Vice Chairman Pelton called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum determined. The assembled group recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Pelton explained to the audience how to exit the chamber in the event of an emergency, in compliance with the Fire Marshal’s order.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Pelton presented meeting notes from the DEP Phosphorous Reduction Plan meeting which was held on February 11, 2010. The summary noted that implementation of the phosphorous reduction plan is being handled entirely differently than the nitrogen program by the EPA. Funding is not the EPA’s issue. Mr. Pelton offered that the important strategic question is how and when phosphorous mitigation should be incorporated into the proposed Cheshire waste water treatment plant upgrade. The question is whether to do the phosphorous reduction now as part of the plant upgrade, or invest the funds and do it at a later date.

APPLICATIONS

405 Maple Avenue

Mr. Dievert informed the Authority that he has not heard from the applicant regarding this application. No plans have been resubmitted for design. Mr. Dievert attempted to contact the applicant, but his call was not returned.
Richmond Glen

Attorney Anthony Fazzone addressed the Authority on behalf of the applicant. He stated that his client received final design and award of capacity for 650 g.p.d. on September 24, 2008. The project consists of a 41-unit, age 55 restricted planned residential development. He noted that although his client is continuing to finalize plans for the project, several factors have prevented the implementation of the project.

Attorney Fazzone stated that his client is seeking a two-year extension of the approvals from the September 24, 2008 date. The project is located on Weise Road and extends to the vicinity of the cul-de-sac on Buckland Court.

Mr. Steve Dietzko, of Milone and MacBroom, presented a map of the property, showing the configuration of the development and the sewer system. He noted that there is a private roadway and showed its location on the map. There is ample capacity for sewers, and it is anticipated that it will generate 651 g.p.d. of sewer flow.

Mr. Dietzko informed the Authority that there will be 41 grinder pumps on the property, which are E-1 pumps. The system utilizes a vertical system head pump, which is simple and pre-fabricated. The pumps drain into a small wet wall. There will be a new manhole installed as part of the sewer system, which will be located in the woods. The gravity sewer will be extended across the roadway.

Mr. Dietzko noted that there is no provision for extension of the sewer or connections of any other properties. There are no easements and no opportunity for infiltration as this is a closed system.

Authority members discussed the E1 grinder pumps, which are manufactured by Water Technologies. It was mentioned that these are detached condos. Mr. Pelton expressed concern regarding the use of a large number of grinder pumps in this development, which has not been looked upon favorably by the Authority in the past. He commented that there is always a concern regarding problems with the pumps, and how those problems will be addressed.

Attorney Fazzone responded that the grinder pumps are the responsibility of the Homeowners Association.

Mr. Witek moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority grant a two-year extension for Award of Capacity of 650 g.p.d. for the Richmond Glen sewer project. The motion was seconded by Mr. Korman.

Attorney Fazzone inquired as to whether the motion includes the extension of Final Design approval.

The motion was amended to include approval of Final Design, per the maker and seconder of the motion.
Discussion of Motion:

Mr. Gancarz inquired about the maintenance costs of the privately owned grinder pumps. Attorney Fazzone responded that the sewer system itself is privately owned and is not an extension of the public sewer system. It is a connection into the sewer system, similar to that of a private homeowner connecting to the system.

Mr. Pelton reiterated his concern with the use of a large number of grinder pumps. Mr. Witek noted that he lives in an area in Cheshire where the E-1 grinder pumps are used and there have not been any problems.

Mr. Dievert informed the Authority that a colleague of his who works in Greenwich informed him that during this past storm, admittedly an unusual one, there was a serious problem with grinder pumps because of the loss of power. The Town was flooded with calls from residents who were unable to use their water or flush their toilets. He noted that this should be a matter of concern to the Authority.

Mr. Pelton offered that in the current Facilities Plan this area is not projected to be serviced by sewers. He questioned whether the Authority is short circuiting its own plan.

