

MINUTES JOINT MEETING OF THE WOODRIDGE LAKE SEWER DISTRICT SEWER AUTHORITY  
AND THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE WOODRIDGE LAKE SEWER DISTRICT  
MONDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2014, 6:00 P.M. WOODRIDGE LAKE CLUB HOUSE  
EAST HYERDALE DRIVE, GOSHEN, CONNECTICUT

CALL TO ORDER: Raymond A. Turri, Chairman and President of both Boards respectively called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE: Board members Raymond A. Turri, Joan M. Lang, James Hiltz and by conference phone, Jim Mersfelder and Robert Goldfeld. Also present Plant Superintendent Charles Ekstrom, Richard Reis Chairman of the WLSA Finance Committee and interested Tax Payers Scott Donahue WL Lot 402, Al Shull WL Lot 301 and Godwin Noell WL Lot 591.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the November 17, 2014 meeting were presented for approval. **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Ray Turri seconded by Jim Hiltz to approve said minutes as presented. There was no discussion on or corrections noted under the minutes and they were **APPROVED AS PRESENTED**.

MONTHLY OPERATIONAL REPORT: The Operational Report for the period ending December 15, 2014 is on file with the minutes of this. Plant Superintendent Charles Ekstrom reported on the following:

Personnel: Jason Patrick - 1 sick day / 2 vacation days  
Mark Theriault - 3 vacation days  
Michael Migaldi - 3 Funeral days

Jason Patrick will be having surgery for the removal of his gallbladder within the next few weeks and is expected at this time to be out for about one week. Charlie Ekstrom also informed the Board that on Jan 2, 2015 he will be having surgery on his right hand and it is expected at this time that he will be out at least one week.

Pump Station #3 – The rebuilding of both pumps and the installation of the base plates and shut off valves has been completed by Eastern with the piping to Pump #1 to be completed on December 16th.

Jim Hiltz questioned if the street was being dug up on West Hyerdale Drive for a sewer connection and Charlie Ekstrom stated that to his knowledge, no connections were being made at this time but would check to see why the road might be being dug up. Bob Goldfeld questioned the overseeing of sewer connections and Charlie explained the permit process and stated that the District has retained the services of Richard Calkins, a registered Civil engineer, to oversee that all hookups into the system from the manhole to the house are done properly. Charlie stated that he too is present at the time of hookup.

Pump Station #8 – Eastern will start work on PS. #8 once Pump Station #3 work is completed.

Emergency Generation Maintenance - Tower Generator was in on November 24 to do their bi-annual maintenance service on the three emergency generators. Introl was also in on that date to calibrate the flow meters.

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Somat Press – The sludge feed pump on the Somat Press broke and was out of operation for about two weeks. Parts were found on-line and through local vendors and with the exception of one part needing to be machined, repairs were made in house by Plant Personnel with cost coming in under \$500.00.

I/I / Pump Station Bypass Bidding- On December 11<sup>th</sup> Woodard & Curran held on-site pre-bid meetings with prospective contractors. Bid openings are to occur on December 22<sup>nd</sup> with the work expecting to be done in the coming spring and summer. USDA representatives will be present and Ray Turri stated that he would also be present for the bid opening.

Plant Flows – The average daily flow for November was 76,000 gallons per day with total precipitation of 3.84". To date for December, the average daily flow is 138,000 with a maximum daily flow of 222,000 gal. (2.51" of rain on that date). Total precipitation to date for December, 4.98". It was noted that these were the highest flows since the major Deep Cut repairs were done, however, compared to the December 2013 flows, the numbers are the same. During the heavy rain, Plant Personnel did go out to check the manholes for any major inflow problems.

There were no other items discussed under the Plant Superintendents report and Charlie Ekstrom left the meeting at 6:15 P.M.

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Treasurer, Jim Mersfelder reported on the financial reports for the period ending November 30, 2014: Sewer Tax Collection – Progress continues to be made on the collection of delinquent accounts. The total delinquent amount as of 11/30/13 was \$34,839.66 vs. \$21,614.70 as of 11/30/2014. Although the oldest delinquent account property is under foreclosure, the District, is listed on the complaint as a lien holder, will receive the back taxes, Interest and lien fees when the property is sold.

Operational Budget: As of 11/30/2014 the full year operating forecast shows a favorable year to date balance of \$34,974.71. The budgeted Capital projects have been moved out due to delays in negotiations with DEEP. It was not shown under this report, but Jim Mersfelder noted that as approved by the Board action was taken to reallocate excess funds from Litchfield Bancorp to Thomaston Savings and Northwest Community Bank. Both Banks are giving more favorably rates than Litchfield Bancorp, but Thomaston Savings Bank is giving the District a preferred substantially higher rate. Jim Mersfelder and Richard Reis continue to work with Thomaston Savings regarding what else the bank can do for the District. Discussed briefly was the use by taxpayers of the option they now have to pay their taxes by Credit Card. There are a few taxpayers who use the option, but if used, there is a fee to the taxpayer which is felt deters the taxpayer from paying with the use of a credit card. There was no further discussion relative to the financial reports.

