

**SELECTMEN'S MEETING
UPSTAIRS MEETING ROOM
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA
MONDAY, June 18, 2018**

Meeting was opened at 7:00 PM in the Upstairs Meeting Room. Present were Selectpersons Chris Boutwell, Michael Nelson (absent), and Rich Kuklewicz, and Town Administrator Steven Ellis, Wendy Bogusz, Executive Assistant, Kuklewicz makes introduction and announces meeting is being taped.

Approve minutes of June 4, 2018

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the minutes of June 4, 2018. Seconded by Kuklewicz approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye

Public Comment Period: Individuals will be limited to two (2) minutes each and the Board of Selectmen will strictly adhere to time allotted for public comment

None

Sewer Commissioners with Bob McDonald, WPCF Superintendent Staffing

B. McDonald:

- The WPCF's FY-19 budget included plans for a smaller staff of 5-6 employees total. Although I believe I have presented reasonable arguments that this is a workable number and has been proven as such by historical staff levels at our plant, Mass DEP is recommending 8.6 employees. This would entail an additional cost of approximately \$150,000. In the last 14 years the treatment plant has operated with 7 or fewer employees in all but one year (2017). With this direction from DEP, at minimum, we should expect to maintain our current staff size of 6. This means we will need to replace Andrew Keyser when he leaves at the end of June and add one laborer. I have requested a meeting with DEP to discuss the staff size.

Kuklewicz makes the motion to authorize Bob McDonald to advertise for the Chief Operators position in the Water Pollution Control Facility. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye

J. Golrick is asking for more WPCF information to be made available for the public to see

Solids Loading

Solids entering the treatment plant over the last six months have been very heavy, on average the BOD influent 656 mg/l, 605 mg/l TSS influent. These numbers are about two to three times higher than text book treatment plants would be expected to experience. There are measures that need to be taken, immediately, to isolate where the unusual overage of solids is coming from. We are currently examining industry, commercial septic haulers, I & I, and residential sources to see if we can pinpoint the problem(s). What does this mean for solids disposal?

- As of today the plant has 38,600 lbs. of solids in its tanks. Our target range is 20k -40k lbs., but 10-20k lbs. would be more in-line w/standards.
- In the last two weeks we paid for additional loads out and ran the press longer, including one day each weekend (with overtime pay) to lower our overall system pounds.
- Fortunately, with these intensified efforts, we have lowered solids within the system from 61k pounds in May to today's recorded pounds of 38.6k pounds.

Some facts that highlight the challenge...

- Our current raw BOD is 656 mg/l with a TSS of 605 mg/l. This means 4,486 lbs. of sludge for disposal is produced each day, in addition to the existing load in the plant.
- In an average 8 hr. day we can press between 800 -1000lbs of solids for disposal.
- Two liquid trucked loads of sludge out each work day at 2.5% solids equals 3752 lbs.
- Pressing = 1000lbs + 3752 trucked = 4752 lbs. of disposed sludge out per day (except weekends)
- So on a most days the plant would be breaking even with solids coming and going.

Additional factors:

Our Food: Mass ratio is sub-optimal because we are holding so many pounds in the system. There is not enough food for all micro-organisms and this may be expected to cause effluent issues.

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- For solids disposal, maintaining the current pace will cost at least \$410,000 for FY-19, that's \$250,000 more than what is in the FY-19 budget.
- Staff is working to increase solids percentage on liquid loads out by using chemicals to thicken sludge. If we are able to increase solids from 2.5% to 5 % per load it would mean only one load out per day.
- Another step in reducing liquid loads out is by staff running the press on a timer during off hours, which we have started implementing. Trailer loads out of pressed solids at 20% is a more cost effective in solids reduction than liquid loads out. The press is very effective in pressing primary solids but not as effective in pressing waste activated sludge.

Implications:

The current situation is dire by any accounting. The combination of the loss of revenues (in 2016 WPCF Revenue was a combined \$2,287,707) associated with the Montague Process and Southworth Paper. With no Southworth Paper or Montague Process (in 2018 WPCF Revenue is combined \$1,723,534) combination with increased disposal costs (disposal in 2016 equals \$19,010 has 2018 disposal cost of \$275,000) results in an effective net loss of \$820,173.00.

