

Minutes of the Meeting for Charlton Water Commissioners Meeting – 2/1/21

Date / Time: Meeting was held on February 1, 2021 and began at 7:00 p.m. and concluded at approximately 8:00 p.m. The meeting was conducted via Zoom remote meeting platform.

Attendees: Councilman Grasso, Councilman Robbins, Councilman Glavin, Doug Flynn (Water Superintendent), Kim Caron (Water Clerk) and Charlie Baker (EDP).

Attachments:

- (A) Charlton Water Commissioners Meeting Agenda – 2/1/21
- (B) Town of Charlton Water Commissioners Public Meeting Presentation prepared by Councilman Glavin

Meeting Results:

Supervisor Grasso kicked off the meeting and welcomed attendees.

Supervisor Grasso explained that this meeting was a special public meeting required by the New York State Department of Health to provide the public with information regarding the elevated levels of lead found in the water system.

Roll call was taken and recorded.

Supervisor Grasso turned over the meeting to Councilman Glavin to conduct the meeting in accordance with the meeting agenda – Attachment (A).

Water District Water Lead Level Exceedance:

Councilman Glavin presented the information contained in Attachment (B). In short, Councilman Glavin provided an overview of the water system, the source of the Town's water, the history and timeline of the water lead level exceedance, the actions taken and those remaining, as well as expectations going forward, including plans to provide periodic updates to the town water system customers. Attachment (B) served as an outline for the discussion,

New information was provided to attendees, that occurred since the 1/11/21 meeting as follows:

1. Charlie Baker, from the Towns Engineering firm (EDP) received an email from Maria O'Connell (DOH) stating that the Town has met the requirements outlined in the initial letter from Maria dated 11/27/20.

2. The town will continue with the plan provided to DOH and provide an updated Sampling Plan to include up to 25 residences for the required testing from January 1-June 30, 2021 and July 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021.

Water Pump House Modifications/New Chlorination Boost System – Status

1. Supervisor Grasso briefed on the status of the contracted work at the Pump House located on Stage Road.
 - a. Chlorination equipment project is progressing and should be installed and up and running within next 6 months.
 - b. Both water pumps received unscheduled maintenance over the summer that resulted in significant water restrictions together with the low levels at the aquifer where the water comes from.

New Business: Public Comment (Q&A Portion of the meeting)

Supervisor Grasso advised that at this point the meeting will be opened up to the public for questions and comments. Supervisor Grasso advised that anyone with questions and/or comments would be able to address the Board and that if the Board does not have an answer to a particular question an answer would be forthcoming as soon as possible.

Supervisor Grasso advised that the DOH has requested that the town provide 15 additional testing sites for the next two rounds of lead testing. Supervisor Grasso asked that anyone interested in having their residence used as a test site to let the Board know and if the residence falls within the required parameters it would be used. Supervisor Grasso advised that the DOH has to approve the testing locations based on the age of the residence.

Supervisor Grasso opened the meeting for public question / comment and requested that anyone speaking give their name and address for the record.

Joe Egry, 470 Stage Road volunteered to be a testing site. Mr. Egry provided his telephone number and that his home was built in 1937.

Supervisor Grasso advised that if someone volunteers and their residence is not chosen, that the DOH offers free testing and the information for that was included in the letter to all of the water district customers as well as on the town website.

Michelle Dufour, 3 Martin Lane asked how frequently water testing is recommended. Supervisor Grasso advised that, per state requirements, there is periodic testing done. Lead and copper is tested every three years. Supervisor Grasso advised that if there were concerns to contact DOH for testing. Supervisor Grasso asked that if a test is done on any residence, that the town be advised of the results so that they can be reviewed.

Michelle Dufour requested the website for DOH.

Councilman Robbins posted the website information to the attendees in the meeting.

Michelle Dufour asked where the towns testing results were posted.

Doug Flynn advised that the town is now required to complete 2 more rounds of lead testing, the first within the first 6 months of the year and the second within the last six months of the year.

Michelle Dufour asked if those results were posted anywhere.

Supervisor Grasso advised that the results were not posted anywhere as that was not a DOH requirement. Supervisor Grasso advised that in order to provide ongoing communication with the residents, the results could be posted to the town website under the water department tab. Michelle Dufour volunteered to be a lead testing site and provided her telephone number and that her home was built in 1947.