Planning Committee Report: Ray Turri noted as reported under the monthly operational report that the SCADA and I/I projects went out to bid on November 21<sup>st</sup> with a response date of December 22<sup>nd</sup> at which time the bids will be opened. Ray Turri again noted that he would be in attendance at the bid opening. Subsequent to the bid opening a contractor will be selected and work can start in the spring.

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New Business: Verification of potential number of connections into the WLSA system - Jim Mersfelder gave an update on the response to the letter that went out to 152 Woodridge Lake Property owners who own vacant lots to verify the status of the lot (s) as buildable or if not buildable, the designation of the lot as conservation property. Approximately 70 lot owners have responded, of those, 7 have expressed their desire to move their vacant lot (s) into conservation restricted status. A suggested Conservation Restriction template was provided by Atty. Chip Roraback for use by those who wished to put their lot under conservation restriction status. Prior to this meeting, a letter to accompany the Conservation Restriction document which was reviewed by Atty. Bruce Chudwick of Shipman & Goodwin and Chip Roraback had been made available to the Board prior to the meeting. The Board noted their receipt and approval of the letter and Conservation Restriction document which would be sent out to those requesting further information. Noted was the further work that needs to be done to verify any lots that are considered unbuildable due to wet lands and it was expected that it would take at least two months to come up with a final number of potential buildable lots. To give the owners of large parcels of land within the District an idea of what might happen and any impact, Jim Mersfelder reported that he and Richard Reis had met with Ed Wright owner of the high density housing lot on Beach Street plus his two parcels on Milton Road. Legal status will need to be provided by the lot owner which shows that it has been determined by a, qualified soil scientist. Inland/Wetlands Commission or the State Army Corp of Engineers that it is unbuildable due to wetlands. It was noted that once placed under Conservation Restriction, it is forever.

2015 WLSA/WLSA MEETING SCHEDULE: The 2015 WLSA/WLSA Meeting schedule was presented for Board review. **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Ray Turri, seconded by Bob Goldfeld to accept the 2015 meeting schedule of the District as presented. There was no discussion, **SO VOTED**. Said schedule would be posted on the WLSA website.

Employee Christmas Gift Baskets: As a means of expressing the appreciation of the Board for the outstanding job the employees of the District are doing, **A MOTION WAS MADE BY** Ray Turri seconded by Jim Hiltz to buy a gift basket for each of the WLSA employees and their families. No discussion, **SO VOTED**. Joan Lang abstained from voting. Ray Turri would take care of the ordering of the gift baskets.

Taxpayer Comments – Al Shull acknowledged his receipt of the Board's response to his open letter that he had presented to the Board at their November 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. He stated that he understands that before any projects can go forward regarding the upgrade that there would have to be a vote of the taxpayers. It is his understanding that the vote will be taken after the decision on cost allocations has been made and does the WLSA Board have any intention of sampling community sentiment with regard to the cost allocation issue prior to making that decision? Ray Turri stated the issue has not been discussed by the Board. The Board at this time has only a general idea of what the cost will be. At such time as the Board has finite numbers, there will be many things to talk about, but there is no point in discussing it now. The Board is aware and appreciative of how he and other WL property owners feel, but to discuss it now, is premature. It is not the intent of the Board to steam roller anything through. Ray Turri stressed the fact that the WLSA is orchestrated by the State DEEP and if the voters of the District were to vote the project down, the DEEP would issue a cease and desist and force the District to do it anyway. Al Shull stated that he still does not understand why there is a reluctance of the Board of finding out how the community feels about the two methods of cost allocation. It is believed, that the

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view of the taxpayer regarding the cost allocation will depend on what the impact is for each person. Ray Turri stated that much work remains to be done before any final cost numbers are available. The Board along with the Planning and Finance Committee have and continue to work hard to reach the most appropriate cost allocations for all parties concerned. The Board is looking ahead to spring at which time it is hoped there will be clarification regarding the onsite new plant or the pipeline to Torrington to be used and the projected cost. Ray Turri asked for the patience on of the taxpayers.

There was no other business to come before the meeting. Ray Turri made a motion to adjourn, it was seconded by Joan Lang and the meeting adjourned at 6:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

WOODRIDGE LAKE SEWER DISTRICT SEWER AUTHORITY  
WOODRIDGE LAKE SEWER DISTRICT

Joan M. Lang, Secretary and Clerk of both boards respectively