



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
 Bethel Municipal Center, 1 School Street
 Bethel, Connecticut 06801 Telephone: (203) 794-8501

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 TOWN CLERK
 BETHEL, CT.

REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, July 11, 2024
 3:30 p.m.

Meeting held in Meeting Room A and via Google Meet

Present: First Selectman Daniel Carter, Selectman Richard Straiton, Selectman Bryan Terzian, Commissioner Deno Gualtieri, and Commissioner Peter Valenti. Also in attendance, Public Utilities Director Thomas Villa, Utility Supervisor Kelly Curtis, Comptroller Brad Heering, Melanie O'Brien, Tim Draper, and Neil Marcus.

Absent: None

Call to Order: First Selectman Carter called the Regular Meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. and led the Commission in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Input: None

Correspondence: None

Minutes:

Meeting Minutes from Regular Meeting of June 13, 2024:

First Selectman Carter made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to approve the minutes from the Regular Meeting of June 13, 2024, as submitted. Vote, Selectman Terzian abstained; All the rest of the board voted in favor, Motion Approved.

Financials:

1. **Financial Report:** Comptroller B. Heering reviewed the Financial Report, dated June 30, 2024, with the Commission. Discussion ensued.
2. **Invoices:**

Invoices for PUC Approval - Regular Meeting July 11, 2024							
#	Vendor	Inv. Date	Inv. #	Amount	% Complete	Description	Account
1	Kovacs Construction	07/01/24	14	\$297,928.57	58.83% as of 7/1/24	Bergstrom Well WTP	Water Dept. #0240235-5405
2	Wright-Pierce #1024	06/11/24	236719	\$35,947.80	63.64% as of 5/31/24	Bergstrom Field Test Well Construction Administration	Water Dept. #0240235-5405
3	Wright-Pierce #1024	07/05/24	235937	\$26,703.01	65.91% as of 7/05/24	Bergstrom Field Test Well Construction Administration	Water Dept. #0240235-5405
4	Law Offices of Melanie P. O'Brien, LLc	06/24/24	2024-04W	\$274.95	N/A	Professional Services Water Invoice	Water Dept. #0210160-5352
5	Law Offices of Melanie P. O'Brien, LLc	06/24/24	2024-04S	\$392.45	N/A	Professional Services Water Invoice	Sewer Dept. #0310160-5352
TOTAL:				\$361,246.78			

First Selectman Carter made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Terzian, to approve the invoices, dated July 11, 2024, in the amount of \$361,246.78, as submitted. Vote, All in Favor, Motion Approved.

First Selectman Carter made a motion, which was seconded by Selectman Straiton, to add to the agenda, Consideration of Acceptance of Sewer and Water Mains and Related Easement at 42 Plumtrees Road. Vote, All in Favor, Motion Approved.

New Business:

1. **Consideration of Acceptance of Sewer and Water Mains and Related Easement at 42 Plumtrees Road:**

Director Villa indicated to the commission he reviewed the easement map for 42 Plumtrees Road. There was a water main pressure test as well as a manhole test done among other requirements completed. Discussion ensued.

First Selectman Carter made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Gualtieri, to recommend the approval of the Easement of 42 Plumtrees Road. Vote, All in Favor, Motion Approved.

2. **Request to Discuss Expanding the Sewer Service Area:**

Neil Marcus, on behalf of Tim Draper, proposed to the commission to request a consideration to expand the sewer system on Putnam Park Road so that property 9 Putnam Park Road and potentially others would be able to connect to the Town's sewer system. It was proposed to the commission that this would be at the expense of the developer, Tim Draper. In order for the Town to come a decision, more information would need to be obtained. Discussion ensued.

3. **Consideration of a Mandatory Irrigation Policy:**

Director Villa went over the proposed irrigation policy with the commission. It was proposed to the commission to put in place a mandatory outdoor irrigation policy which would establish a twice weekly irrigation schedule for sprinkler irrigation systems to preserve Bethel's water supply. In addition to the twice a week watering scheduling, it is being proposed that residents avoid watering between the hours of 9:00am and 6:00pm to avoid losses due to evaporation, among other requirements. The use of drip irrigation, soaker hoses, and hand-held watering will not be affected by said policy and will be allowed on any days. Discussion ensued, including to remove the word mandatory.

First Selectman Carter made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Gualtieri, to Adopt the Policy as Stated on June 27, 2024 for the Outdoor Irrigation Policy as Read. Vote, All in Favor, Motion Approved.

Director's Report: Director Villa reviewed the following with the Commission:

- We are continuing to work on back up supplies for the re-development of Well 1A. Discussion ensued.
- We are budgeted to order a replacement pump on Paul Street.
Selectman Straiton made a motion, which was seconded by First Selectman Carter, to Approve Replacement of the Pump on Paul Street not to Exceed \$105,000. Vote, All in Favor, Motion Approved.

Old Business:

1. **Consideration of Acceptance of Sewer Main and Related Easement at Property of Steiner, Inc. Benedict Road/Millbrook/Fieldstone Court, Phase 1:**

First Selectman Carter made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Gualtieri, to table the Consideration of Acceptance of Sewer Main and Related Easement at Property of Steiner, Inc. Benedict Road/Millbrook/Fieldstone Court, Phase 1. Vote, All in Favor, Motion Approved.

2. **PUC Capital Project Status Summary:** Director Villa reported the following:

Bergstrom: Work completed in the past month includes: filter vessels have been placed in the filter room, interior door frames have been completed, and additional metal building components have been delivered. Upcoming work includes: we're waiting for metal building to start to be erected as well as pressure testing the sewer line.

Sanitary Sewer Evaluation of Sub Area 13: Waiting on Green Mountain to do heavy cleaning. Swamp manholes will need to be raised.

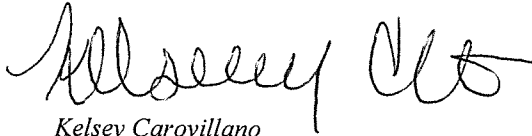
3. **PFAS Class Action Update:** Deadline has been extended to July 26, 2024. Claims have been submitted and shown online as being in review.

Utility Supervisor's Report: Utilities Supervisor Kelly Curtis reported the following:

- Sewer line behind Target.
- Plumtrees – one claw fractured where the pump goes down the rails so we switched to another pump and repaired claw. Problem with noise in the past that was a hydraulic issue. This is now fixed.
- We had a mismatch on 61 Reservoir Street which was straightened out.
- Service leak at 12 Saxon Woods that was on customer side.
- 62 Hoyts Hill – Service leak
- July 4, 2024 there was a main break at the corner of Short Drive and Midway Drive. Tinker made repair.
- 12' main repair on Elgin Avenue.
- New employee started July 28, 2024.
- MIU Replacements – down to 135 MIU's in the Village with 24 pits and 60 wells in Stony Hill. Down to 175 altogether.
- Memorial hydrant by Bethel Glass & Shower door – parts came in.

Adjourn: *As there was no further business on the agenda, First Selectman Carter made a motion, which was seconded by Commissioner Valenti, to adjourn the meeting at 5:04 p.m. Vote, All in Favor, Motion Unanimously Approved.*

Respectfully submitted,



*Kelsey Carovillano
Recording Secretary*