

4 Turkey Hill Road  
Newtown, CT 06470  
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Carbone

Fred Hurley,  
*Director*



Gene Vetrano,  
*Chairman*  
4300 Mark  
Benedict  
9968 Lou

Alan Shepard  
Venessa Tobin  
Kathleen Torreso  
Carl Zencey

#### WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY

*THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE WATER AND SEWER AUTHORITY*

The Water and Sewer Authority held a regular meeting, Thursday, December 14, 2023. The meeting was held at Newtown Public Works, 4 Turkey Hill Road, Newtown, CT. The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm.

**Present:** Kathleen Torreso, Lou Carbone, Gene Vetrano, Carl Zencey

**Absent:** Alan Shepard, Venessa Tobin, Mark Benedict

**Also Present:** Director of Public Work Fred Hurley, Julio Segarra from Veolia

**Public Participation** – None

**Minutes** - L. Carbone moved to approve the minutes of the 11/9/23 meeting, K. Torreso seconded, all in favor.

**Report by Veolia – Waste Water** – J. Segarra reported that operational wise, everything is running well. The effect of FFH sewer being separated has shown a positive impact. There was a failure this week at the sand filters. This is the last leg of the capital project, they are upgrading, PLC's. Today, booster pump 1 failed. It was minor but could have had bigger consequences if we didn't keep up on it. **Water** – J. Segarra explained that they have known for some time that the booster pumps have run on the outside of their design curve. The pumps are designs for 700 gallons per minutes and requires 25 feet of net suction on the back side and we only have 3 feet. Right now they need to find the impellor or get a new pump.

**Report by Public Works Director** – None

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**FFH Water/Sewer System Improvement** – F. Hurley reported that they got bids back for the water system at FFH. The engineer's recommendation for the projection was provided (att.). The low bidder had no experience putting water systems together. If there was a different subcontractor working for the low bidder the outcome would be different. For that reason, the recommended vendor is the second lowest qualified bidder, M. Rondano, Inc. C. Zencey moved to recommend to the Purchasing Authority to award the bid to the engineer's recommendation M. Rondano, Inc. L. Carbon seconded, all in favor.

**Financials** – F. Hurley explained that Waterworth is still working with Quality Data to get the billings. **I&I** – There is a request from 15 Commerce Road for a smoke test because they are having issues.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:34pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Arlene Miles, Clerk

December 8, 2023

Mr. Fred Hurley  
Town of Newtown  
4 Turkey Hill Road  
Newtown, Connecticut 06470

**Re: Town of Newtown  
FFH Campus Water Distribution System Replacement – Phase 1  
Award Recommendation  
H2M Project No.: NEWT2251  
Town RFP No.: 2024-07**

Mr. Hurley:

As you are aware, on Thursday, November 16, 2023, bids were received by the Town for the above referenced project. A total of seven (7) bids were received, with the lowest bid submitted by Nagy Brothers Construction, LLC. of Monroe Connecticut in the amount of \$943,490.00. Upon our review of the qualifications submitted by Nagy Brothers with their bid proposal, it is our opinion that the eleven project references (attached) do not meet the qualification requirements and evaluation criteria and do not pertain to potable water distribution system construction.

Additionally, on November 30, 2023, H2M along with representatives from the Town of Newtown met with Norman Nagy of Nagy Brothers Construction to further review and discuss their qualifications. In this meeting the following points were made clear:

1. Nagy has never worked on an HDPE piping project.
2. They did not intend on using a subcontractor for the pipe fusion work. They intended on being field trained in pipe fusion and performing the work themselves.
3. Their only notable experience with potable water distribution work was a small cement-lined ductile iron project for the Town of Newtown.
4. They intended to use non-specified couplings to join lengths of pipe where butt fusion connections are required.

This project consists of approximately 4,200 LF of HDPE water main. The HDPE piping is specified to be butt fused which involves specific machinery and expertise to complete. If not performed correctly, these fusions could fail and cause water main leaks or breaks and shutdowns throughout the campus system. As with most potable water distribution construction, this project also requires coordinated and scheduled cut-in connections to existing water supply piping, relocation of fire hydrants, reconnection of building services, coordination of potable water shutdowns, pressure testing and disinfection of the new water main. However, at this scale of a project a contractor with previous experience in potable water distribution construction is paramount for the success of coordinating this work.

Accordingly, we feel that Nagy Brothers Construction, LLC. is not a qualified bidder for the required work on the above referenced project and recommend that their bid be rejected, and the contract awarded to the lowest qualified bidder.

Furthermore, H2M then reviewed the qualifications submitted by the next lowest bidder, M. Rondano Inc. of Norwalk, CT, and have found them to be a qualified contractor. M. Rondano Inc. has satisfactorily completed similar projects for various water suppliers over the past few years, including work for the Town of Newtown. It is our opinion that M. Rondano Inc. is qualified, and their bid prices are fair and reasonable. Therefore, we

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recommend the Town award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder, M. Rondano Inc. of Norwalk, Connecticut, in the amount of \$1,055,221.00. It should be noted that the original bid price submitted was \$1,186,711.00, however, based on discussions with Rondano and a request to review and revise their bid prices where possible, M. Rondano agreed to reduce their overall bid by \$131,500.00. A reduction in the unit prices of three bid items accounted for the decrease. See the attached corresponding email from M. Rondano Inc.

If you have any further questions regarding the above letter, please contact the undersigned at (866) 970-6535 extension 1445. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

**H2M Architects & Engineers, Inc.**

Robert Lucas

Digitally signed by Robert Lucas  
DN: cn=US, email=Erlucas@h2m.com,  
c=US, ou=water 014150,  
cn=Robert Lucas  
Date: 2023.12.11 14:55:01-0500

Robert J. Lucas, P.E.  
Assistant Vice President

RJL:jek

Enclosures:

- Bid Tabulation
- Nagy Brothers Construction, LLC. Experience
- M. Rondano email dated December 5, 2023

ecc: Kerri Mubarek – Town of Newtown