emond stated that this was the pump that was installed at the School Street pump station.

**Voted –** Mr. Nolan made a motion to pay Walker Wellington Invoice #092220VNH in the amount of $23,800.00 from Fund 8300. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fontaine. All in favor, so voted.

**Engineer’s Report:**

Record of Headworks Improvements Funding Meeting

Mr. Dyment stated that he and Mr. Emond had a conference call with Steven Maceroni from RI Infrastructure Bank on September 30, 2020. They went over the funding options, which included open market borrowing and borrowing from RIIB. Once Mr. Maceroni receives a Draw Down schedule, which is an estimate of how the money will be spent over time, he will do a comparison of loan alternatives. Mr. Maceroni indicated that it is likely that a SRF RIIB loan may be the most advantageous. He stated that the Town’s Bond Council, Karen Grande, will have to draft a resolution for the Town Council to authorize the BSC to borrow the funds. Mr. Emond and Mr. Dyment had a conference call with Ms. Grande today. Mr. Dyment will be submitting an estimated Draw Down schedule to Mr. Maceroni tomorrow. Once Mr. Maceroni reviews this, he will give an opinion on how the loan will affect the budget. Mr. Dyment, Mr. Emond and Mr. Andrews will then approach the Town Council regarding the borrowing of funds for the project.

**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 there is nothing to report this month.

**Superintendent’s Report:**

Report for the month of September, 2020

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

Average Daily Flow = 0.5473

Maximum Daily Flow = 0.67820 on 16-Sep

Minimum Daily Flow = 0.4010 on 6-Sep

Percent Average

Removal Concentration

1. Biochemical Oxygen Demand

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

September achieved = 99.5% 1.1 mg/L

1. Total Suspended Solids

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

September achieved = 98.6% 2.6 mg/L

1. Total Phosphorus

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

September achieved = 98.6% 0.089 mg/L

1. Total Ammonia

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

September achieved = 98.6% 0.4 mg/L

1. Total Copper

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

September achieved = 96.3% 9.0 ug/L

1. Disposed Sludge

Dry Tons Disposed of = 31.65

Number of Loads Removed = 30

Average Dry Tons / Load = 1.06

Permit Excursions

9/30/20 – Monthly average Total Copper reported as 9.0 ug/L. Monthly average limit is 8.0 ug/L. Refer to Table-1 below for September Copper data.

A ferric chloride sample was sent to both Phoenix Laboratory and New England Testing Laboratory (NET LAB) for copper analysis to compare results. Phoenix reported 160 mg/L and NET LAB reported 107 mg/L. Borden & Remington, the ferric chloride supplier was contacted and asked if they had any copper data on the product. Their supplier is PVS which is a fairly large chemical company in the Midwest. PVS runs a quarterly full metals spectrum on their product. Borden & Remington obtained the metals spectrum results for the first and second quarters of 2020. The copper concentrations reported were 74 mg/kg and 68 mg/kg respectively, which correlates to about 99 mg/L average (ferric SP is 1.4). Unfortunately, we are adding Copper to the filters via the ferric chloride used to remove Total Phosphorus.

TABLE -1

Date Sec. Eff Copper Final Eff Copper

Ug/L Ug/L

9/4/20 5.5 9.1

9/10/20 6.1 10.6

9/17/20 4.4 9.6

9/24/20 5.6 6.5

Avg. 5.4 9.0

As you can see from the data in Table-1, the final effluent Copper for 9/24/20 was 6.5 ug/L. This result was achieved by taking two actions: 1) employing a second portable sump pump for mixing the ferric chloride in the tank prior to the filter channels, and 2) lowering the ferric chloride dosage. A consistently higher dose of ferric chloride had to be applied this year compared to last year to maintain the Total Phosphorus concentration below 0.1 mg/L. The higher dose seems to be related to the low flows experienced this summer as compared to last summer, but could also be more related to fats, oils and grease (FOG) which has been evident on top of the primary clarifier and chlorine contact tank for most of the summer. FOG’s could be adversely affecting the performance of the sand filter. The effluent Total Phosphorus result on 9/24/20 was 0.119 mg/L, which demonstrates the point. By lowering the ferric chloride and thereby reducing the copper introduced to the filter, the copper result was below the limit; however, the Total Phosphorus result was higher than the monthly average limit. This month’s effluent Total Phosphorus average was 0.089 mg/L due to the fact there were many days well below the 0.1 mg/L monthly average. There is no daily maximum limit for Total Phosphorus.