Attorney Fazzone opined that this project falls under the old Facilities Plan, as that was the plan in place at the time of the approvals. Mr. Pelton countered that the application does fall under the current Facilities Plan, which has been in place for years, although not yet approved by the DEP.

Mr. Fazzone stated that it is noted in the minutes and discussed with the DEP, that the current Facilities Plan must be the subject of a public hearing before it can be adopted. That public hearing has not taken place.

Mr. Gancarz inquired as to whether there is any provision for emergency power in the event of loss of power. Mr. Dietzko responded that the grinder pump tank has a one-day storage reserve. He also noted that investigation has revealed that there are a very limited number of hours of loss of power in that area. It there is an extended power outage, a portable generator can be used.

In response to a query from Mr. Witek, it was noted that the utilities for this project are underground. Attorney Fazzone informed the Authority that the homeowners will be offered the opportunity to purchase a generator. He commented that during the original approval process it was agreed that grinder pumps were the best way to sewer this property.
Mr. Gancarz opined that it must be stated in the documents that an emergency generator will be available in the event of an extended power loss. Attorney Fazzone responded that the applicant would be willing to agree that the contractor will provide an emergency generator to the Homeowners Association.

Mr. David Schrumm, 369 Sir Walter Drive, addressed the Authority and stated that the map presented by Milone and MacBroom is misleading, and the actual connection is different from what is shown on the map. He further commented that the pipe does have to go outside the development. The Town has provided an easement and it is necessary to travel down an emergency road and across a bridge and across town owned property to get to the sewers.

Mr. Schrumm stated that the presentation makes incorrect assumptions. He suggests that the Authority look at the correct map before making a decision. Mr. Schrumm noted the importance of making sure that the Homeowners Association assumes responsibility for everything related to this sewer system.

Mr. Schrumm referenced the problem with a similar project where the Homeowners Association is denying responsibility for a pond, and the Town has to pay a substantial amount of money for work related to the pond. This has resulted because the responsibility for the area was not clearly delineated or defined in the Homeowners Association documents.

Mr. Eberle entered the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Pelton explained to Mr. Eberle what had transpired up to this point at the meeting.

Town Attorney Lord informed the Authority that he has some concerns regarding the Richmond Glen application. He reviewed the minutes and discovered that the approvals were given in two parts, with the Final Design approval being for only one year. Thus, the one-year period for this approval may have already expired. However, the Award of Capacity approval was for two years.

Attorney Lord stated that it will be necessary to look at the Statutes to determine what the final approval actually is at this time.

Mr. Witek withdrew his motion, and Mr. Korman withdrew his second to the motion to approve the Richmond Glen application.

Mr. Pelton commented that it is very important to acknowledge that Final Design Approval was only granted for one year.

Attorney Fazzone stated that he does not agree that Final Design approval has expired. He opined that Final Design approval and Award of Capacity approval are wrapped into
Mr. Pelton commented that this project has a long history of evolution and merits further consideration before a decision regarding the extension can be determined.

Mr. Pelton moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority table discussion and/or action on the Richmond Glen application until the April, 2010 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mr. Witek and carried unanimously.

REPORTS FROM CHAIRMAN/STAFF

Mixville Pump Station

Mr. Mariusz Jedrychowski of Wright Pierce addressed the Authority regarding the Mixville Pump Station project. He stated that the project is well underway. The contractor is working in the field and excavation is underway. Work on the exterior of the building and the roof will begin this week. At this point there are no major issues.

There has been a slight problem with groundwater because of the recent heavy rains. The contractor has been pumping the water and there have not been any problems. Mr. Jedrychowski stated that the project engineer has been on the site on a daily basis.

Mr. Korman moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve Invoice #69212 of Wright Pierce in the amount of $4,199.97 for work relating to the Mixville Pump Station project. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pelton and carried unanimously.

Mr. Korman moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve Application for Payment #1 of Xenelis Construction Co., in the amount of $25,650.00 for work relating to the Mixville Pump Station project. The motion was seconded by Mr. Pelton and carried unanimously.

