

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SEWER COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING – JULY 21, 2020

Present: Chairwoman Elizabeth Phelan, Commissioner Ramiro Suarez, Commissioner Kathy Ferrier, Commissioner Sean Dunn and Council Liaison Mary Fortier

Staff Present: Superintendent Robert Longo and Sean Hennessey, Director of Sewer

Also Present: Attorney Timothy Furey, Gino Carrier-Carrier Construction, Bryan Campbell-Clean Harbors

Absent: Commissioner Robert A. Badal

1) CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Phelan called the meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners held via Webex, Meeting Number 1326406359 to order at 6:00 PM.

2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3) MOMENT OF SILENCE

Commissioner Ferrier dedicated a moment of silence for all the victims of social injustice.

4) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 16, 2020 REGULAR BOARD MEETING

On motion, Commissioner Dunn and seconded, voted to approve the June 16, 2020 minutes as presented.

Roll Call Vote: Chairwoman Phelan - Yes
 Commissioner Suarez - Yes
 Commissioner Ferrier - Abstained
 Commissioner Dunn - Yes

Motion passed.

5) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

6) CUSTOMER COMPLAINTS

None

**7) ATTORNEY TIMOTHY W. FUREY - RESIDENCE BY MAIN LLC - CONSTRUCTION
32 UNITS MAIN STREET**

Attorney Furey representing Carrier Construction on 32-unit apartment building located on Main Street. Attorney Furey on behalf of his client, are requesting a reduction in sewer connection fees or no fees, since they are reconnecting to existing sewer lines. Attorney Furey noted that the City of Bristol sewer fees are oppressive and are over \$1700.00 per unit. He also noted that the neighboring Town of Southington only charges \$500.00 to connect and has no charge for existing connections. Superintendent Longo recommended that a study needs to be done before any adjustments can be given. He noted that in past practice, if a building was demolished and replaced with a new building sewer connection fees were still charged. He recommended the Board conduct a study on the fees and give Carrier Construction a credit or refund after the fact. A discussion ensued; it was noted that a Public Hearing will be needed on any changes that are made to the fees. Attorney Furey requested that he be contacted on any discussions regarding the sewer fees.

On motion, Commissioner Dunn and seconded, voted in benefit to Residence by Main LLC any adjustments to sewer fees coming over the next period will be granted to them proportionally that has been assessed to them at the time of construction.

Roll Call Vote: Chairwoman Phelan - Yes
 Commissioner Suarez - Yes
 Commissioner Ferrier - Yes
 Commissioner Dunn - Yes

Motion passed.

8) SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Longo gave a brief report on working through COVID19. He also thanked Sean Hennessey, Director of Sewer and his staff for doing a tremendous job on getting the toxicity down at the plant. No action taken.

9) OLD BUSINESS

(1) Clean Harbors - Superintendent Longo noted the Department has been working with Clean Harbors on some settling issues that are believed to be caused by nitrates. He reported that there have been no upsets at the plant in the past thirty days. He also reported they have not seen much discharge with nitrates. He noted per a letter provided by Clean Harbors that they have made some adjustments. It was noted that Clean Harbors is sending one of their seasoned operators from

Alabama to get a better understanding on how the sewer plant operates.

(2) DEEP Draft Permit - Superintendent Longo reported the City put in a phosphorus removal system a few years back, the system uses aluminum to eliminate the phosphorus. During the first draft of the permit, DEEP allowed the aluminum to be added to eliminate the phosphorus, but had issues with the aluminum in the discharge. With Sean Hennessey's expertise, the new permit draft has aluminum monitoring and does not have actual aluminum requirements.

Sean Hennessey, Director of Sewer reported that as of July 15, 2020 the second draft permit was signed. The new permit should be in effect around September 1, 2020 for a 5-year term. In this permit, the Department will have to monitor the aluminum. An aluminum test has to be conducted every 30 days and a report has to be submitted to CT DEEP and EPA. He added that this was a workable permit and a win for the City of Bristol and the Bristol Water & Sewer Department. No action was taken.

10) NEW BUSINESS

None

11) ADJOURNMENT

At 6:31 PM, on motion by Commissioner Dunn and seconded, unanimously voted to adjourn.

ATTEST:



Renee LaMarre

Water & Sewer Administrative Assistant