



CHESTER Water Commission CHESTER TOWN HALL Meeting Minutes

03 November 2023

Members Present: Nick Chiusano
Bob Daley
Tom Bean

Members Absent: none

Others present: Sister Judith Balesandro
Mary Ann Pease, Andy Myers, Jan Sakaske
Lori Fieldstadt, Norma MacDonald, Frank Pero
Jennifer Sheran, Joy Salvini, Eileen Duane,
Linda Robert, Jessica Slatcher

Meeting called to order at 5:30p

Agenda item 1: Approval of Minutes from 6 SEPT 2023 WC Hearing
Motion to approve by Bean Second by Chiusano

Agenda item 2: Status of Public Records request

WC has received multiple written, e mail & phone contacts from those impacted by the Minimum Charge Policy adopted 6 SEPT. All seeking Appeal of the new charge. We have responded to all contact. Bean & Chiusano feel we should revisit the decision

Agenda item 3: Review of Minimum Charge Policy

Discussion & Q&A with members of the Public, led to Daley proposing to modify the Minimum Charge Policy, to 'Grandfather' & hold harmless, those impacted by the Policy, prior to 6 SEPT 2023. Post 6 SEPT 2023, any Property disconnecting from the distribution system, will be subject to the charge, as will be anyone building a Property with the ability to connect to the system, but choosing not to.

Motion to amend Minimum Charge Policy as proposed by Bean Second Chiusano

Vote = 3 Yeas 0 Nays

Agenda item 4: Flushing update

The second full flushing of 2023 nearly complete. 8 hydrants remaining. Anticipate completion 6 NOV
Followed by draw down of filter beds for cleaning

Agenda item 5: Horn Pond repair update

Chester Native Mike Townsley was able to complete the repair during the third dive phase. The intake Pipe that has been disconnected for yeats & taking water in from the pond bottom at the shallow end, Is now reconnected to the intake 350" to the north, in the deepest part (21') of the water column. We Anticipate a reduction in turbidity.

Agenda item 6: Request for relief on charges from the owner of 45-47 Middlefield St (Joy Salvini)

Discussion with owner J Salvini who is upset with the amount of her water Bill. We explained that the Bill is reflective of the Rate increase effective 1 OCT & gallons used, The new meter installed recently Is performing accurately & has been confirmed multiple times both via remote & in person inspection J Salvini requested a copy of the Rates effective 1 OCT. Daley replied he will Fwd 4 NOV

No action taken by the WC in anticipation of further discussion with the owner

Agenda item 7: Possible excavation of water leak at 133 Middlefield St
Bean explained the location of & concern for the existing leak
Before doing an exploratory dig, we will attempt again, to identify
a shut off

Agenda item 8: Review of DEP response to source water switch
Daley explained that months of sampling, scada & equipment upgrades & Engineering Study
have culminated in DEP permitting switching water source from Horn Pong to Austin Brook.
Great news,,,but, as always comes with DEP mandates. We must conduct one year of DBP
sampling, conduct an inspection of the Austin Brook dam c 1930 & investigate switching from
liquid hypochlorite, to the granular version. This would eliminate the loss of efficacy through
evaporation of chlorine.

Agenda item 9: Discussion of request from Operator Consolini / 2T Training
P Consolini, CWD secondary operator, has committed to taking the 7 day 2T Training provided
by MRW in Turners Falls in early DEC 2023. This training will qualify him to take the 2T exam.
Once he successfully passes, he will hold the 2T License required by DEP to be the Primary
Operatore for CWD. This will be a major component of the operator succession plan. Consolini
requests we Compensate him for his time spent in the Training as well as course materials. That cost
will be Approx. \$2000

Motion to compensate Pete Consolini for 2T Training by Chiusano Second by Bean
Vote = 3 Yeas 0 Nays

Meeting adjourned at 6:25pm.

Submitted by,

Bob Daley Chair, Water Commission