Facilities Plan Update

Mr. Chelton reported that at the recent workshop he informed the Authority that he would be meeting with representatives of the DEP regarding the updated priority list for funding for the Facilities Plan. Mr. Chelton met with the DEP and learned that the priority list is a two-year list, but it is a 2010-2011 list. That actually works in the best interest of the Authority, in that the next list will be for years 2012-2013, which will be the target year that the Town will most likely be working on the project.

Mr. Chelton stated that the DEP now has the project on its radar screen, and will go back and look at the Facilities Plan. Regarding Phase 1 of the Facilities Plan, there is no information to report. Mr. Chelton commented that his conversation with the DEP may help to move this phase forward. There have been several staff reductions and reassignments which have hindered the work of the DEP, including the approval of Phase 1 of the Facilities Plan.
It was noted that the next workshop will be held on April 14 at 6 p.m. Mr. Pelton requested that Authority members read all pertinent information and come prepared to discuss and or ask questions. Mr. Chelton will send an electronic copy in Excel format of the spreadsheet presented at the last workshop to Authority members. Mr. Dievert invited Authority members and anyone else interested to visit the treatment plant to see the processes in action.

Mr. Korman requested that Mr. Chelton present a cost benefit analysis of the items that were discussed at the last workshop.

**I & I Program**

Mr. Pelton informed the Authority that he visited the plant recently after the severe rainstorms. He noticed that what used to take 4-5 days to get the plant back to normal operations now only takes 1-2. There is definitely less superfluous water getting into the system. The pumps have been working hard but have been able to handle the flow.

In response to a query from Mr. Gancarz, Mr. Dievert commented that it is not possible to meter peak flows, as they are off the charts. However, it is definitely better since the latest project. Mr. Chelton stated that with the proposed new project there will be a new metering system which will give a better indication of peak flows.

In response to a query from Mr. Pelton, Mr. Chelton stated that there is approximately $250,000 left in the I & I appropriation. Mr. Pelton questioned what the best way to utilize that money would be. He wants to continue to build on past success.

Attorney Lord informed the Authority that he reviewed the three remaining appropriations that relate to I & I work. They all have different wording and Mr. Lord will look into this situation to determine how this money can be spent. He will meet with Town Manager Milone and bond counsel to come to a resolution on this matter.

Mr. Eberle requested that the Town Engineer’s office put together a press release regarding the recent Interceptor Manhole Rehabilitation project and the successful impact it has had on the treatment plant. Mr. Dievert informed the Authority that he has been in discussion with a reporter from the Cheshire Herald who would like to do a feature on the treatment plant. Mr. Eberle commented that he would like to be proactive and have staff send out information.

Mr. Dievert will compile some pictures and work with staff to get this information out to local newspapers. He stated that the recent manhole project has definitely had a positive affect on plant flow and operations.

Mr. Chelton advised the Authority that the sump pump issue should be addressed again. Although the first stage of this investigation was helpful, there are still many sump pumps out there that are illegally discharging into the sewer system. He recommends beginning with an amnesty plan, whereby homeowners are notified that if they come
forward and notify the Town that they are illegally discharging into the sewer system, that the Town will help them work out a solution by offering funds to help them. Usually the highest amount of reimbursement is $1,000.

Mr. Chelton commented that an expenditure of $200,000 could eliminate a great deal of excess flow into the plant. In response to a query from Mr. Eberle, Mr. Chelton stated that the best way to begin would be to send out a letter to property owners as well as a press release to local newspapers informing them of the amnesty program. They would be advised that this is a one-time offer, and if they do not take advantage of it and they are identified at a later time there could be stiff penalties.

Mr. Pelton agreed that this would be a good approach, but suggested that the money available for I & I be accurately identified first. Mr. Pelton will speak with the Town Manager and Attorney Lord regarding the appropriations.

