



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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

REGULAR MEETING

Monday, September 12, 2011

4:00 p.m.

C.J. Hurgin Municipal Center – Meeting Room “A”

Present: First Selectman Knickerbocker, Selectman Richard Straiton, Selectman Paul Szatkowski, Commissioner Peter Valenti. Also in attendance were Town Comptroller Bob Kozlowski, Town Engineer Andrew Morosky, Utilities Superintendent Kelly Curtis, Utility Consultant Len Assard and Town Attorney Martin Lawlor.

Absent: None

Call to Order First Selectman Knickerbocker called the Meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Input: None

Correspondence: None

Meeting Minutes from Regular Meeting August 1, 2011: Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton to approve the Regular Meeting of August 1, 2011. Discussion took place. Vote, Commissioner Gribbin and First Selectman Knickerbocker Abstained, Motion Approved.

Meeting Minutes from Special Meeting September 6, 2011: Selectman Szatkowski made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton to approve the Special Meeting of September 6, 2011. Discussion took place. Vote, Motion Approved.

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Gribbin to add to the agenda 8 P.T. Barnum Square – La Zingara. Vote, Motion Approved.

Commissioner Gribbin made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Valenti to add to the agenda Water Service Line - Insurance Coverage. Vote, Motion Approved.

New Business:

- **8 P.T. Barnum Square – La Zingara:** Dainius Virbickas, representing the owners of La Zingara Restaurant, indicated that, after site work was completed, it was determined that changes are required to provide Fire Protection to the facility. Mr. Virbickas distributed a map of the proposed changes to the site and he and the Commission discussed performing the work in the alley between the buildings; shelving the sewer line; installing separate water lines; the location of the existing sanitary sewer main; elimination of the existing galvanized water

Commissioner Mike Gribbin made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton to modify the design of the storage tank from a 1,000 gallon to a 1,500 gallon tank for extra storage. Vote, All in Favor, Motion Approved.

Commissioner Valenti indicated to the commission these types of projects are required to be presented to this Commission prior to any work starting. This commission is in agreement. Commissioner Valenti pointed out that the drawings distributed of the proposed pumps are not true grinder pumps and this would be a problem at this location. Mr. Johanning confirmed the pump on the drawing handles only 3/4" solids.

Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Valenti to require the installation of grinder pumps in the station. Vote, All in Favor, Motion Approved.

Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Valenti to approve the modified design of the Park and Recreation Bathroom Renovation. Vote, All in Favor, Motion Approved.

Invoices:

Commissioner Valenti asked about the easement work completed by T.D. and Sons, Inc. for the Stony Hill Sewer Project, Contract 3 and indicated that this commission is required to review all projects prior to starting work. Mr. Morosky indicated that the other easement areas were handled the same way in the past and that the Chairman was informed before the work proceeded.

PUC INVOICES

	Vendor	Inv. Date	Amount	Description	Account
1	Heitkamp	8/17/2011	\$1,715.00	Professional Services	Split Water and Sewer
2	T.D. and Sons Inc.	8/22/2011	\$6,040.00	108 Walnuthill Rd.- Easement work	StonyHill Sewer Project
3	T.D. and Sons Inc.	8/22/2011	\$8,540.00	112 WalnutHill - Easement Work	StonyHill Sewer Project
4	T.D. and Sons Inc.	8/22/2011	\$4,000.00	6 Ridgedale Rd.- Easement Work	StonyHill Sewer Project
5	T.D. and Sons Inc.	8/22/2011	\$9,040.00	6 Hillcrest Rd. - Easement Work	StonyHill Sewer Project
6	Newstimes	7/31/2011	\$7,604.27	Sewer Project - Assessments- Legal Notice	StonyHill Sewer Project
7	Pullman and Comley	7/29/2011	\$5,322.00	Professional Services	Water Storage Tank
8	Martin Lawlor	8/6/2011	\$336.38	Professional Services	Water Department
9	Martin Lawlor	8/6/2011	\$229.13	Professional Services	Sewer Department
10	Martin Lawlor	8/6/2011	\$2,418.00	Professional Services	Stony Hill Project
Total Approved			\$45,244.78		

Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Mike Gribbin to approve the invoices for the Public Utilities Commission in the amount of \$45,244.78. Vote, discussion, All in Favor, Motion Approved.

Stony Hill Sewer Project; Ludlow Construction Company:

Mr. Morosky distributed (see attached) to the commission a breakdown of costs from Ludlow Construction Company to re-mobilize in Stony Hill.

