



# PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Bethel Municipal Center, 1 School Street  
Bethel, Connecticut 06801 Telephone: (203)794-8501

**RECEIVED**

## MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Monday August 4, 2008

4:00 p.m.

Bethel Municipal Center – Meeting Room “A”

AUG 08 2008

TOWN OF BETHEL  
TOWN CLERK

**Present:** First Selectman Burke, Selectman Szatkowski, Commissioner Gribbin, Commissioner Michaels also in attendance Len Assard, Heitkamp Consultant; Andrew Morosky, Town Engineer; William Hagan, Town Attorney; Kelly Curtis, Utilities Supervisor.

**Call to Order:** First Selectman Burke called to the regular meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

**Absent:** Selectman Cleary.

### **Correspondence:**

Letter received from R.T. Vanderbilt Company dated July 2, 2008 indicating a certain chemical which they found in their testing exceeded the allowable monthly average. Chairman Burke requested that a copy of the letter be sent to the appropriate person at the city of Danbury.

**Public Input:** None

### **Minutes:**

Meeting Minutes from July 7, 2008 regular Meeting: Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by commissioner Gribbin, to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Michaels abstained from the vote. Vote, All in Favor, Motion Carries.

### **Old Business:**

**Proposed Sewer Regulation:** Andrew Morosky and Attorney Sienkiewicz are in communication on the continuation of the sewer regulations. No further news to report.

**Interlocal Agreement:** Chairman Burke tabled discussion on this topic until the end of the agenda since Mr. Doto was present for the Chelsea Heights development, which is part of the Interlocal Agreement.

**24 Putnam Park Road:** Andrew Morosky working on issue.

**Water Main Extension - Grassy Plain Street:** Chairman Burke tabled discussion until end of agenda.

**Financial Report:**

Reports were so noted. Commissioner Gribbin requested better financial reporting to the commission. Chairman Burke indicated that he would send a memorandum requesting same.

**Engineering/Utility Consultant Reports:**

**Grants:**

**Water Storage Tank:** Andrew Morosky indicated that the firm of Wright-Pierce has completed the new water system distribution map. This map puts Bethel in the 21<sup>st</sup> century by incorporating data on each pipe and hydrant in the system in a database that is tied to the map. The hydraulic model will help Public Utilities analyze Fire Flows, main breaks, upgrades to the distribution system, etc.

**Sanitary Sewer System Capacity Evaluation** Andrew Morosky updated the commission on the Tighe & Bond project regarding the Sanitary Sewer System Capacity Evaluation Update. The proposed cost to finalize the report and update the maps and sewer allocation / buildout analysis is \$8,750. The town has already paid over \$80,000, of which 55% is eligible for reimbursement through a state grant. Mr. Morosky indicated he'll need approval from the commission for the remaining cost \$8,750.

Chairman Burke made a motion which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski to approve the proposed work by Tighe & Bond, provided the cost does not exceed \$8,750. Vote, All in Favor, Motion Carries.

**Stony Hill Sewer Project:**

**Contract 2:** Moran Environmental is scheduled to move in their equipment late this week and Ludlow will remobilize by mid-next week and start excavating for the pump station on or about August 14<sup>th</sup>. After structures are installed, they plan to install the sewer on the western end of Hawleyville Road.

Completion of Contract 2 should be in October or November 2008, a publication notifying residents for hooking up to sewers will be sent out once the pump station is operational. Remaining portion of Payne Road near Shelter Rock Road may be later as new easements are required to cross properties with low pressure force main.

**Contract 3:** Borings location (with exception of easements) have been marked-out. Welti (boring contractor) will start drilling in August. Wetlands have been flagged by soils scientist. Surveying at pump station site scheduled for the coming week.

Publication for bidding for Contract 3 should be advertised in September.

**Contract 4:** Based on field conditions, it appears the best location of the proposed pumping station is in the Town of Brookfield, on the north side of Ridge Road.

### **Easements for Contract 2 and 3:**

Attorney Hagan has completed easements for Contract 2 with exception to part of Payne Road for the residents that are lower than the Pump Station in which a grinder pump is required. Easements for Contract 3 are still being obtained, a total of nineteen are required and nine have been signed

### **Supervisor Report:**

Kelly Curtis reported the Utilities Department has completed a total flush of the system, all went well. Working on the leak survey which was paid by the Chestnut Culvert Project. A few small leaks, but nothing of major concern. The department has replaced two of the five fire hydrants planned for this fiscal year, one on Hickok and the other on Waterhorse Brook Drive.