Richard Malaczynski, 1011 Gideon Trace inquired that since, in 1986, Congress passed federal legislation which required municipal drinking supply systems to have the lead reduced to a significantly low level, both a combination of lead solder and the amount of lead in the solder in addition to things like valving and pumps and pipe and that type of thing, was the static test done at one of the valves and came out with a high level and is the town's infrastructure for the water compliant with the 1986 legislation. Mr. Malaczynski inquired if the valves were older than 50 years old.

Doug Flynn responded that all of the valves and all the plumbing in the pump house are from the initial installation in 1969 other than anything that has been replaced or had a problem.

Richard Malaczynski inquired if there was a possibility that those are leeching higher than acceptable levels of lead right from the pump house.

Doug Flynn responded that most of those fittings are not copper fittings, everything that is inside the pump house is a ductile iron pipe with no copper fittings and there are no solder joints or anything like that as everything is a bolted mechanical joint. The only possible place could be the faucets that are not water that is going to the public it is a faucet that is hooked up the same that would be in anyone's house. The fittings that the water flows through to the customers are all ductile iron.

Richard Malaczynski stated that in the valving they used to use a lot of lead in sealing the valves and if those valves predate the 1986 legislation and if that was one of the spots where a sample was drawn up than that may explain why there was an exceedance of lead because possibly the valves have lead within the mechanics of the valve that are leeching into the water.

Charlie Baker responded that he does not believe that there would be materials in the ductile iron resilient wedge valves that would leak lead and additionally the town is doing numerous tests within the system and if that were the case you would be seeing that more prevalence than at just two locations. Mr. Baker advised that he could research the valves that were constructed in that circa and see what was used for materials but suspect that lead was not a very common material used in those at that time.

Councilman Glavin inquired if what Richard Malaczynski was asking about was the sample draw location which is a half inch galvanized extension pipe that comes off the discharge of the booster pump with its associated small isolation valve. Councilman Glavin asked if the question

was related to when the operator drew the sample, if it was an original valve of a small diameter nature that might have been that vintage 1970's valve.

Richard Malaczynski responded inquiring if any of the valves in the water house predate the EPA requirement to reduce lead levels in municipal water supply, asking what kind of equipment do we have and how compliant is that equipment with the standard?

Doug Flynn responded that as Charlie Baker stated, the valves are 12-inch valves that are in the pump house and they are not a brass or copper valve, they are a ductile iron type valve. Our valve that comes off the side that is a 1 inch or a half inch valve that goes to our faucets that we draw samples from in the pump house and those are a brass valve. There is a possibility that the sample valve could be why we received a high test there on our first draw. Our second sample first draw and flush sample came back non-detect for lead.

Richard Malaczynski responded that he is not surprised that the flush test showed no exceedance for the lead because when they do sampling in residential households they recommend that no water be drawn from the house for a minimum of 6 hours to allow for any leaching of lead into the water and not flush it out and that's even inclusive of the use of a toilet so they are pretty strict as far as household testing and having a static test with the water remaining in the pipes for a minimum of 6 hours. Mr. Malaczynski inquired if the town was going to continue doing static tests at that same location in the pump house?

Doug Flynn responded yes however two tests were actually done after we had the high level in the pump house, a flow test and a static test and both came back non-detect. The static test was done a week prior to the flow test.

Supervisor Grasso advised the NYSDOH is not requiring the town do any additional testing in the pump house, at this time other than that identified by NYSDOH already¹.

Richard Malaczynski advised that he has read over the 2015 Annual Water Quality Report for both the town and Glenville and saw no issues or concerns with lead from that report.

Dave Glasser, 6 Imperial Lane, inquired if the water supply lines were lead lines. Supervisor Grasso responded that the lines were transite pipe and ductile iron pipe. Doug Flynn responded that they were cement lined.

Councilman Glavin advised that if anyone had any additional questions, they could be sent to the town board, or the water clerk, Kim Caron, via Town website.

Supervisor Grasso asked meeting attendees if there were any further questions. There were none.

¹ It is noted that the NYSDOH Letter dated 11/27/20 to the Town identified that samples be taken at the System Source (Pump House). Samples were taken once, then retaken per instruction by the NYSDOH. One more round of samples must be taken from the Pump house prior to 6/30/21.