**WPCD Influent Pump Station**

Mr. Dievert informed the Authority that the Town Council voted to approve the contract with C.H. Nickerson for the WPCD Influent Pump Station Project. The documents are to be signed by the Town Attorney and an agent of the Water Pollution Control Authority. The documents are available for signing at this meeting. It was noted that this is a nine-to ten-month project.

**Lilac Drive Pump Station**

Mr. Chelton stated that this project is in the warrantee period.

**Superintendent’s Report**

Mr. Dievert reported that he met with the budget committee last week and informed them of the success of the Interceptor Manhole Rehabilitation Project. Mr. Dievert informed the Authority that a full-time employee’s position at the plant was eliminated, and a highly qualified electrician was hired to work part time. He stated that this has worked out extremely well, and has saved the Town a great deal of money which would have otherwise been spent on expensive consultants. It is working out so well that Mr. Dievert is requesting that the employee’s hours be increased from 20 to 30 hours.

Mr. Dievert noted that he is willing to take the additional salary of the electrician, approximately $12,000, out of two of his accounts. This is a very good benefit to the Town. It will be especially beneficial for him to be onboard with all of the new equipment that is to come. The Town Manager suggested that Mr. Dievert request approval of the Authority to increase the employee’s hours. Mr. Pelton expressed his delight that the person is saving the Town more than his salary. It was the consensus of the Authority to endorse this request.
Chesprocott

It was noted that the monthly letter from Chesprocott, detailing septic system failures and repairs for the month of February was received. There were no matters of concern reported in the letter.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES

Mr. Korman moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve invoice #7074621 from AECOM in the amount of $8,505.28, for services relating to Phase 2 of the Facilities Plan. The motion was seconded by Mr. Eberle and carried unanimously.

Mr. Korman moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve invoice #7084619 from AECOM in the amount of $2,431.60, for services relating to Manhole Interceptor Rehabilitation Project. The motion was seconded by Mr. Eberle and carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Pelton informed the Authority that there has been a great deal of discussion relating to selecting a professional for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project. It has been determined that the Authority should send out an RFQ rather than an RFP. The DEP rules have changed in this regard. Attorney Lord commented that the Authority can send out a request for qualified design professionals.

Regarding discussion at the workshop meeting regarding increasing design fees for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Project design, Mr. Pelton informed Mr. Chelton that design fees can not exceed the $1.5M appropriation. Mr. Chelton responded that after giving the situation thought, he agrees that the design can be completed for the allocated amount.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to come before the Authority.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Pelton moved that the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of February 24, 2010, be approved as published subject to correction. The motion was seconded by Mr. Eberle.

Corrections:

Page 3, first paragraph. Strike second sentence. Change third sentence to read, “….flow into the plant increases then the allowable phosphorous concentration decreases.”
Page 6, paragraph 5, second sentence should read, “The Town is basically set for life in terms of the existing nitrogen permit.”

Page 6, paragraph 2, third sentence should read, “….approximately $250,000 remaining in the budget to examine inflow and infiltration issues.”

Vote on minutes, as amended, carried unanimously.

Mr. Pelton moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve the minutes of the special meeting of March 10, 2010, as published, subject to correction. The motion was seconded by Mr. Korman.

Corrections:

Page 1, second paragraph, line 3 should read, “…..with a bid of $473,248.00."

Page 2, Phase 2 Facilities Plan, paragraph 3, sentence 2 should read, “……treatment plant over the next 20 years.”

Vote on motion to approve minutes, as amended, carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Pelton moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority adjourn at 9:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Korman and carried unanimously.
Respectfully submitted,

Tim Pelton, Vice Chairman
Water Pollution Control Authority
in the absence of the Chairman

Attest:

Susan F. Zwick

Distribution:

Members: W.P.C.A.
Michael Milone, Town Manager
David Schrumm, Town Council Liaison
Andrew Lord, Town Attorney
Donald Chelton/Jon Pearson, AECOM
Joseph Michelangelo, Ex-Officio Member
George Noewatne, Operations Manager
Dennis Dievert, Superintendent WPCD
Susan Zwick, Recording Secretary