Mr. Curtis indicated he is researching for a replacement of a 1994 van, which only gets 9 miles to the gallon, researching a small cost efficient vehicle, perhaps 20 miles to the gallon.

Len Assard and Kelly Curtis discussed the inflow and infiltration in the sanitary sewer system, Len indicated the older parts of the collection system may be about 15% - 20% because of the clay pipes with their leaky joints that make up this part of the system. Heitkamp is currently working on a program which will help identify where the infiltration is coming from in order to schedule a fix for those areas.

Kelly Curtis indicated residents on Payne Road had concerns regarding the manholes south of the pump station site. The two manholes are not connected to the system and with recent rainfall, the manholes have had an over flow of ground water around each manhole. Mr. Curtis has no real concerns with this issue because when those manholes are connected the leaks will have been addressed, as has occurred elsewhere in the project.

### **New Business:**

Chelsea Heights is a proposed 80 Acre, Active Adult Community which will be located on Apollo Road. Mr. Doto, P.E., who represents the developer, G&N Chelsea, is working with engineering firm of Roald Haestad, Inc. of Waterbury. Mr. Doto presented a letter report from Haestad showing a revision to their proposed water system for the project. The pump station is now proposed to be located at a lower elevation off site which will allow a greater volume of water to pass through the station. They are requesting that the Town consider supplying both domestic water and fire protection water to the site.

Mr. Assard pointed out that some improvements would need to be made to the Bethel System in order to provide the necessary fire flows. As the design of the water tank moves forward, the improvements that are necessary will be identified. Improvements could include additional water main, contribution to a pump station improvement project or transmission main re-lining, etc. It was noted that the developer was prepared to 1) pay \$205,000 to cover the cost identified by the City of Danbury in the proposed Interlocal Agreement to interconnect; 2) pay for the construction of two pump stations for domestic water and fire protection; and 3) pay for temporary fire storage tanks for the first phase of the development while the remaining phases (including the fire protection pump station) were being built. The developer should expect any necessary improvements in the Bethel system to provide his project with considerable cost savings compared to the original water system, even with the cost of a high pressure transmission main from the pump station to the site factored in.

Selectman Burke made a motion which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski to have the Town of Bethel provide Fire Protection and Domestic Water Service to the proposed development by G & N Chelsea, subject to approval of the Public Works Director / Town Engineer. Vote: Commissioner Michaels abstained, All in favor, Motion Carries.

**Interlocal Agreement:**

Andrew Morosky distributed the updated, proposed Danbury - Bethel Interlocal Sewer and Water Agreement. Questions were posed regarding the reimbursement from the City of Danbury for the sewer on Payne Road and the interconnection at Timber Oaks. Danbury will pay \$175,000 within 90 days of the execution of the Agreement and the other half once sewage starts to flow from Danbury to Bethel on Payne Road. With respect to Timber Oaks, Mr. Assard indicated there are tees with valves in place. To complete the interconnection there, a metering vault with check valves will have to be installed. In addition, a pump connection will be needed to flow from Bethel to Danbury. Flow from Danbury to Bethel currently will be by gravity as the Danbury system has higher pressure. Mr. Assard questioned the interconnection at Chelsea Heights, as it shows the Town will owe Danbury \$205,000. Chairman Burke indicated that the Agreement was limited to the Town of Bethel and the City of Danbury and the Town will only owe Danbury the money if G & N Chelsea has to use Danbury's water to provide fire protection. It appears that Bethel will be able to provide fire protection to G & N Chelsea once the new tank is in place, which means this section of the Interlocal Agreement will not be applicable. In the event G & N Chelsea has to use Danbury's water, they will pay Bethel \$205,000 which will be used to pay Danbury.

Chairman Burke made a motion which was seconded by Selectman Szatkowski that the Public Utilities Commission approves of the language in the Interlocal Agreement and recommends that the Board of Selectmen authorize the First Selectman to sign the Interlocal Agreement with the City of Danbury once the final document is prepared for signature. Vote: All in Favor, Motion Carries.

**Water Main Extension – Grassy Plain Street:**

Consultant Len Assard indicated letters have been received from several residents firmly opposed to connecting to the proposed water main. One who responded positively can hook up from Second Lane. The firm interested in the main extension may have to withdraw their offer to the PUC or provide more incentives to the property owners. Assard suggests withdrawal of the application pending further discussions.

**Adjourn:**

As there was no further business on today's agenda, Commissioner Gribbin made a motion, which was seconded by First Selectman Burke, to adjourn the meeting at 6:10pm. Vote, All in Favor, Motion Carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracy Rogalski  
Recording Secretary