Commission Valenti made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to refer the matter to the Town torney, Martin Lawlor, for his review. Vote, All in Favor, Motion Approved.

September 16, 2011 as well as other corrective concerns. Mr. Morosky indicated the property manager has begun taking action to correct the problem and is submitting product data to Len Assard for review.

- **Water Service Line; Insurance Coverage:** Commissioner Gribbin spoke regarding Insurance that people can purchase for the water main. The following was discussed:
 - Mr. Curtis indicated that AAA is offering this type of water service line failure insurance; Aquarion Water Company (located in Bridgeport) issues this as well.
 - If the Commission were to offer this type of service it will need to be called "Assurance" not "Insurance" for legal reasons.
 - Birmingham Utilities, based in Connecticut, offered this service at a cost of approximately \$50 a year.
 - The language of what is and what is *not* included needs to be spelled out precisely.
 - The Commission could have another Company run the program and be responsible for the repairs.

First Selectman Knickerbocker would like to send out an RFP to see what companies are interested. Commissioner Gribbin requested that Mr. Curtis go forward with a plan to have someone meet with the Commission to discuss their options in handling this new potential venture.

Old Business:

- **Sewer Assessments:** Mr. Morosky indicated that the Tax Assessor has sent an updated assessment list with names and mailing addresses for Phase 3. Mr. Kozlowski indicated the next Bond payment will be made on the first of November.
- **Transfer Station:** Transfer Station Operator Mike Flanagan was in attendance. Following Tropical Storm Irene, the Transfer Station was made available for all Bethel residents to provide assistance in removal of spoiled food and household goods. Mr. Flanagan indicated there were members of the general public who thought the disposal was going to be free and many turned away when they learned it would cost money.

Mr. Kozlowski distributed the financials for the Transfer Station and the Water and Sewer Funds. Selectman Szatkowski asked about the Transfer Station deficit with respect to the costs incurred years ago via fines from DEEP (formerly DEP) and the capping of the landfill / transfer station improvements project in the amount of approximately \$450,000. He asked Mr. Kozlowski if the Town will ever be able to write off the costs incurred at that time rather than operating the transfer station in debt. Mr. Kowlowski indicated that this is something that would have to be addressed during the Town budget process.

- **2011-2012 Budget approval:** Mr. Curtis indicated that the approval of the Budget for fiscal year 2011-2012 has not been issued, primarily due to the Contract negotiations between the town and the unions.

Commissioner Gribbin made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Valenti to table this subject for further discussion. Vote, Motion Approved.

Financial Report:

Water and Sewer Financial Status: Comptroller Bob Kozlowski distributed financial statements for Water and Sewer Department. Discussion took place.

Invoices:

PUC INVOICES

September 12, 2011 Regular Mtg.

Item #	Vendor	Inv. Date	Amount	Description	Account
1	Roald Haestad, Inc.	30-Aug-11	\$256.55	Plumtrees Sanitary Pump Station	Plumtrees Pump Station

First Selectman Knickerbocker made a motion, seconded by Selectman Straiton, to approve invoices totaling \$256.55. All in Favor Motion Approved.

Engineering / Utility Consultant Report:

- Utility Consultant Len Assard communicated to the Commission the following items regarding his research into regulations regarding sewer allocations banking:
 - Per Tighe and Bond build out analysis, the total allocation is in deficit by 71,000 gallons per day. In downtown Bethel (Paul Street) the deficit is 177,000 gallons per day.
 - Tax Dept. water accounts were reviewed to see actual water use, for example:
 - Schools allocated for approximately 11,000 gallons a day; they are only using about 3,000 gallons a day; potential savings of 8,000 gallons a day
 - 61,500 gallons assigned to Town owned property and some are open space, parks, areas where water storage tank is located, etc.
 - Paul Street flows average 1.04 million gallon per day, however, infiltration accounts for as much as half of this, according to the infiltration estimate by Tighe & Bond; If this can be reduced, it may address the build-out capacity problem.
 - Change of use in property should trigger a review by the PUC;
 - Applicant needs to be the owner of the property or an agent authorized to represent the owner;
 - Fee needs to be established for an application, i.e. \$10/gallon requested, \$15/gallon, etc.
 - Need to use money collected to tighten the system;
 - To limit frivolous applications from grabbing every available gallon, a completion deadline must be standardized (one or two years or more); if not completed within the timeframe then the sewer allocation goes back to the Sewer Bank.
 - Transfer of allocations from one property to another must be addressed.

