

**TOWN OF CROMWELL - TOWN COUNCIL  
TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
41 WEST STREET, CROMWELL, CT 06416  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

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Wednesday, April 12, 2023 - 7:00 p.m.

**Present:** Mayor S. Fortenbach, Deputy Mayor J. Henehan, Councilman Demetriades, Councilwoman J. Donohue, Councilwoman P. Luna, Councilman J. Polke, Councilman A. Waters

**Also present:** Town Manager Salvatore, Finance Director Sharon DeVoe, CMS Building Committee Chairperson Rosanna Glynn, Chief LaMontagne, Captain Sifodaskalakis, Public Works Director Spina, Bonnie Anderson, Arthur Simonian Executive Director of Mattabassett District, and John Dunham Chairman of Mattabassett Board of Directors

**A. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Fortenbach called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

**B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Council stood to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

**C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mayor Fortenbach proposed amending the agenda by moving Item K. Citizen Comments to after Item D. Letter of Commendation.

**MOTION** made by A. Waters and **SECONDED** by J. Henehan to approve the agenda as amended.

**All in favor.**

**D. LETTER OF COMMENDATION**

Mayor Fortenbach read a Letter of Commendation into the record. See Attachment A.

**K. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Mayor Fortenbach read a letter from Board of Education Chairperson Celina Kelleher into the record. See Attachment B.

Mayor Fortenbach read a letter from Robert Haughton into the record. See Attachment C.

Diedre Daly, 63 Geer Street stated she is speaking as a concerned citizen regarding the osprey. After being made aware of the town removing the osprey nest from the light tower and community field she asked who made the complaint about the osprey's nest? What prompted the complaint? Were the complaints legitimate? What harm were the osprey posing? What was the negative impact on the football lights?

Will that shorter pole that Animal Control installed be adequate to sustain them in the long term? Who authorized the order to have the nest removed? Why was the destruction carried out at the crack of dawn on Easter weekend? Why are we destroying nature which was bringing joy to all ages who use the park? It may have been legal but the act of destroying and watching the osprey try to rebuild their nest was quite immoral. She thanked the Town Council for listening.

Tom Butler, 45 South Street asked why it has taken so long for the Town to replace his street light? It has been out for 8 months. It is important for the light to be replaced as it is by the railroad trestle.

Andrew Holt, 8 Wildwood Road read the attached document into the record regarding the proposed new middle school. See Attachment D.

Woodrow James, 47 South Street asked what the Town is going to do about the awful smell coming from Mattabassett morning, noon and night. He is going into retirement and he has health issues. Does anyone care about the smell the people there have to endure? He said sometimes it is hard to come outside. Who is monitoring this? Do they have to release information to homeowners of Cromwell? He wants the value of his house to remain even after he is gone.

Rich Waters, 84 South Street complained about the sewer plant and asked what our representatives do for the residents down there? Something is not right. He said he has more cancer on the side of his face. He is on his 13<sup>th</sup> cancer surgery and breathing in this air cannot be healthy for anyone. He has called Mattabassett and the State and nothing is done.

Jacob Melhorn, 82 South Street expressed concern about the Mattabassett District and the effect on the environment. See Attachment E.

Nora Marks, 37 River Road addressed the odor in the Mattabassett District. She said when she was driving on Route 9 the odor was disgusting. She was in good health until she moved to River Road, and now she uses an inhaler for asthma. Asthma does not run in her family. She asked the Council to please answer the questions of the residents.

Al Waters, 86 South Street addressed the Council as a taxpayer. He said it is bad when you cannot have your grandkids over to go in the pool because of how horrible the smell is. He explained that this has been going on since the 1990s. Fortunately, his health has held up, but other folk's health has not. He asked why Mattabassett is taking in sludge from 18 other Towns and why are the other towns paying to have it taken this far away? Is it cheaper? Or is it because no one else will burn the sludge that comes here? This needs to be addressed.