J. Golrick asks if its possible to take less sludge then we could have less staff? McDonald responds that it would not be enough to take away multiple people; it won't help us much. Solids loading entering Plant.

J. Golrick asks that the results be posted so the public can be notified of the findings. McDonald stated we need to figure out the most cost effective way to run the treatment plant with the staff size, We need to figure out if it makes sense to take sludge.

Discussion about surcharge to reduce the solids

Budget:

The Annual Debt amount due for FY-18 is \$172,847.00, this will increase by \$342,251.00 in FY-19. Making the Annual Debt payment at \$515,098.00 for FY-19. In FY-20 the Debt will increase another \$258,885.00.

This creates an unacceptable budget proposition for ratepayers. As you know, we've made what we believe are responsible reductions in staffing levels, which are threatened by DEP's determination. We've also taken advantage of new technology (SCADA) and extended use of our Fournier press for composting to try to lower operational costs. We also received approval for development of a solar array that would generate a positive revenue flow. Unfortunately, savings from these steps are not a sufficient offset to the changes described in the previous paragraph. We want you and other parties in the Town of Montague to know that we will continue to work diligently to find the best possible solutions to a most challenging situation.

Personnel Board

Resignation of Joshua Dempsey from DPW effective 6/21/18

Boutwell makes the motion NOT to accept the resignation of Joshua Dempsey from the DPW. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz – Aye

Appoint Glen Batchelder, Custodian U.E. Grade A, Step 1, \$14.24/hour effective 6/19/18

Boutwell makes the motion to appoint Glen Batchelder, Custodian U.E. Grade A, Step 1, \$14.24/hour effective 6/19/18. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Appoint Cindi Oldham to Montague Cultural Council, 3 year term, effective 7/1/18 to 6/30/21

Boutwell makes the motion to appoint Cindi Oldham to Montague Cultural Council, 3 year term, effective 7/1/18 to 6/30/21. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

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Tom Bergeron, DPW Superintendent

Execute Agreement for Engineering Assistance with the 2018 Avenue C and Worcester Street Sidewalk Replacement Project with James J. Toth Not to exceed \$10,608.75

Boutwell makes the motion to Execute the Agreement for Engineering Assistance with the 2018 Avenue C and Worcester Street Sidewalk Replacement Project with James J. Toth Not to exceed \$10,608.75 to be funded by Chapter 90. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Suzanne LoManto, RiverCulture Director

Entertainment Permit: Unity Park, June 21 and July 28, 2018, 7:00 – 8:00 PM

Boutwell makes the motion to approve the request by Suzanne LoManto, RiverCulture Director for an Entertainment Permit at Unity Park, June 21 and July 28, 2018, 6:00 – 10:00 PM for night skate at the skate park. (Live Band 7:00 PM to 8:00 PM). Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Establish Public Works Facility Building Committee

Kuklewicz makes the motion to establish the Public Works Facility Building Committee shall be comprised of nine Montague Citizens with collective skills in construction, building systems, public administration, finance, and communications. The Committee shall be responsible for overseeing and expeditiously delivering the final design and construction of a new public works facility to the citizens of Montague in a manner that is transparent, efficient, and fiscally responsible. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye Kuklewicz - Aye

Appoint 9 Citizens and one alternate to the Public Works Facility Building Committee for terms ending 6/30/21: Ken Morin, Jay DiPucchio, Mark Williams, Bob Macewicz, Mark Fairbrother, Jason Burbank, Ariel Elan, Pam Hanold, David Jensen, Richard Widmer (alternate)

Kuklewicz makes the motion to appoint 9 Citizens to the Public Works Facility Building Committee for terms ending 6/30/21: Ken Morin, Jay DiPucchio, Mark Williams, Bob Macewicz, Mark Fairbrother, Jason Burbank, Ariel Elan, Pam Hanold and David Jensen. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Kuklewicz makes the motion to appoint Richard Widmer as alternate to the Public Works Facility Building Committee for terms ending 6/30/21. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Ms. Golrick wants periodic public updates put on the Selectmen's agenda. Kuklewicz states everything needs to be looked into, and if costs can be saved they will be.

