



ABOUT THE PIPELINE

The Pipeline publications help the Department explain about the work we do. If, after reading this publication, you have questions or suggestions for future feature articles that you believe other customers would be interested in, please let us know. By hearing from our customers regularly, we can complete our mission to serve you better.

FROM THE DIRECTOR

By Joseph Fazzino

Mattabassett Sewer Project Update (4/11/19)

Many things have happened since our last project update. The construction activities have definitely ramped up. The majority of the masonry has been installed and the building looks incredible. The roof top air handling units are set and ductwork has been installed throughout the upper and lower levels. The finishing touches are going into the roofing and the cupola. Inside the building, the electricians have installed the majority of the conduits and equipment throughout the building. The plumbers and sheet metal workers have installed boilers, water supply pipe, drain lines and countless sections of HVAC ductwork. Walsh Construction is installing the main waste-water pumps and various process piping including large diameter ductile iron piping to direct this wastewater to the new force main discharging to the Mattabassett District's newly updated Wastewater Treatment Plant in Cromwell.



There are still many details that need to be addressed as part of this project and

the schedule has slipped a bit. But just like a puzzle, the pieces are coming together to reveal our new inter-

municipal pump station which will be named after one of our own Councilman Francis T. Patnaude.

Please stay tuned for future updates and if you have any questions on our progress contact the Engineering Division at our Headquarters at 82 Berlin Street, or you can call us at 860-638-3500.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN

By Dale Aldieri

I am pleased to report that the final stage of the Mattabassett Regionalization Project, the Pump Station, is substantially complete and we should begin preliminary testing of the entire system early this summer. Throughout this project, the Mattabassett Building Committee has been meeting monthly and working very hard to bring this entire project in on time and within budget.

As you all know, our water & sewer rates have been rising over the past year. The completion of the Regionalization Project brings the reality of paying for the portion that is not funded by the CT DEEP Clean Water Fund. We on the authority board, along with the staff, have worked extremely hard to minimize the burden on our rate payers. However, you should understand that rates will increase, but our plans are to make these rate increases as gradual as possible. Our plans do not call for large

spikes in the rates, similar to what is being seen in other communities throughout Connecticut. These communities struggle to comply with the rising costs of transporting clean water to the citizens of this state and the waste water treatment that goes along with that.

BILLING CYCLE TO CHANGE FROM SEMI-ANNUALLY TO QUATERLY

By Jerome Bruton, Supervisor of Accounts Manager

The Middletown Water and Sewer Department is in the process of converting to quarterly billing for our semi-annual customers. We are presently generating updates to our equipment to process this billing conversion.

To complete the transition, it is most important that each property be equipped with an automated reader. This device is important for the completion of the conversion process.

The installation of the automated reading device is free to the customer, and in most cases takes only 30 minutes to install.

If you have received a letter please contact the Water and Sewer Department, Billing Division, at 860-638-3501, so we can schedule an appointment to install the automated reading device.

It is important that we install these automated meter readers so that we can accurately read your water usage and will not have to generate an estimated bill, which can be higher than expected.

HYDRANT FLUSHING LET IT FLOW, LET IT FLOW, LET IT FLOW

By James Sipperly, Environmental Resource Specialist

Each year, the Water and Sewer Department opens fire hydrants throughout the City to allow a thorough flow of water at a high volume and a



high rate. The hydrant-flushing program is very important to the maintenance of the City's water system.

It serves the following purposes:

- Flushes sediments from the main line pipes, which overall enhances water quality.
- Verifies the proper operation of the fire hydrants and valves.
- Helps find weaknesses in the water system.
- Checks for closed valves and weak flows in the water mains.
- Verifies ample flows for fire-fighting.

Flushing usually occurs during the hours of 8:00 am and 3:00 pm during the weekdays two times of year, once in the spring and once in the fall. An announcement is made in the newspaper prior to the commencement of hydrant flushing activities.

Here are some helpful hints during hydrant flushing:

- There may be a temporary drop in water pressure at this time.
- Water may be rusty, cloudy or discolored. Discolored water is not harmful and will clear up in a few hours.
- Fill a bottle with water and store it in the refrigerator to use for drinking or cooking.

- If discolored water enters your home, it may be necessary to run the cold water at each faucet until it clears. This should be done one faucet at a time. Once the water has cleared in your cold water, your hot water should be flushed in a similar manner.
- Do not wash laundry during the actual flushing period. If your laundry was done with discolored water, the load should be kept wet and rewashed again after the water clears. Four ounces of cream of tartar should be added to help remove any discoloration from the clothing.
- If pressure or volumes appear low, check your faucet screens for trapped sediment particles.
- Caution should be observed around any hydrant discharge.

Your patience and understanding are greatly appreciated in advance!

As always, we are available to answer your questions by calling our office at 860-638-3500.

