



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

**WPCA Special Rescheduled Zoom Meeting  
October 22, 2020 7:30 p.m.  
66 Prospect Street  
Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877**

WPCA: Amy Siebert, Gary Zawacki, Ron Hill, Maureen Kozlark, Kevin Briody  
Suez: Jeff Pennell, Ryan Richmond, Jon Arneth, Michael Burke  
AECOM: Jon Pearson, Matt Formica

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

Meeting held via ZOOM Video Teleconference.

**WPCA Special Meeting called to order at 7:30 by Ms. Siebert**

**1) New Business**

- a) Approval of Minutes. Approval of September 24, 2020 Minutes by Mr. Hill seconded by Ms. Kozlark, passing 4-0, Mr. Briody abstained as he was not at meeting.

**2) AECOM Report**

**a) WWTF Upgrade Design**

Mr. Pearson stated that AECOM is continuing to work towards finalizing the Route 7 Pump Station, Force Main and WWTF Decommissioning contract plans and specifications. He noted that discussions with the property owner by the WPCA related to the easements are continuing. Ms. Kozlark mentioned that she spoke with the WPCA attorney late this afternoon regarding the easement language.

- i) **Force Main Route.** Last month, AECOM had contacted Rick Lupinacci, the School Dept. school bus coordinator to get his input on the three mile long force main route and planned detours as recommended by the Police Dept. Mr. Lupinacci has now confirmed that the proposed detours during construction were acceptable to him provided that the one lane road restrictions and detours would allow for passage of school buses. With this confirmation, AECOM is now working on the traffic management plan detailing the different detours that will be included in the contract documents. This also means that the only section of the force main that would be

required to be constructed at night due to traffic impacts is on Farmingville Road from Ligi's Way, approximately 1500 feet east across Ridgefield Brook. . In response to question from Mr. Briody, there was discussion about night work versus a shorter work day to reduce traffic impacts of the construction.

- ii) **Hazardous Materials Testing at the Route 7 PS.** In response to comments on the draft contract documents from Charlie Fisher, AECOM recently had a testing firm visit the pump station to identify the presence of hazardous materials such as PCBs, asbestos, and lead paint. Mr. Pearson noted that the results were just provided: no PCBs were found, a minor amount of asbestos in piping gaskets was found, and only the gold paint on the generator was found to contain lead. AECOM is incorporating these findings into the contract documents
- iii) **Schedule.** AECOM is working towards submittal of the final construction documents to the DEEP for review and approval in November 2020 which would then be followed by DEEP's authorization to advertise the project for bids, targeting the March 2021 time frame. Allowing a bid and award period of 2 months, and time for obtaining DEEP review and authorization to award the contract, it is anticipated that the construction contract would likely be awarded in June 2021, with construction following through Sept. 2022.
- iv) **Design Project Budget.** Mr. Pearson noted that the project design budget had previously been revised in May 2019 during the P&Z and Inland Wetlands permitting process. Since that time, AECOM has provided services to address a number of items that have come up on the project that were not anticipated at the time of the last budget projection. Some of these items include additional permitting efforts to address questions raised during the process, the development of the construction noise mitigation plan, the multiple iterations regarding the costs and effectiveness of various height sound barriers, the hazardous materials survey required by the Town Engineer, the feedback from the Police Department that traffic management plans for the route detours are needed, and the back and forth with the school dept on bus route impacts. Mr. Pearson indicated that AECOM is currently assessing how this has impacted the project budget, and would provide further information at the November WPCA meeting.

## **b) South Street WWTF Upgrade Construction**

- i) The monthly construction progress meeting was held today and Mr. Pearson noted that Gary, Jeff and Ryan participated. Construction is continuing with the following activities:
  - Modifications to the Control Building are continuing and the Chemical Building foundation and chemical tank pads are complete, with the tanks scheduled for delivery in the next week or so. CMU walls will then be started.
  - Work continues on a number of underground electrical ductbanks and manholes and storm drainage piping and structures. The new ductbank for the primary power service for the WWTF is complete. Eversource is scheduled to set the new electric service pole at South St. in the next week or so.

- The standby generator has been delivered and is on site
  - Work on the piping around the location of the new Blower Building is nearing completion and the building foundation will be started shortly.
- ii) Mr. Pearson noted that as discussed last month, Spectraserv continues to state that their construction schedule is being affected by Covid related delays in obtaining equipment and materials. For example the new clarifier mechanisms were to be delivered last month, but are now not scheduled to arrive until November. Spectraserv is assessing the impact of these delays and will be submitting a time extension request with supporting information regarding the delays.
- iii) AECOM submitted Progress Payment No. 13 for the South Street WWTF Upgrade for Spectraserv that covers the month of September in the amount of \$1,210,657.08 and Mr. Pearson indicated that AECOM recommends it be approved.
- iv) Mr. Pearson updated the WPCA that after last month's meeting, the third Clean Water Fund payment request was submitted to DEEP on the South Street WWTF Upgrade. Town Controller Kevin Redmond has asked that the invoices not be submitted to DEEP for reimbursement until the Town has issued payment. AECOM will work with Mr. Redmond to coordinate this process. Pay requests will go to Mr. Redmond, he can then finalize them and submit to DEEP once the invoices in the payment request are paid, this will be a monthly routine going forward.
- v) Mr. Pearson noted that AECOM issued a letter to Spectraserv denying the claim for the equipment damage when Aeration Tank No. 1 was flooded this spring, and that there has been no further feedback on this claim.
- vi) Mr. Pearson reviewed that the DEEP had provided a preliminary draft NPDES permit for the upgraded South Street WWTF with the increase in design flow for the Town to review. On behalf of the WPCA, AECOM had reviewed the draft NPDES permit modification for the South Street WWTF and provided review comments to the DEEP. Because DEEP did not act on the permit modification application submitted by the WPCA in a timely basis, DEEP has also forwarded a draft of the Administrative Order that will be issued to maintain the current permit in effect, and not impose the new phosphorus limits, until the upgraded plant is completed. AECOM also reviewed the draft order that DEEP had forwarded and provided comments to the DEEP on behalf of the WPCA. DEEP recently confirmed both documents are still in DEEPs hands for review.

### 3) Suez Report.

- a) Mr. Pennell presented Suez Environmental report for September 2020.
- b) The Quail Ridge generator can no longer produce enough power to run the pumps at the station. Suez is working on a plan to install an IDC electrical hookup to use the portable generator from the Ramapoo PS in case there is a power outage. Northeast Generator is going to provide a price to purchase a portable unit for Quail Ridge pump station. There was discussion about considering if a new generator for Quail Ridge is purchased, could it be moved to the new station when it is

relocated. AECOM will forward the proposed size of the proposed generator for the relocated pump station from the current design to Suez.

- c) Route 7 facility exceeded the monthly limit for phosphorus which is 1.55 mg/l, the monthly average was 2.2mg/l. The facility is not designed to remove phosphorus.
- d) South Street exceeded a daily and monthly phosphorus limit due to a malfunction with the alum dosing pump which has been repaired.
- e) Mr. Michael Burke of Suez spoke about the purchase of a new CMMS (computerized maintenance management system) program that Suez uses at many of their projects. The computerized maintenance system currently being used at the facilities is approximately fifteen years old and is a basic operating system compared to the new system Suez is currently proposing. Mr. Burke is going to set up a demonstration of their new system for all of the WPCA members so they can see its capabilities.

Motion to adjourn Special Meeting at 8:45 by Ms. Kozlark, seconded by Mr. Briody, passing 5-0

**Submitted by Diana Van Ness**