Walter Ramsey, Town Planner

Public Information Session: Montague Vulnerability Assessment

- Presentation attached to end of minutes
- Final steps are to incorporate any comments which have been open for last several weeks.
- Proactive to get involved early on
- The Town had submitted grant applications for assistance with engineering design for two projects, one of which received funding.
- The Montague City Road Flooding Protection Project: Design and Permitting project received a grant of \$33,750
- The request for money to support preliminary design of the South Street Bridge Retrofit and Floodplain Relief Culvert was not funded.
- While we certainly had hoped for funding to support both projects, we are nonetheless pleased to see a substantive return on the Town's investment of staff time in pursuit of MVP status and development of our climate related hazard mitigation plan. All of this within a year of our initial application for the program.

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Consider Resolution to Adopt Montague Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Plan

Kuklewicz reads resolution into the record

Boutwell makes the motion to adopt CERTIFICATE OF ADOPTION, MONTAGUE, MASSACHUSETTS, SELECT BOARD, A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TOWN OF MONTAGUE, MUNICIPAL VULNERABILITY PREPAREDNESS (MVP) RESILIENCY PLAN, WHEREAS, the Town of Montague participated in the MVP Community Resilience Building Workshop on April 4, 2018; and WHEREAS, the Town of Montague MVP Resiliency Plan contains several projects to mitigate potential impacts from climate change in the Town of Montague, and WHEREAS, a duly-noticed public meeting was held by the Select Board on June 18, 2018, and WHEREAS, the Town of Montague authorizes responsible departments and/or agencies to execute their responsibilities demonstrated in the plan, and NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Montague Select Board, adopts the MVP Resiliency Plan, in accordance with M.G.L. c. 40. ADOPTED AND SIGNED this June 18, 2018 by the Montague Selectboard. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Update on Existing Kearsarge Solar Array and possible Burn Dump Solar Installation

First phase of Sandy Lane project will be connected to the grid this week; it will be less than it's maximum capacity right now. We are looking at a ribbon cutting this fall and it wont be going to 100% power generation until summer next year once improvements are done to the utilities substation. Second phase: This will be placing 2nd array on the burn dump. We have confirmed with Counsel, and the Town has awarded right to Kearsarge as long as they met or exceed what they initially proposed. Kearsarge has hired Eversource to conduct the required interconnection study and that is underway and is due to be finished in July; after that Kearsarge will be clear to finalize design and permitting and execute; we plan to have this done by end of 2018. Anticipated construction anticipated completion date for the burn dump is fall 2019 providing we don't have any extreme weather dates.

Review and Execute deed to JaDuke, Inc. for a lot in the Industrial Park, to be Combined with property currently owned by JaDuke, Inc.

Purchase price of land which reflects ongoing cost of new land sold. Price is discounted to encourage development of realized JaDuke project and the TIF. Lots need to be combined as building will be located on both parcels.

Boutwell makes the motion to execute the deed to JaDuke, Inc. for a lot in the Industrial Park, to be Combined with property currently owned by JaDuke, Inc. in the amount of \$44,000 110 Industrial Blvd, Turners Falls Lot 2. As recorded with the Franklin Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 121, Page 44 and further described at Exhibit A. Seconded by Kuklewicz, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Kuklewicz - Aye

Town Administrators Business

Update on Montague's Canal District Capital Bond Bill Infrastructure Requests

Received word from Rep. Kulik's Office last week that our proposal for the capital bond bill which included \$2.6 million to for the pedestrian bridge and sewer pump station in the Turners Falls Canal District; the money did survive joint conference committee and has moved to the Governor's desk. It's a positive but you can't celebrate over it.-

General Updates:

Canal District:

- Indeck: Parcel owned & controlled by Town of Montague through the land court process. Will probably want to talk about the rights for the Selectmen to sell or transfer ownership at town meeting in the fall. It's an important property and if there are redevelopment interests, we want to be ready to move actively.