**E. COMMISSION CHAIRMAN REPORTS/LIAISON REPORT/STAFF REPORTS**

**1. CMS Building Committee**

Chairperson Rosanna Glynn was in attendance to answer any questions of the Town Council regarding her report. She informed the Town Council that the Board of Finance just approved the amendment of the resolution for the middle school project at their meeting, for 72.6 million instead of the 58.6 million. She said that she heard back from OSCGR in the middle of the Board of Finance meeting regarding the additional 10% reimbursement, they are looking for an updated cost estimate on a renovation option using today's current design and rates. She continued, in order for us to provide that, they will need urgent funding from the Town. They anticipate the estimate part of it will be around \$4,000 but because they cannot use any project money until after the referendum it would have to come from a different source.

There was a brief discussion between the Council and Ms. Glynn regarding the timeline and the possible need for funding as soon as possible.

**2. Mattabassett Budget Presentation**

Arthur Simonian Executive Director of Mattabassett and Chairman John Dunham were in attendance to present the budget report and answer any questions of the Town Council. There were some questions from the Town Council related to the concerns of the residents and the odor. Mr. Simonian requested that the Town could send him the information presented by the residents this evening and they would try their best to respond by April 21<sup>st</sup>.

**F. MAYOR'S UPDATE**

Mayor Fortenbach read his report to the Council. See Attachment F.

He added the following to his report:

- April 22<sup>nd</sup> is Little League Opening Day at 9 a.m., he invited the Council to attend.
- He proposed having the May Town Council Meeting on May 9<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m. instead of May 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. as an event was scheduled this day and members of the Town Council would like to attend. The Town Council agreed on the date/time change.

**G. TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE**

The Town Manager provided a report in the packet. He answered the question asked by a resident about the Osprey Nest. He took responsibility for the osprey, along with the ACO and Town Engineer. It was moved from the top of the light to the pole that was put in and the osprey was already utilizing it to rebuild her nest. If we did not move the nest we would not be able to play night football in the Fall as the Town would have to isolate the light and purchase some portable lights. We were informed if we move it early enough before the bird starts to nest and before the egg appears, then it is acceptable.

He encouraged the Town Council to check out the historical sign in front to the building, he had it restored and it looks excellent.

**H. FINANCIAL/FINANCE DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

**1. Budget Report**

Finance Director Sharon DeVoe was in attendance to present her report to the Town Council.

**2. Discussion and possible action to fund list of CNR Items using American Rescue Plan Act Funds as approved by the Board of Finance.**

**MOTION** made by J. Polke and **SECONDED** by P. Luna to approve the following from the American Rescue Plan Fund (ARPA):

- A vehicle in the amount of \$35,500 for the Recreation/Human Services Department.
  - 400 Leaf Vacuum in the amount of \$75,000 for the Highway Division
  - Two (2) leaf boxes in the amount of \$50,000 for the Highway Division
  - Franklin & McRossen Field Renovations in the amount of \$40,000 for the Park and Grounds Division
  - Records Storage Unit in the amount of \$15,000 for the Police Department
  - Electronic Aiming Devices in the amount of \$28,000 for the Police Department
- For a total of \$243,500.  
**All in favor.**

**3. Tax Refunds**

**MOTION** made by A. Waters and **SECONDED** by J. Henehan to approve Tax Refunds #1-8.

**All in favor.**

**I. CHIEF OF POLICE'S UPDATE**

Chief LaMontagne was in attendance to present her update to the Town Council. She provided the following updates in addition to her report:

- Once a month officers go out and check street lights. She apologized that the light on South Street has been missed, however, they plan to get it to the Director of Public Works to get right on it.
- The Town and Union approved the \$5,000 sign on bonus, it will be implemented for lateral hires.
- She received a letter from Eric Costa the Chief of Police in Middletown recognizing Cheryl Gagnon for the amazing work she does.
- Mr. Mosdale will be going out on his own as a dispatcher beginning on Friday night.
- Officer O has been in the academy since September. He is a resident in Cromwell and went through our school system. In the letter he wrote the Captain he said he wanted to become a police officer because of Detective Tolton and the SRO Program.
- Officer Visconti begins field training next week.