Councilman Glavin made a motion to close the meeting, seconded by Councilman Robbins. All commissioners were in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.
Respectfully Submitted,

Kim Caron
Water Clerk

AGENDA - FINAL
Town of Charlton, NY
Water Commission Meeting

February 1, 2021

7:00 pm Public Water Commission Meeting – to be held virtually on Zoom:

Join Zoom Meeting – Water Public Information Meeting.

Sign-On available at 6:45 PM. Zoom Host, Councilman Robbins

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87082185327?pwd=b3E4Q3QyR1dadXk4M0dkT090cCtNUT09>

Meeting ID: 870 8218 5327, Passcode: charlton

Agenda:

1. **Meeting Kick-Off: Welcome / Introductions** (Supervisor Grasso) - 5 Min
2. **Public Meeting** (Councilman Glavin – Facilitator) - ~40-60 Min
 - a. Brief History and Overview of Charlton Water District, 2020 Lead Action Level Exceedance (Councilman Glavin) – 15-20 min
 - i. Timeline
 - ii. Actions Taken
 - iii. Actions Remaining
 - b. Water System Modification & Improvements -Update – (Supervisor Grasso, C Baker, PE (EDP)) – 5-10 min
 - i. Brief History
 - ii. Project Objective
 - iii. Project Status / Remaining Work
 - c. Questions from the Public - 30 minutes, or as required
3. **Final Comment and Adjournment** (Supervisor Grasso)

Town of Charlton Water Commissioners Public Meeting

Recent Lead Level Exceedance, Current status and actions going forward
Extract from Presentation
(Submitted by Councilman J Glavin and presented by Councilman J Glavin during
the meeting)
2-1-21

- **Water System Facts:**
 - **Water Source:** The Town of Glenville supplies the Town of Charlton Water System:
 - The Glenville water supply comes from the **Great Flats Aquifer** (also known as the Schenectady Aquifer) through four drilled wells
 - The Great Flats Aquifer is one of the most productive in the State of New York. The aquifer is an extensive bed of sands and gravel underlying the Mohawk River channel. The Great Flats Aquifer produces clear, clean water without any major chemical constituents except the hardness
 - Charlton Water System is connected to the Glenville supply in the Southern portion of Town across from the Charlton Heights School on Stage Rd. It is a community water system and is regulated by the NYSDOH
 - **Customers:** The Charlton system serves ~ 670 end users, primarily residents and several businesses, in the southern portion of town from the hamlet, south in areas of higher density or cluster residences.
 - **System Components:** The booster pump house (2 pumps valves, instrumentation, controls) is located at 163 Stage Rd. The water tower (head tank) is located on Cherry Rd. off Swaggertown Rd. about 800+' from Charlton Rd. Miles of underground pipe (mains and laterals). MAPS
 - **Water Testing:** The system is periodically tested to ensure compliance with safe drinking water requirements as required by NYSDOH
 - **Operations:** The town water supervisor / certified operator (D Flynn), oversees the operations, maintenance, and modifications to the system.
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- **2020 Lead Action Level Exceedance: History and Timeline**

- History regarding lead levels:
 - The system is tested for lead and copper levels from 10 sample locations (residences) every 3 years.
 - The Charlton Water System has had no known lead exceedances prior to 2020
- 2020
 - Late August: Samples drawn from required sample locations IAW the sample plan for the town
 - Early September: Analysis reveals **lead level exceedance**, based on 90th percentile, in excess of action levels; **2 of 10 locations which triggered an “action level” > .015mg/l or 15 parts per trillion, lead.**
 - Affected Residents notified formerly via US Mail
 - Late Nov: Town receives a letter, dated 11/27/20, from NYSDOH informing Town of lead level exceedance.
 - Additionally, Informs Town on required 7 categorical actions to be performed within 30 days
 - Involved notification requirements and additional or follow up sampling actions (increased sampling frequency and sample size, along with new constituents to sample for)
 - **Dec:**
 - 12/7/20: Town Water Commission Meeting to formulate alignment with Water Supervisor, Water Clerk, Town Engineer and Town board to produce action plan
 - 12/8-9/20: Additional sampling taken at 3 locations including Charlton water source at the booster pump house
 - 12/15/20: Lead and Copper samples were retaken for 10 locations and sent for analysis. All test results (including prior 2 locations with exceedance for lead levels) came back as meeting the NYSDOH requirements for both lead and copper. Affected residents were informed
 - 12/27/20: All required 30-day actions complete, including letter sent to all customers notifying them of the exceedance and follow up test results at 2 locations with former exceedance. Customers were informed that **Both follow up tests were Non-Detectable for lead, both meeting the NYSDOH requirements.**
 - 12/30/20: Letter to NYSDOH from town engineer (EDP), on behalf of Town, informing NYSDOH of Actions taken, planned, and that follow up test results showed lead to be non-detectable at the 2 test locations. **Pump house source first draw sample indicated a lead level above the exceedance threshold**

