



**Approved
Town of Ridgefield
Water Pollution Control Authority**

**WPCA Regular Zoom Meeting
April 28, 2022 7:00 p.m.
66 Prospect Street
Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877**

WPCA: Amy Siebert Gary Zawacki, Maureen Kozlark, Corinne Ketchum, Ron Hill
AECOM: Jon Pearson, Matt Formica
Suez: Ryan Richmond, Jason O'Brien
34 Bailey Ave. Steven Sullivan

**These are not verbatim minutes of the proceedings but identification of
general items and specific actions undertaken.**

WPCA Regular Meeting was called to order by Ms. Siebert at 7:00 pm.

1) New Business

a) Approval of Minutes

Ms. Kozlark noted that under Item 7 regarding the return of funds from the sale of the Route 7 WWTF site, it should read "could" make the case rather than "should make the case". Mr. Hill also noted several typographical revisions. **Motion to approve amended March 24, 2022 minutes by Ms. Ketchum, seconded by Ms. Kozlark, passing 4-0, Ms. Siebert abstained.**

b) CT Low Income Household Water Assistance Program

i) Ms. Jane Berendsen-Hill presented program for WPCA approval. She stated that this plan would be implemented by the Town's Social Services Department. **Motion to approve Residential Water/Wastewater Vendor Conditions of Participation Form 2021-2022 CT Low Income Household Water Assistance Program with Ms. Berendsen-Hill's signature of approval by Ms. Kozlark, seconded by Ms. Ketchum, passing 5-0.**

c) 34 Bailey Avenue.

i) Mr. Steven Sullivan presented the proposed 25 residential and commercial development that is being reviewed by Planning and Zoning.

ii) The WPCA had questioned the proximity of the stormwater and sewer lines as well as the integrity of the collection system that would carry the flow to the South Street Wastewater Facility. Concerns were expressed about the condition of the sewer under the proposed stormwater bioretention basin and the potential for stormwater infiltration into the

- existing sewer. The depth of cover over this sewer, as well as the proposed sewer laterals, should also be reviewed
- iii) The WPCA stated that there is capacity at the South Street Facility, however, the integrity of the collection system to South Street would be reviewed before a decision on the project can be made.

2) Old Business

a) Raftelis Consulting Agreement

- i) Ms. Siebert stated that she will contact Raftelis with the WPCA's input on rates and duration of contract.

b) Sewer Fees, South Street and Route 7

- i) The WPCA discussed the tie in fees and sewer rates. They stated that this would tie in with the Raftelis rate model. Also stated that a Public Information Hearing would be held to discuss rates with the Public.

3) AECOM

a) Route 7 Pump Station, Force Main, and WWTF Decommissioning Construction

- i) Mr. Pearson discussed that the public information meeting for this project was held on Tuesday April 5th at 7 pm in the Selectman's Conference Room. Public notices for the meeting were published in the Press on March 31st and were posted online on the Press website and HamletHub, as well as on the Town Webpage and on the Town's social media. Although there were no attendees at the meeting, Mr. Pearson noted that the presentation that would have been made at the meeting has been posted on the WPCA webpage.
- ii) Mr. Pearson noted that M&O Construction has continued to make shop drawing submittals on materials and equipment as well as questions submitted through the Request for Information process. AECOM is reviewing and responding to these items as they come in.
- iii) Mr. Pearson indicated that during the week of April 18th, M&O Construction spent several days installing traffic signs that will be covered until work is occurring in the area of the signs, and also completed preconstruction drilling to determine the depth to rock along Haviland Road, Lee Road, and Limekiln Road. This week M&O has had a survey crew doing markouts on Ligi's Way and conducted preconstruction video and photographs along the force main route. Mr. Pearson discussed that M&O plans to mobilize to start force main construction beginning on Ligi's Way this month, confirmation of the start date is pending. Jon Melone will be AECOM's resident representative on-site once they do start force main construction. AECOM has been working with Ms. Van Ness to prepare and post weekly project updates on where work will be occurring that are being emailed to town departments. as well as being posted on the WPCA website.
- iv) Mr. Pearson discussed that since the contract has been awarded to M&O Construction, shop drawing submittals are underway, procurement of construction materials is ongoing, and preliminary field work has commenced, AECOM submitted Progress Payment Estimate No.2 for the Route 7 project for period ending March 31,

2022 in the amount of \$85,995.36 for M&O Construction and recommends it be approved. The hard copies of the payment estimate have been submitted to Ms. Van Ness for execution.

- v) Mr. Pearson discussed that the Town's boardwalk project along Ligi's Way has been advertised for bids with bids due 5-26-22 and AECOM will continue to coordinate the Route 7 work with Charlie Fisher and Jake Muller.
- vi) Mr. Pearson discussed that Rudy Marconi has signed the completed Clean Water Fund Grant/Loan application for the Route 7 project, and it was submitted to the DEEP on March 28th. DEEP has confirmed receipt of the application and is currently reviewing it. Earlier this week, DEEP issued the Draft FY2022 - FY2023 Clean Water Fund Priority List, and the Route 7 project is listed on the fundable list.