- She addressed Officer Haughton's letter read into the record by Mayor Fortenbach. She explained that she tries to keep things consistent and in the time she has been Chief she has not given anyone a retirement ID or badge unless they had 25 years of service or if they were considered a medical retirement, injured in the line of duty. She informed the Council that she wrote Officer Haughton two different letters of recommendation. She stated that this is at her discretion and she tries to stay consistent in her approach to benefits people may or may not receive from her office.

**J. PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

Public Works Director Spina was in attendance to present his report to the Town Council. In addition to his written report he provided an update on the Organic Waste Composting program. He informed the Council that kits to be distributed to residents were ordered. A large receptacle will be put at the Transfer Station and residential receptacles will be at the library by Mid-May. Library Director Canney applied for a grant for a public outreach education component and we are working with the schools to achieve this.

**L. NEW BUSINESS**

1. Discussion and possible action regarding Facility Conditions Study for Fields and School Buildings

**MOTION** made by P. Luna and **SECONDED** by J. Polke to table this item.

**All in favor.**

**2. New Middle School and Central Offices:** To consider and act upon a resolution affirming its recommendation for increasing the appropriation and borrowing authorization for costs related to the construction, furnishing and equipping of a new middle school and central offices.

**MOTION** made by P. Luna and **SECONDED** by J. Polke to consider and act upon a resolution affirming its recommendation for increasing the appropriation and borrowing authorization for costs related to the construction, furnishing and equipping of a new middle school and central offices.

**All in favor.**

**3. Referendum:** To consider and act upon a resolution setting the date and time for a referendum to consider and act upon a resolution with respect to increasing the appropriation and borrowing authorization for the construction, furnishing and equipping of a new middle school and central offices, if approved by the Board of Finance.

**MOTION** made by J. Henahan and **SECONDED** by A. Waters to consider and act upon a resolution setting the date and time for a referendum to consider and act upon a resolution with respect to increasing the appropriation and borrowing authorization for the construction, furnishing and equipping of a new middle school and central offices, if approved by the Board of Finance.

All in favor.

**M. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. March 8, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

**MOTION** made by J. Donohue and **SECONDED** by J. Henahan to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 8, 2023.

All in favor.

**N. RESIGNATIONS**

**O. APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS**

Appointments:

1. **Planning and Zoning Commission**

a. Douglas Kalinowski (R), alternate member for a term expiring April 1, 2025

**MOTION** made by J. Donohue and **SECONDED** by J. Henahan to appoint Douglas Kalinowski as an alternate member to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a term expiring April 1, 2025.

All in favor.

**P. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

None.

**Q. ADJOURN**

**MOTION** made by J. Donohue and **SECONDED** by J. Henahan to adjourn.

All in favor.

The meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Amanda Calve  
Secretary

Attachment A



*Office of the Mayor*

Nathaniel White Building  
41 West Street  
Cromwell, CT 06416

*Letter of Commendation*

Dear Mr. Marchinkoski:

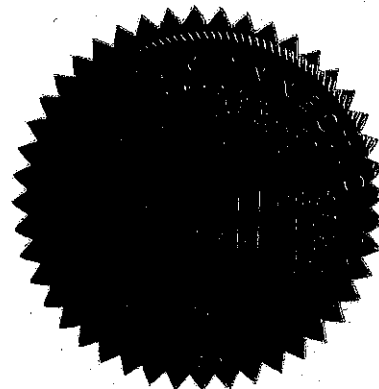
We would like to thank you for donating your time and energy over the past few months to picking up and disposing of over 100 bags of litter, several large pieces of plastic, styrofoam and over 15 tires. The dedication you have shown in cleaning up the Town has not gone unnoticed.

By working with the Town's Transfer Station/Recycling Center to properly dispose of the trash, the Town has become a cleaner place and your efforts are greatly appreciated.

The Town of Cromwell would like to express its sincere gratitude and commend you on a job well done! Therefore, we are presenting you with this Letter of Commendation.

