

**CITY OF NEW LONDON
MINUTES OF BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS MEETING
MONDAY, April 5, 2010**

Members Present: Chairman Arien Herminath, Mike Barrington, Dennis Herter, Robert Besaw, and Lori Dean

Others Present: Jeff Bodoh, Acting Public Works Director
Gary Henke, Mayor
Tom O'Connell, Alderperson
John Romberg, Alderperson
Louie Dresen, WWTP Superintendent
Janet Searl, Administrative Assistant
Jeff Galbraith, AECOM
Dan Schaefer, AECOM

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Herminath at 5:30 p.m. with a quorum present.

Motion by Barrington / Dean to approve the agenda as presented.
Five voting aye. Motion carried.

2. Wastewater Treatment Plant Update. Dan Schaefer from AECOM (Earth Tech) presented an update of the Facilities Plan, as requested by the Board, pointing out both short-term and long-term needs and recommendations. The main concern is the odor issue, which has been determined to come from overloading of the rock trickling filter. AECOM recommends modifying the rock media trickling filter with forced-air and electric drives to help minimize the odor problem, at an estimated cost of \$206,000. The long-term recommendation addresses capacity issues and two alternatives were discussed. Alternative No. 1 is to replace the rock filter and construct a new plastic media trickling filter and mechanical thickening. Alternative No. 2 – Expand Activated Sludge would include construction of new aeration basins and increasing blower capacity along with mechanical thickening. Alternative No. 1 would be the best option due to lower operation & maintenance costs. The total projected cost is \$3,900,000, which is broken down to \$2,000,000 for Phase I (Trickling Filter) and \$1,900,000 for Phase II (Mechanical Thickening). The Board also discussed new phosphorus standards being proposed by the DNR. Dan gave a hypothetical timeline for a WWTP expansion project of 3 months for DNR approval, 6 months for a design, which then gets sent back to the DNR, advertisement for bids, construction time of a little over a year, and it would be possible to complete by spring/summer of 2012, roughly two years.

WWTP Update. Louie reported they were having a problem with bacteria counts being too high, which put a halt to the sludge disposal. They submitted another sample for testing and are waiting for the results, which takes about 10 days.

Bodoh pointed out the DNR pamphlet provided by the DNR regarding Building Sewer Maintenance and Repair. The Board thought it was good information for City residents to have and requested that Bodoh check with Utilities to see if it can be sent with utility bills. He is also working with CVMIC, the City's insurance company, on a Risk Assessment for Sewer Maintenance.

4. Discussion of Removal of Fence from the Riverwall. Mayor Henke asked about removing the fence, which is in need of repair. The question of liability was discussed and Attorney Luaders stated in a letter from April 2008, that based on the recreation immunity statute 895.52(2) the City is immune from liability. The Board discussed removal of the fence, installing a shorter fence or railing, or repairing the existing fence.

Motion by Herter to remove the fence. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Motion by Besaw / Herminath to have Bodoh get cost estimates for repairing the existing fence. Five voting aye. Motion carried.

5. Future Sidewalk Extensions. Mayor Henke had received a letter from a freshman at New London High School asking the City to consider putting sidewalk on Pershing Road. Bodoh presented a memo from November listing potential sidewalk construction projects. He is willing to begin the process by notifying property owners of the possibility of sidewalks being installed in their area and see what the response is.
6. Monthly Report of Director/Engineer. In addition to his written report, Bodoh stated that Spring Clean Up is scheduled to start April 26th. A suggestion was made to not schedule leaf pickup and hydrant flushing at the same time. The Pearl Street Bridge project is going to be bid out on April 11th with construction to begin late June or early July.
7. Other Matters. Mayor Henke thanked Arien Herminath for his involvement and contributions to the Public Works Board.

Motion by Barrington to adjourn the meeting at 7:51 p.m., second by Dean. Motion carried by all.

Jeffrey Bodoh
Acting Director of Public Works