Discussion between Mr. Assard and the Commission took place. First Selectman Knickerbocker requested that Mr. Assard draft the language of the banking of allocations and then Town Attorney will review. Discussion about the ground water leaking into the system took place; Mr. Assard indicated that there are tests which are performed such as a smoke tests, check the joints, etc. Discussion regarding the cost of the ground water getting into the system was discussed.

First Selectman indicated that a letter should be sent to all sewer users that it is not legal to hook up to the sanitary sewer line with drainage from downspout pipes or other stormwater pipes and that the Sewer Department will be conducting smoke tests to determine where the system may have illegal connections. If found connected the owner may be subject to a fine. The Commission is in agreement with the letter. First Selectman asked Mr. Morosky to draft a letter to all users.

August 25, 2011

Peter Sammis, P.E.
URS Corporation
500 Enterprise Drive, Suite 3B
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Re: Your email dated August 23, 2011

Dear Peter:

As requested, we submit the following:

Additional requirements to complete the required work on the original Contract #3:

- Remobilization for the remainder of the original contract #3 – Item # 00100, will be an additional \$20,000 to move all equipment back to start up and remove it upon project completion.
- Item # 02100, Clearing & Grubbing for restoration areas will require an additional \$4,000.
- We will have to be paid for the aggregate base and total bituminous concrete tonnage required to reconstruct the driveways on sheet C-4.1, from Sta 10 + 00 to approximately Sta 13 + 00. Appropriate pricing is aggregate base at \$38.00 cu and bituminous concrete at \$165.00 per ton. These driveways have water services and utility lines in them and it is unknown the exact damage that will be caused by the sewer installation and in dealing with the unknown location of the utilities.

Sheet # C-22A; 203 lf of 8" Ductile Iron Pipe. This pipe is very deep in the beginning, very close to the house and includes dealing with the pool. This will require creative installation and the pipe is also expensive. We will install this pipe at \$180.00 lf. Restoration and other items will be paid at their respective unit prices.

We will assume no responsibility for complications or future claims that may arise from the well to house #56 on Oak Ridge Road.

We left 784 lf of 8" PVC at the job. If this pipe is no good or if it is no longer there we will have to be reimbursed for it at a cost of \$3.75 lf.

Item # 02002-B, Traffic Police – will be paid at the current hourly rate in force.

Item # 02500, Bituminous Concrete Class 2 – will be paid at \$160.00 per ton as a result of the three and one half year increase in price.

All manhole items - # 02735A - # 02735B – will be increased \$300.00 to cover the cost increase of manholes and frames and covers.

All other contract items for the remaining contract work will apply at their respective prices.

All pipe, fabric, stone, labor and fuel costs have increased considerably during this three year lapse. We have absorbed as much of these cost increases as possible to keep your increases to a minimum.

ATTACHMENT A

Sheet C-19, Maple Row to Research Drive

- Item # 02100, Clearing & Grubbing and easement layout – lump sum \$19,000.
- Install 30 lf of Ductile Iron Pipe, bends and concrete encased – lump sum \$6,800.
- Item # 02002-B, Traffic Police – will be paid at the current hourly rate in force.
- All manhole items - # 02735A - # 02735B – will be increased \$300.00 to cover the cost increase of manholes and frames and covers.

All other items will be:

1. As per letter to Andrew Morosky dated August 17, 2009, for Garella Road, Maple Row and Birch Drive.
2. As per email from Mike Pio to Andrew Morosky dated September 29, 2009, indicating Bank Run Gravel at a price of \$27.00 cy.
3. As per email from Mike Pio to Andrew Morosky dated October 29, 2009, indicating Trench Rock at a price of \$110.00 cy.

Any Item(s) not covered above, will be at the original contract pricing.

ATTACHMENT B

Sheet 20 – Hawleyville Road to Stony Hill Road

- Item # 02100, Clearing & Grubbing and easement layout – lump sum \$16,000.
- Investigate oil tank – lump sum \$1,000.
- Remove oil tank, if required – lump sum \$2,500. Tank to be disposed of by others and all contaminated soil will be the responsibility of others.
- All manhole items - # 02735A - # 02735B – will be increased \$300.00 to cover the cost increase of manholes and frames and covers.
- Item # 02002-B, Traffic Police – will be paid at the current hourly rate in force.