b) South Street WWTF Upgrade Construction

- i) Mr. Formica stated that the monthly construction progress virtual meeting was held today with Ms. Kozlark, Mr. Zawacki, Ms. Van Ness, Mr. Pennell, and Mr. Richmond, participating. Construction has continued this month including:
 - Concrete and masonry work on the UV/Reaeration building (the schedule critical path) continued, with the installation of the concrete roof planks, commencement of the roofing installation, painting of interior walls, construction of the masonry parapet on the roof, exterior masonry façade installation, and start of equipment installation inside the building.
 - The Septage Building HVAC ductwork installation continues, window trim was completed, and continued work to install power and control electrical conduit and wire.
 - Work on the Blower Building continues, with interior work by all trades continuing including the eyewash and emergency shower installation, completion of the wiring for the lighting and testing of the lighting, and energizing of the motor control center.
 - Modifications to the Control Building and Chemical Buildings are continuing, with completion of the wiring termination in the PLCs, followed by energizing the PLCs. Instruments were started up and tested, and the fire alarm system was also started up. A temporary power feed from the Control Building to the Influent Building was energized, and the Influent Building is now powered from the new electrical system. Ferric Chloride addition continues to reduce phosphorus.
 - In the Operations Building, the existing polymer system was relocated, equipment pads and the new polymer make up units were installed, the new thickened sludge pumps were installed, and piping of the pumps is ongoing.
 - Site work continued with installation of the portions of the Route 7 and future Quail Ridge FMs is ongoing, piping between the wet well and valve vault for Pump Station No.2 was completed, and gas piping to the Control Building was completed as was several of the last electrical manholes.

Mr. Formica noted that at today's monthly progress meeting there was discussion about holding the next meeting in person rather than virtually, and that there will be monthly progress meetings with M&O Construction once they start work on the Route 7 project, and both meeting will be held on the same day. It was agreed that the May construction progress meetings, and the May WPCA meeting will be held in person.

- ii) Mr. Formica discussed that the temporary ferric system is operational using totes of ferric, placed in the building to feed the new chemical feed pumps. The system is being operated to reduce phosphorus until the new filters are in place in accordance with the temporary plan approved by the DEEP. Mr. Formica noted that as part of the DEEP review of the Temporary Ferric Plan, DEEP requested that the WPCA submit a formal notification that the new phosphorus removal system will not be completed by the 4/1 deadline, and that WWTF will not be able to meet the new TP limit. AECOM had submitted the letter notifying DEEP of the anticipated non-compliance as requested at the end of March, and DEEP has issued a modification to the Administrative Order that defers the imposition of the new lower phosphorus limit until April 1 2023.
- iii) Mr. Formica discussed that AECOM has submitted Progress Payment No. 31 for Spectraserv that covers the month of March in the amount of \$1,038,883.38 and AECOM recommends it be approved. The hard copies of the payment estimate have been submitted to Ms. Van Ness for execution. After last month's meeting, Mr. Formica noted that the CWF payment request was submitted DEEP on the South Street WWTF, and the process to obtain grant and loan payments from the DEEP is proceeding as planned.
- iv) Mr. Formica indicated that as of the end of February, Spectraserv has expended 86% percent of their contract time for completion (with the previously agreed to extension) and 64.8% of their contract value expended. Spectraserv had provide a more detailed schedule for the work on the UV Building, which is on the critical path, and the work on this building is 3-4 weeks behind that schedule. They had also provided a cash flow projection as requested to show how they planned to complete the work remaining within their current schedule to reach substantial completion in January 2023. For the month of March, Spectraserv only incurred 83% of the projected amount, another indication that they are not gaining time on their schedule.

Due to the continued concerns about Spectraserv's rate of progress to meet the revised completion date, Mr. Formica noted that on April 5th another meeting was held with Spectraserv's President and Project Manager, AECOM and Ms. Kozlark and Mr. Zawacki was held to focus on what commitments Spectraserv would make to accelerate the work. The latest schedule submitted by Spectraserv shows no additional schedule slippage of the projected completion date. Following discussion, there did not appear to be a desire to continue these meetings.

- v) Mr. Pearson discussed that on April 4th, Spectraserv submittal a letter requesting a time extension as well as extended overhead costs for the extended construction period. AECOM has reviewed the letter and reviewed the major elements of the

letter as well as the requirements of the contract documents regarding claims. Mr Pearson concluded that the information submitted by Spectraserv is insufficient to justify the requested time and costs, and recommended that AECOM respond in writing to Spectraserv's letter. The WPCA was in agreement with that recommendation.

- vi) Mr. Pearson noted that as discussed at the February WPCA meeting where we presented our proposed Amendment No. 1 for engineering services during construction that was approved, and the draft amendment was submitted to the DEEP for review as required. DEEP issued an approval letter for the draft amendment on April 13th, and AECOM has submitted a signed copy of the Amendment for execution. Ms. Kozlark questioned whether there was a need to further review the proposed costs in the Amendment, but following discussion, this was not needed.

4) Suez

- i) Mr. Richmond presented the March 2022 Monthly Report. Mr. Richmond noted that the Ramapoo pumps have been repaired and pump station is operating normally.
- ii) Mr. Richmond questioned whether the existing generator at the South Street WWTF that is being removed could be reused at the existing Quail Ridge Pump Station to replace the generator that has become unreliable. Mr. Pearson noted that AECOM would review the generator capacities to see if this is a possibility.
- iii) Mr. Jason O'Brien discussed Suez and Veolia merger and his role as managing Ridgefield. His title is now Vice President of New England Operations and Mr. Pennell now reports directly to him.

5) Adjournment

- a) The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m. by a Motion made by Mr. Zawacki seconded by Ms. Ketchum, motion passed unanimously, 5-0.

Submitted by Diana Van Ness