- **2021**

- **Jan:**

- 1/4/21: NYSDOH response letter sent to Town Engineer on behalf of Town
- NYSDOH acknowledged 12/30/20 letter information and stated that the likely source of lead from the water system pump house was sample valve fittings / components and to ensure a flush repeat sample VS a first draw.
- 1/6/21: Flush sample drawn from Booster Pump House (repeat sample for lead)
- 1/9/21: Pump House Tour, with Superintendent / Operator, Town Supervisor, Councilman Liaison
- 1/11/21:
- Test Results for flush sample **drawn from Booster Pump House resulted in Non-Detectable lead**
- Water Commission meeting – Status of actions and alignment on continued action plan / review of second NYSDOH letter
- 1/20/21: Town receives official report indicating result above for source sample
- 1/29/21: Town Engineer (EDP), informs NYSDOH, via letter, of the results at the water source; Non-Detectable Lead, and informs of the impending Town Public meeting on 2/1/21 to provide information to town residents and respond to questions the public may have. Note: The public meeting is the last of 3 supplemental near-term actions the Town committed to take relative to public communications
- 1/30/21: Town Water Clerk / Councilman Liaison: Determined additional sample points required by actions (+10 +5backup)

- **Feb:**

- 2/1/21:
 - Charlton Community Water System Public Meeting held
 - **Pick 3 Additional Actions for Communication: Letter to Residents, Public Display, Public Meeting: Complete**
 - ~ 2/5/21: Expect NYSDOH response to 2/1 letter
 - Expect to be informed of further actions required by town
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- **2020 Lead Action Level Exceedance: Remaining Actions**

- Complete identification of additional sample locations (additional 10 – **Total of 20**, with additional 5 back up locations)
- Revise Town Sample Plan and submit revised plan with new locations and additional sampling frequency per regulations to NYSDOH for approval

- Identify target dates of repeat (increased frequency) sampling for lead and copper at 20 locations:
 - First set of samples / analysis due between 1/1/21 and 6/30/21
 - Second set of samples / analysis due between 7/1/21 and 12/31/21
 - Execute 2nd set of additional samples from 3 locations before 6/30/21 (increased parameters and another water source location lead and copper sample)
 - Complete any additional actions identified by NYSDOH within the timing required
 - Provide periodic communication updates to NYSDOH and Town Customers
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- **2020 Lead Action Level Exceedance: High Level Summary**

1. In late summer / early Fall of 2020 water sample test results indicated lead action levels had been exceeded at 2 of 10 test locations
 2. There was no history of lead levels being exceeded in the history of the water system
 3. Retests for lead at the same 10 locations indicated all were within acceptable levels and the 2 previous locations with higher lead levels indicated Non-Detectable lead levels
 4. Required action to test the water system source location resulted in lead level above action level. NYSDOH believed sample method and sample connection component to be the cause. Subsequent flush sample and analysis indicated Non-Detect for lead
 5. The Town of Charlton has several remaining actions including additional sampling requirements. The Town will continue to work with NYSDOH, openly communicate new information, as learned, both to NYSDOH and to the Town residents
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Charlton Water System Planned Modifications at Booster Pump House – Status and Updates & Questions from the Public

- **Charlton Water System Planned Modifications:** (Supervisor Grasso / C Baker, PE, Town Engineer)
- **Charlton Water System Public Questions:** (Public Q&A)

<https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/>

https://www.health.ny.gov/environmental/water/drinking/lead/free_lead_testing_pilot_program.htm