Subsequently, the maintenance operator was directed to plumb one Nalmet pump out of three that can apply Nalmet either to the sand filter or to the head of the plant. A low dose of Nalmet is currently being applied at the filter while keeping the normal dose at the head of the plant. With the employment of two application points, the process should maintain low copper concentrations in the secondary effluent and remove any copper coming from the ferric chloride at the filter.

Callout Alarms

9/29/20 – SO2 residual straight-lined on Final Effluent Chlorine Analyzer – Superintendent called in crew to troubleshoot. Analyzer chemical pumps were not properly dosing reagents. Fixed and returned to normal.

9/30/20 – Phos Alarm – Local power blip. Reset and cleared all alarms. Reset pumps and compressors.

1. **COLLECTION SYSTEM OPERATIONS**

There were two (2) after hour collection systems call-in responses for the month of September 2020. Find the call-in table below:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Location** | **Nature of Call / Alarm Condition** | **Issue Found** |
| 9/1/20 | Beach Rd Eject Station | High Wet Well | Flow not getting to pot. Back flushed suction line. |
| 9/17/20 | Beach Rd Eject Station | High Wet Well | No air. Both compressors were tripped. Restarted compressors and purged pot. Pumped down wet well. |

1. **CURRENT ISSUES**
2. Spring Lake pump station generator not functional. The faulty regulator circuit board was repaired and shipped back to Delta Electric. Delta is scheduled to install the voltage regulator board the week of October 5th and then tested.
3. 9/14/20 – New Barmesa pump for Spring Lake installed.
4. 9/21/21 – Repaired Vaughan chopper pump for School Street installed.
5. Zoom meeting with Steve Maceroni of Public Financial Management, Inc., the Town’s Financial Advisor, Jay Manning of RIDEM, James Dyment of BETA Engineering, Bill Andrews and Michael Emond of the BSC to discuss the process of financing the upgrades to the Burrillville WWTF Headworks and the Oakland Pump Station. The outcome of the meeting was that the Bond Counsel for the Town, Karen Grande of Locke Lord, LLP needs to be contacted so that a draft resolution for financing could be developed and presented to the Town Council for approval. James Dyment of BETA will need to provide a Karen a draw schedule for her to develop the draft resolution.

Mr. Emond gave a summary of the Superintendent’s Report. There was some discussion regarding the current issues.

**Voted –** Mr. Fontaine 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 –**

Northwest Health Center (SU-09-0027-01) 55 Pascoag Main Street

Amount: $591.14

Renovating the building for offices and medical exam rooms. This account will be changed from Residential billing to Commercial (metered) billing.

Northwest Health Center (SU-13-0980-00) 65 Pascoag Main Street

Amount: $1,182.28

Unoccupied building to be torn down and made into a parking lot.

Northwest Health Center (SU-13-0980-01) 61A-C Pascoag Main Street

Amount: $1,773.42

Building no longer exists.

Total: $3,546.84

Mrs. Batalon explained that Northwest Health Center purchased these properties, which have all been either vacant, or demolished for several years. The properties do not have water service. The bills are current bills for Fiscal Year 2021.

**Voted –** Mr. Nolan made a motion to approve the write-off for 55 Pascoag Main Street in the amount of $591.14. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fontaine. All in favor, so voted.

Mr. Nolan made a motion to approve the write-off of 65 Pascoag Main Street in the amount of $1,182.28. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fontaine. All in favor, so voted.

Mr. Nolan made a motion to approve the write-off of 61A-C Pascoag Main Street in the amount of $1,773.42. The motion was seconded by Mr. Joubert. All in favor, so voted.

**Adjournment –** Mr. Nolan made a motion to adjourn the Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Fontaine. 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