

**OCEAN PINES SERVICE AREA
WATER AND WASTEWATER
Advisory Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 11, 2025**

Present **Water and Wastewater Advisory Board**
Fred Stiehl, Jim Spicknall (via phone), Bob Kane,
Worcester County Public Works
Dallas Baker, Chris Clasing
Worcester County Public Works - Water and Wastewater Division
Tony Fascelli, Gary Serman, Meg Etzler
Worcester County Treasurer
Quinn Dittrich

Fred Stiehl called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Fred made note there were no minutes from our January 16th meeting as it was focused on the proposed FY26 budget.

Water Production

- We began the production well resiliency evaluation and the engineer said we should have a report in February, with recommendations on things we need to improve and areas to address to keep the wells from tripping the breakers. We have money to update some SCADA pieces. We may be unable to get any repairs/changes into the FY26 budget.

Water Distribution (12/24/24 to present)

- Three new services; 28 leak repairs
- North water tower valve repair is complete.
- Capital Projects – replacement meter project is underway. We have replaced 559 out of 5,054. This will be a long process. All touchpads will be replaced with radio read meters. They will be shipped as they become available, and we will be installing them as received.
- blue tubing will be ordered as needed

Wastewater Treatment Plant

- BRF exemption met, MDE confirmed on 2/4/25. BRF criteria: 2.35 for Nitrogen; 0.23 for phosphorus
- Storage lagoon permit – Purchase order issued to relocate the gas main. Price: \$33,574. We don't have a schedule yet as to when they will be here. Property corners marked, gas company getting estimate from contractor to relocate main. We expect costs in mid-January.
- Belt Filter Design – 75% complete. No changes. Project engineer is leaving the firm. We are requesting a status meeting.
- The volume of sewage hauled from Riddle WWTP to the Pines: 11/3/24 - 12/28/24 was 2,610,000 gallons.
- Capital equipment – UV disinfection rehab installation installed and operational. Project completed.

- FY 25 Capital projects –
 1. Oxidation treatment tank cleaning (Treatment Unit #4) – needs Commissioner approval. Scheduling for spring.
 2. The replacement mixer for the Flow Equalization Tank approved by the Commissioner on 12/17/24. Purchase order submitted 2/3/25. Twenty-two (22) week delivery time.
 3. Clarifier No 1: bent rake arm – draining tank week of 2/17 – 2/21/25. Then getting contractor to repair.

Wastewater Collections System (10/24/24 – present)

- SSO's – 2 - One on Gum Point Rd, 50 gallons, no entry into the waterway. The second one on Ocean Parkway, 1200 gallons, entered the marsh that drains into Manklin Creek. Broken 10" force main. Repaired that day. MDE issuing shellfish harvesting restrictions for 21 days.
- Household tanks replaced: 5 (3 plastic, 2 fiberglass, 0 concrete)
- Smoke testing is mostly complete. One section left, to be completed in spring.
- FY 25 Capital Projects
 1. Busch pumps are ordered as needed. Seeing a price increase.
 2. Fiberglass vacuum tanks are ordered as needed. Are looking at other vendors.
 3. Lift station T pump replacement – approved by the Commissioners and awaiting delivery.
 4. Receiving Tank Station I needs replaced – approved by Commissioners and awaiting delivery.

Construction Projects (Total EDUs)

- Triple Crown Phase II (3) – No change since 12/10/24 meeting. Waiting on sewer and water main testing by contractor.
- Refuge at Windmill Creek (90) Phase 2 sewer under construction.
- Gum Point Road (15 sewer) no change. No new purchases.
- St Martins by the Bay (58 water) – 30% design was due 9/12/24. Waiting on engineer/owner agreement received from design firm on 12/23/24. Agreement being finalized. Project engineer overseeing the project is leaving the design firm
- River Run Townhouses (56) no change.
- River Run Single Family Homes (38) Pump station startup was held. Went well overall. Punch list to be completed.
- Total Flow for 2024 year to date: 300.018 million gallons for the year. Historical average annual flow: 0.822 million gallons per day.

General Discussion

Discussion was held on whether we should have a liaison with the Ocean Pines Association. Dallas suggested contacting General Manager John Viola.

Financial Update

Quinn shared the Balance Sheet, Income Statement and EDU allocations through December 9, 2024. Quinn answered inquiries and clarified figures. Discussion was held.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 9:00 a.m.

With no further business Jim made the motion to adjourn. seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Meg Etzler
Administrative Assistant