All other items will be paid as outlined in ATTACHMENT A, Sheet C-19:

1. As per letter to Andrew Morosky dated August 17, 2009, for Garella Road, Maple Row and Birch Drive.
2. As per email from Mike Pio to Andrew Morosky dated September 29, 2009, indicating Bank Run Gravel at a price of \$27.00 cy.
3. As per email from Mike Pio to Andrew Morosky dated October 29, 2009, indicating Trench Rock at a price of \$110.00 cy.

Any Item(s) not covered above, will be at the original contract pricing.

ATTACHMENT D

Sheets C-3 & C-4.1 – Drainage Work

Installation of 1,080 lf of 24” CCP

- 3 Large double catch basins
- 2 Flared ends
- 1 Headwall
- Clearing & Grubbing
- Pipe bedding
- Restoration

Total Price

\$102,000

ATTACHMENT C

Low Pressure Force Main - Payne Road

Sheets CSK-1 and CSK-2 - Old Redding Sherman Turnpike

<u>Item</u>	<u>Estimated Quantity</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Extended Price</u>
Mobilization	1	LS	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Maintenance and Protection of Traffic	1	LS	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00
2" HDPE	1,400	LF	\$ 30.00	\$ 42,000.00
1.5" HDPE	170	LF	\$ 28.00	\$ 4,760.00
Pipe Bedding	1,720	LF	\$ 6.00	\$ 10,320.00
Service Connections not including 1.5" pipe	10	EA	\$ 650.00	\$ 6,500.00
Terminal Flushing Connections & Structure	1	EA	\$ 2,800.00	\$ 2,800.00
2" Curb Stop with Box	2	EA	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00
Silt Fence & Hay Bales	900	LF	\$ 11.00	\$ 9,900.00
Clearing & Grubbing	1	LS	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
Blacktop, actual tonnage used	100	Ton	\$ 170.00	\$ 17,000.00
Gravel (includes excavation), actual tonnage used	250	Ton	\$ 40.00	\$ 10,000.00
Restoration (for actual disturbance restored)	2,400	SY	\$ 6.00	\$ 14,400.00
Police Officers	80	Hours	\$ 57.00	\$ 4,560.00
Leach Field Replacement	50	LF	\$ 45.00	\$ 2,250.00
Total Estimated Price				\$ 140,990.00

TOWN OF BETHEL
TRANSFER STATION
8/31/2011 PRELIMINARY

REVENUE \$ 52,650.17

EXPENDITURES

SALARIES	\$ 16,207.20
BENEFITS	8,156.64
UTILITIES	-
OFFICE	101.97
DEPRECIATION	-
MATERIALS & SUPPLIES	980.00
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	-
CONTRACTED SERVICES	5,865.17
INSURANCE	-
ALLOCATED EXPENSES	-

31,310.98

NET REVENUE \$ 21,339.19

FY 2009-2010 Due to General Fund \$ 650,551.00

TOWN OF BETHEL
 WATER DEPARTMENT
 8/31/2011 PRELIMINARY

REVENUE \$ 186,359.08

EXPENDITURES

SALARIES	\$ 53,385.44
BENEFITS	23,234.47
UTILITIES	15,313.51
SUPPLIES	3,459.50
MAINTENANCE	6,093.84
SERVICES	12,469.64
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT	-
UTILITY COLLECTOR	-
DEBT SERVICE	-
ALLOCATED EXP (DP, Auditing)	EST -
INSURANCE	EST -
DEPRECIATION	EST -
	113,956.40

NET REVENUE \$ 72,402.68

FY 2009-2010 Due to General Fund **\$ 1,591,041.00**

TOWN OF BETHEL
SEWER DEPARTMENT
8/31/2011 PRELIMINARY

REVENUE		\$ 672,061.96
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>		
SALARIES	\$ 33,157.31	
BENEFITS	11,862.69	
UTILITIES	6,242.07	
SUPPLIES	5,734.66	
MAINTENANCE	9,397.69	
SERVICES	351.00	
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT	-	
UTILITY COLLECTOR	-	
DEBT SERVICE	82,661.55	
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE-DANBURY	238,487.95	
OFFICE	2,749.12	
ALLOCATED EXP (DP, Auditing)	-	
INSURANCE EST	-	
DEPRECIATION EST	-	
	<u>390,644.04</u>	
NET REVENUE		<u>\$ 281,417.92</u>
 FY 2009-2010 Due to General Fund		 <u>\$ 686,057.00</u>