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- Phase I Environmental Assessment was previously done on the Indeck site through a regional brownfields grant and today W. Ramsey did a walk with EPO on Phase II who are going to fund this phase which will be done by August or September this year.
- Strathmore: Long term concern is the buildings potential for collapse. Not there yet, but we've all seen what happens to old buildings that can't be properly heated and maintained. We are using CDBG Money working with our colleagues at FRHRDA; through an RFP we are working on developing engineering specifications on the tear down of that building.
- Building 11: No action has been taken on an RFP that was issued 2 years ago. We want to be open to all possibilities
- A tremendous amount of time are spent on these buildings and moving them forward
- 42 Canal Road is in the hands of Wild Child Cellars and they will becoming before the Board for a Liquor License. Ramsey and Building Inspector will be meeting with a potential tenant at that space
- Rail.Road Salvage Building: is in Tax title which is a slow process. Town does not have the right to do what it wants with the site. Property owners have protection and we hope someday that will become an area of opportunity for the Town.
- Obear construction to possession of the next building through the homesteading program, and he is working on the property but without out sewer he meets challenges.

Update on Hubie's Tavern Compliance with Noise Hearing Requirements

Board required certain actions be done by Hubies Tavern, I went and inspected on the due date and the work was done before hand. I spoke with one of the owners and they are working to make sure the noise does not escape the building.

Presentation of Colle Opera House Poster to Shea Theater at 6:00 PM on June 24 prior to Deus Ex Machina Performance

The Board is invited to participate next Sunday, June 24 at 6:00 PM in a presentation of an old 1920's poster from the Colle Opera House of the three musketeers. As Frank was leaving his office he said find someplace for this, and the Historical Commission used most of it's budget to restore the poster. We felt it would be appropriate to hang it at the Shea on loan but will still remain property of the Town.

Update on development of FRHA Pilot Agreement

As FRHA has moved into a building that was actively on the tax rolls, we are in conversations with them and hope to come back before the Board in July.

Topics not anticipated in the 48 hour posting requirements

Email from Jennifer Lively who will be holding a meet and greet event for Josh Zakim running for Massachusetts Secretary of State. On Saturday, June 23rd, 3-5 pm. Location: 81 High St, Turners Falls, MA.

Kuklewicz asks Steve to check with counsel to see if we should be announcing this at our meetings. Counsel responded that it depends upon the practices of the Board. The Board is not required to announce community events at its meetings. If, however, the Board has a practice of announcing community events for some groups, in my opinion, it cannot exclude others.

Boutwell makes the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 PM. Seconded by Boutwell, approved unanimously. Boutwell – Aye, Ellis – Aye

Documents and Exhibits:

- Approve minutes of June 11, 2018
- Bob McDonald, WPCF Superintendent, Summary of Key WPCF Revenue and Expense Trends
- Appointment form: Glen Batchelder, Custodian U.E. Grade A, Step 1, \$14.24/hour effective 6/19/18
- Appointment form: Cindi Oldham to Montague Cultural Council, 3 year term, effective 7/1/18 to 6/30/21

