

WPCA COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

June 1, 2021

The following is a monthly report from the Superintendent of Pollution Control as an appendix to the Water Pollution Control Authority meeting.

General Information

Public Works Week

The Pollution Control Department celebrated Public Works Week (May 17th-21st) with the Engineering, Town Garage, Streets, Parks and Recreation and Building Maintenance departments by hosting a virtual field trip for 80 2nd grade students at Phillip R. Smith. Each department created a video showing their personnel, responsibilities and equipment. The video was shown to the students followed by a virtual question and answer session with town staff. A Go Fund Me account was set up for employees to donate money to the South Windsor Food Bank.

Legislative Bills

- SB 941 AN ACT CONCERNING THE ASSIGNMENT OF CERTAIN PROPERTY, TAX, WATER AND SEWER LIENS.
 - Summary
 - “This bill imposes new restrictions on entities that acquire the right to enforce real property liens securing specified delinquent tax, sewer, and water charges (i.e., lien assignees). The bill applies to liens for delinquent: 1. real property taxes (§ 1) and any other liens that by law may be enforced using the same procedure as applies to these taxes (e.g., statutory special taxing district assessments, see CGS § 7- 328); 2. Sewer benefit assessments or sewer use and connection charges imposed by municipal water pollution control authorities or regional sewer authorities (§§ 2, 3 & 6); and 3. Water charges imposed by municipal water companies and regional water authorities (§§ 4 & 5).”
 - “The bill makes any lien assignment executed on or after July 1, 2022, unenforceable unless memorialized in a written contract between the assignee and municipality or authority. The contract must include the disclosure and other provisions the bill specifies. Under the bill: 1. the assignee must provide (a) a written payoff statement upon request and (b) written notices before beginning a foreclosure; 2. all aspects of a foreclosure sale or other disposition

(e.g., costs, venue, and terms) must be “commercially reasonable,” which is undefined; and 3. the assignee is liable for any act deemed an unfair or deceptive trade practice under the Connecticut Unfair Trade Practices Act.”

- The current WPCA SOP does not use lien assignment as a tool, therefore SB941 should not affect the WPCA’s collection of charges and fees.
- The Town is generally made whole as the debt is bought by an agency who in turn collects. The lien does not get removed until the debt is satisfied but the Town assigns their rights to the purchaser.
- SB 968 AN ACT CONCERNING FORECLOSURE, ASSIGNMENT AND OTHER ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS FOR UNPAID SEWER ASSESSMENTS AND OTHER FEES AND CHARGES.
 - Summary
 - “This bill imposes restrictions on assigning or enforcing liens for delinquent sewer benefit assessments (assessments) or sewer use and connection charges (charges).”
 - “Under the bill, liens on owner-occupied property for municipal or regional sewer or water pollution control authority (WPCA) assessments or charges are not assignable or subject to certain enforcement actions until the principal exceeds \$10,000. Under the bill, unlike liens imposed by regional entities, for municipal WPCA liens, this threshold is calculated separately for (1) use and connection charges and (2) benefit assessments.”
 - The bill was recently amended from \$10,000 to \$4,000.
 - Attorney Melissa Biggs is retained by CT Water Pollution Abatement Association (CWPAAs) and CT Assoc. of Water Pollution Control Authority’s (CAWPCA) to lobby for, and watch proposed legislation affecting the wastewater industry, brought the bill to the attention of CWPAAs/CAWPCA.
 - On Monday, May 3, 2021, the CWPAAs/CAWPCA Legislative Committee had a meeting with Senator Steve Cassano regarding SB 968.
 - Senator Cassano immediately understood the concern.

- The group decided to reconvene at a later date to discuss coming to some more reasonable conclusion on this bill.
- CWPAA/CAWPCA is in the process of forming a working group regarding this bill.
- This group would draw from a number of different entities such as the water and wastewater sectors, collectors of revenue, etc.
- Attorney Biggs reported that it's unlikely that anything will happen with this bill during the current session.

Electrical Utility Update

- Switching from flat rate to time of day at Clark, Rye, Benedict
- Projected savings per month:
 - Clark \$149
 - Rye \$101
 - Benedict \$75

Treatment Plant and Collection Systems

Treatment Plant

Process

TREATMENT PLANT	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-20	AVERAGE
AVG FLOW (MGD)	2.70	2.19	2.10	2.04	1.85	1.92	2.13	2.79	2.92	2.63	2.76	2.61	2.39
BOD REMOVAL	98.0%	99.0%	98.8%	99.1%	98.8%	98.0%	98.6%	97.3%	95.7%	98.2%	98.4%	98.6%	98.2%
TSS REMOVAL	98.0%	99.0%	98.9%	99.0%	98.6%	98.0%	98.7%	97.7%	95.6%	98.8%	99.0%	98.6%	98.3%
NITROGEN LBS. (106 LBS. LIMIT)	108	82	95	84	80	87	85	113	115	95	87	86	93.08

Maintenance

- Completed cleaning, inspection, and repair of all three primary clarifiers.
- Checked and adjusted wear ring tolerances on RAS Pumps (6), Primary Pumps (3), and WAS pumps (2).
- Replaced leaking mechanical seal on primary pump 1. Rebuilt the damaged seal to have on the shelf as a spare.
- Repaired failing East Gravity Thickener inlet valve.
- Took down Aeration Basin 1 for annual cleaning, inspection, and repair.
- Completed NFPA 70e electrical training for maintenance staff.
- Performed inspection work as part of Insituform lining project on Clark Street and grouting service laterals on Chapel Road.

Collection System

COLLECTION SYSTEM	May-20	Jun-20	Jul-20	Aug-20	Sep-20	Oct-20	Nov-20	Dec-20	Jan-21	Feb-21	Mar-21	Apr-20	TOTAL FT	TOTAL MI	AVG FT
CCTV (FEET)			23,128	23,724	58,045	9,992	5,223	14,848	6,544	7,100	8,621	2,977	160,202	30.3	16,020
Contracted CCTV			0	0	13,744	17,617	20,392	0	3,374	0	21,414	18,569	95,110	18.0	9,511
CLEANING (FEET)			27,458	25,301	65,099	28,250	25,000	10,000	3,000	4,500	7,251	22,000	217,859	41.3	21,786

- Replaced Meyers Grinder Pump and metal rail components at Burgess Pump Station.
- Installed newly rebuilt Pump 2 at Quarry Brook Pump Station.
- Degritted and Degreased Benedict Drive, Route 5, and Barrington Estates Pump Stations.
- Performed extensive line cleaning on Sullivan Avenue and surrounding roads. Removed several tons of grit from the sewer lines.
- Performed our own CCTV work and assisted Mobile Robotics in contracted CCTV Work.

Capital Improvement Project Updates

Clark Street, Benedict Drive, Pleasant Valley Pump Station Upgrades

- Arcadis continues to work on 30% design submittal.

Next Steps:

- *Develop 30% and 60% design*
- *Project design phase*
 - *Complete 90% design (est. 36 weeks from the January 4, 2021 NTP).*
- *Submit design to DEEP for review and approval (min. 90 day review).*

Chapel Road Phase 2

- The last pipe section of the project and the service lateral grout injections were completed.
- A Certificate of Substantial Completion was issued to Insituform reducing the project retainage from 5% to 2%.

Collection of Sewer User Fees and Delinquent Accounts

Collector of Revenue Report provided at the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by: Tony Manfre, Superintendent of Pollution Control