OLD MILL ROAD/BARBARA ROAD CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

By Brian Robillard, Chief Engineer

The Water and Sewer Department and the Department of Public Works continues to move forward with its project to improve the Old Mill Road area of the City. Old Mill Road, Barbara Road, Belvidere Terrace, Phedon Parkway, Bailey Road and portions of Westfield Street are included in this project.

The contractor, True Blue Environmental, Inc. out of Wallingford, CT worked through the winter as weather permitted to improve the overall schedule. Over 6,800 linear feet of new water main, 12 new hydrants and 37 new water valves have been installed to date. The old main was in very poor condition and was failing as the contractor worked to replace it.

The contractor installed another 2,210 feet of copper pipe to connect 106 of our customers to this new main. There are approximately 40 more homes that will be connected to the new water main in the next month.

Over 2,400 linear feet of new sanitary sewer main has been installed to date and 47 homes have been connected to the new main. Almost 2,500 feet of existing sewer main has been lined with epoxy which essentially creates a new pipe inside the old one. 18 manholes have been installed along with the new sewer main. Some of the new manholes and sewer main were installed at a depth of over 10 feet.



This work has created a patchwork of pavement and road repairs. In late May, the contractor will begin the process of removing the old pavement along Old Mill Road and building a new road which will make driving in this neighborhood safer. We have been working closely with the Police Department, Fire Department and Board of Education to ensure that homeowners and school children can travel safely while the roads are under construction, and we have recently scheduled meetings with the neighbors so we can be more responsive with their issues and concerns.

Work will continue throughout the summer and fall. The project is expected to be completed by mid-December. You can call us at 860-638-3500 if you have any questions about the project.

WHAT'S NEW WITH THE CREW

Thomas Tetrault, Field Maintenance Manager, retired in March of this year. Tom worked for the city in various capacities over a period of 20 years. His wife, Laura, who also is employed by the city retired in April of this year. Tom will be missed, but will not miss being on call and responding to water main breaks in frigid weather at 2:00 am in the morning. Together they plan to enjoy their new home and pool and look forward to playing a lot of golf. We wish them both the best in their retirement and a happy and healthy start to a new chapter in their lives!

Brian Robillard, formerly the Assistant Chief Engineer, (our ACE), was promoted to Chief Engineer when that position was vacated by Joe Fazzino, who became Director. Brian was hired by the city on May 31, 2016. He is a Professional Engineer licensed in the State of Connecticut and is a graduate of Penn State University. Brian was previously employed by Tata and Howard, an engineering firm specializing in water and waste water Technologies.

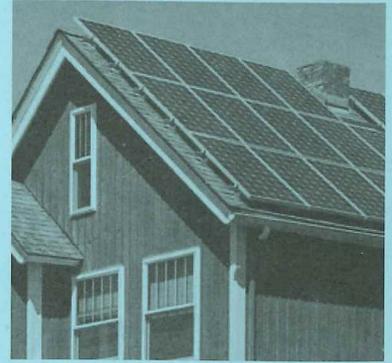
Brian lives in Middletown with his wife, Laurie, and three children, Hallie, Jacob and Nathan who attend Middletown schools. In his spare time, Brian is an Assistant Troop Leader for Boy Scout Troop 72 and assists in completing projects, obtaining merit badges and going on camping trips. Brian is also a member of the Middletown PBA Pipes and Drums band and has been playing the bag pipes for over 5 years.

Donald Fisco started working for the city in November 1994 as the Superintendent of Water Resources and held that position for many years. Don was then transferred to the Manager of Regulatory and Technical Affairs. Recently, Don was appointed as the Deputy Director. Don graduated from Notre Dame High School in West Haven and attended classes at Gateway Community College to obtain a water management certification. Don lives in North Branford with his wife, Nancy and two daughters Lauren and Cameron.

SOLAR FOR ALL

By Harold Panciera

The City of Middletown, with its Clean Energy Task Force and CHEER Middletown program, are pleased to announce a Solar for All campaign open to all city residents.



Solar for All is a nationally recognized program supported by the Connecticut Green Bank and provided by solar company, PosiGen. The program offers homeowners a chance to make improvements that will reduce their monthly energy costs through energy efficiency and renewable solar energy, making for a healthier environment for all. The program offers a no-money-down, affordable 20-year solar lease and energy efficiency agreement with a savings guarantee for all homeowners, regardless of income or credit score.

CHEER (Comfortable, Healthy, Energy Efficient, and Renewable) Middletown is a Clean Energy Task Force program focused on creating healthier homes in Middletown through energy improvements. CHEER and the Solar for All team welcome all residents of Middletown to a kickoff event:

Thursday, May 16

12:00 to 1:30 pm

de Koven House Community Center

27 Washington St., Middletown

In addition to the opening event, look for announcements about a series of workshops during the next four months at different locations around the City. Contact PosiGen directly to participate in the program; Susan Young at Syoun@PosiGen.com or (203) 308-0876. For more information about the program, contact Michael Harris, PE, Middletown's Energy Coordinator, at michael.harris@middletownct.gov.