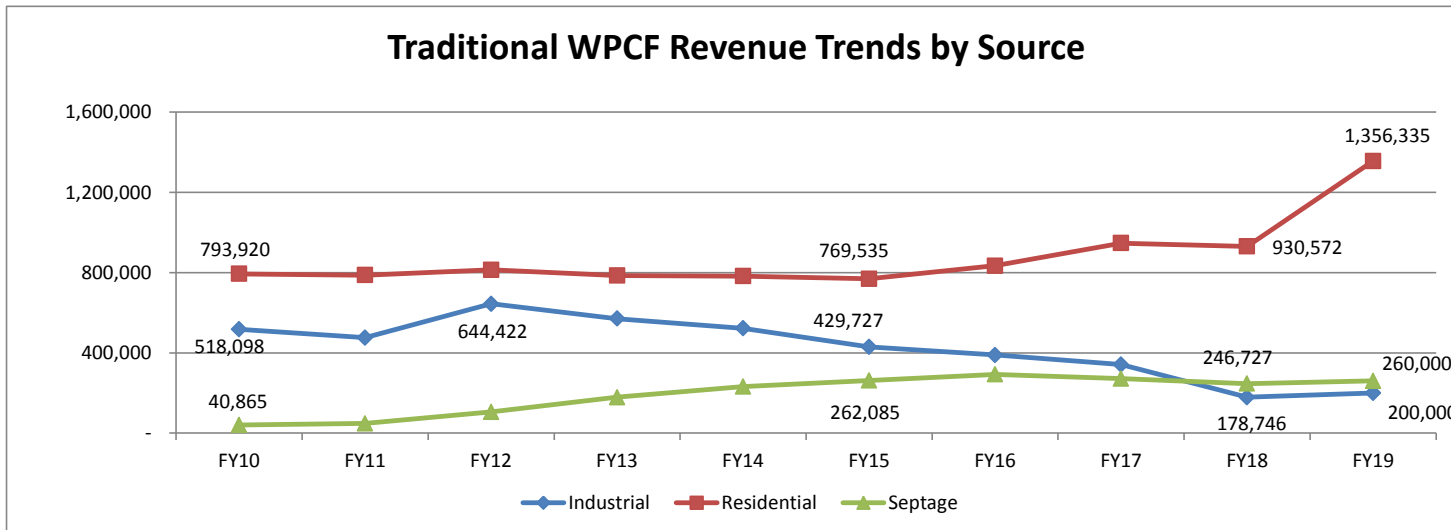
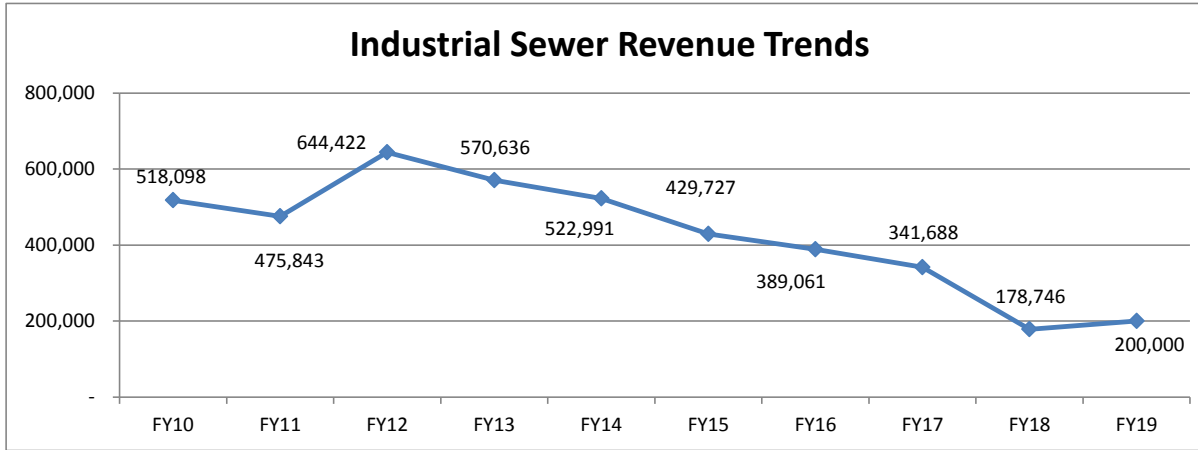
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- Suzanne LoManto, RiverCulture Director, Entertainment Permit: Unity Park, June 21 and July 28, 2018, 7:00 – 8:00 PM
- Appointment forms: 9 Citizens and one alternate to the Public Works Facility Building
- Committee for terms ending 6/30/22: Ken Morin, Jay DiPucchio, Mark Williams, Bob Macewicz, Mark Fairbrother, Jason Burbank, Ariel Elan, Pam Hanold, David Jensen, Richard Widmer (alternate)
- Public Information Session: Montague Vulnerability Assessment Power Point Presentation
- Resolution to Adopt Montague Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Plan
- Deed to JaDuke, Inc. for a lot in the Industrial Park, to be Combined with property currently owned by JaDuke, Inc.

Summary of Key WPCF Revenue and Expense Trends

Major Revenue Sources

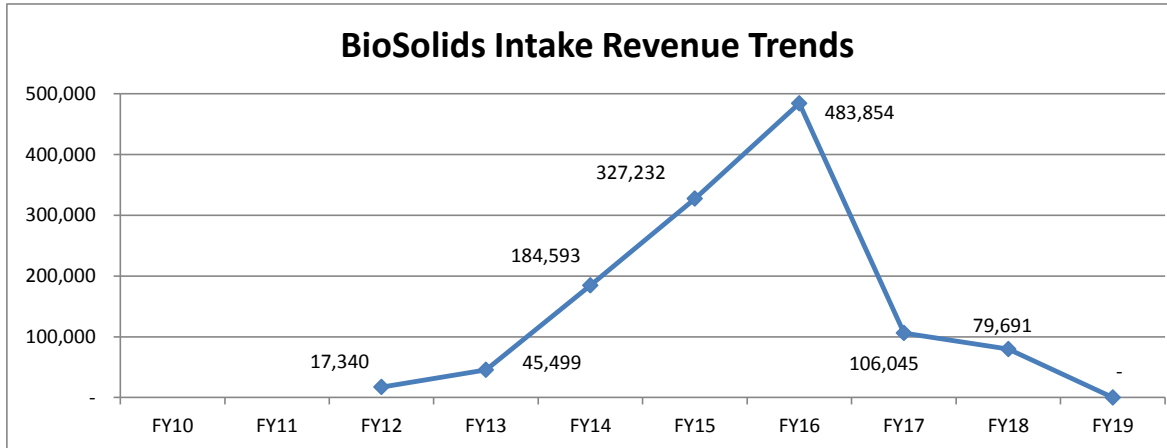
	Actual FY10	Actual FY11	Actual FY12	Actual FY13	Actual FY14	Actual FY15	Actual FY16	Actual FY17	Projected FY18	Planned FY19
Industrial	518,098	475,843	644,422	570,636	522,991	429,727	389,061	341,688	178,746	200,000
Residential	793,920	787,624	813,436	785,757	782,475	769,535	834,114	947,012	930,572	1,356,335
Septage	40,865	47,777	105,310	178,768	231,554	262,085	293,062	271,886	246,727	260,000



Summary of Key WPCF Revenue and Expense Trends

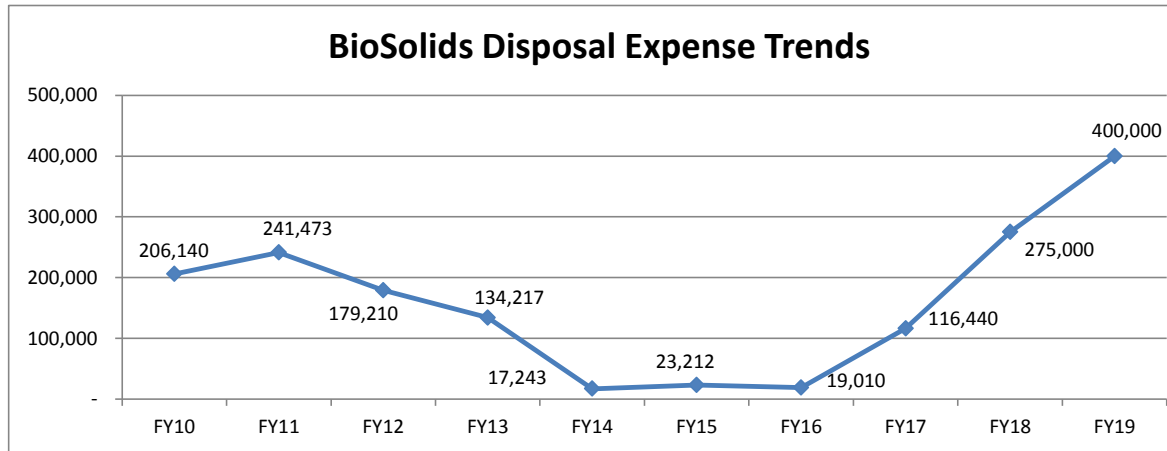
Biosolids Intake - Revenues

Actual FY10	Actual FY11	Actual FY12	Actual FY13	Actual FY14	Actual FY15	Actual FY16	Actual FY17	Projected FY18	Projected FY19
		17,340	45,499	184,593	327,232	483,854	106,045	79,691	-



Biosolids Disposal - Expense

Actual FY10	Actual FY11	Actual FY12	Actual FY13	Actual FY14	Actual FY15	Actual FY16	Actual FY17	Projected FY18	Projected FY19
206,140	241,473	179,210	134,217	17,243	23,212	19,010	116,440	275,000	400,000



Summary of Key WPCF Revenue and Expense Trends

Expected Biosolids Expense if Trend Not Altered by Montague Process

FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19
241,473	253,547	266,224	279,535	293,512	308,188	323,597	339,777	356,766