Sincerely,

  
Steve Fortenbach  
Mayor



**Calve, Amanda**

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**From:** Celina Kelleher <celinakelleher2004@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 6, 2023 2:49 PM  
**To:** Calve, Amanda; S Fortenbach (Personal)  
**Subject:** Public Comment for tonight's special meeting

Hi Amanda - please distribute this correspondence to the town council members prior to the meeting this evening. I do not believe there is a public comment agenda item, but Mayor Fortenbach informed me that he would read this into the minutes.

Dear Mayor Fortenbach and town council members,

I am writing on behalf of the Cromwell Board of Education to express our collective commitment to our school resource officer model at Cromwell Public Schools. Considering that the Cromwell police department is not currently in a position to continue the same coverage we had for the past ten years, we were able to hire a former Cromwell police officer as an armed security guard (former school resource officer in Cromwell) to tide us over with the support of our town and police chief. However, the goal remains to have our SRO's return as soon as possible and we are NOT considering replacing them with additional armed security guards. Our police department has remained in close contact with our district and has continued to patrol and respond as needed. It is the shared hope and plan of the BOE & Cromwell Police Department that by the time school starts in September our SRO's will be put back in their roles. As it is of the utmost importance to reinstate our SRO's into the school system, we are working with the Town Manager and police department to monitor the situation.

When our town made the decision to fund an additional SRO in 2014, there was a lengthy discussion about the benefits of having a trained school resource officer who reports into our Cromwell police chief. It was a joint decision and we have never strayed from that path. We have never sought to cut funding for our SRO's despite challenging budget years, which stresses the importance our district and town places on these positions.

We are in a difficult position, and we do realize it is not specific to just Cromwell. However, there are things that can be done to make our best efforts to resolve the problem. Our board would like to urge the Cromwell Town Council to consider taking measures to retain and attract officers to our town. At a recent town council meeting, a bonus after one year of service was put on the agenda for approval but is pending the outcome of the police union negotiation process. After seeing the comparable salaries of those in our demographic reference group, there is some concern that if approved it may not be enough to attract applicants or keep officers from seeking employment elsewhere as we are already third from the bottom on the salary scale across the board.

The Cromwell Board of Education does not claim to know the answer to this predicament, but we would simply like to advocate on behalf of our SRO's in hopes we can continue our mutual goals of keeping our town and children safe.

Respectfully,

Celina Kelleher  
Cromwell Board of Education Chair



**Calve, Amanda**

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**From:** Forte1977 <forte1977@comcast.net>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, April 12, 2023 5:06 PM  
**To:** Calve, Amanda; Steve Forte  
**Subject:** Bob Haughton public comment

My name is Robert Anthony Haughton. I was born on February 3, 1969, in Sandy Bay, Clarendon, Jamaica. My mother is Sybil Clarke, and my father is Levi Haughton. My parents have since passed on.

At the age of 7, I was living with my father when he suddenly passed away. I then went on to live with my aunt Herga, who was a teacher at a prominent school ( Glenmuir Prep). A few years later, I then went on to live with my mother in a rural area of Jamaica called (Point Hill in St. Catherine). I started attending Point Hill All Age School. At the age of 12, I sat the common entrance level at which I earned a spot at the St. Catherine High School.

While at St. Catherine High School, I found my passion in track and field. I became a part of the school's track and field team. I graduated high school in 1986. I pursued to become a police officer in my country and later migrated a few years (1988) to the United States of America, where I settled in Hartford, Connecticut.

In 1988, I worked at Mount Sinai Hospital as a Dietary Aide Worker and later transitioned over to being a Transport Orderly for approximately 8 1/2 years. I later became a Correctional Officer with the State of Connecticut that lasted for 4 1/2 years. In 2001, I became a police officer (first black) for the Cromwell Police Department, where I have been working for the past 21 plus years.

I have recently retired from the Cromwell Police Department. Upon requesting a retirement ID and badge, I was informed by Chief Lamontagne that I have to do 25 years of service or a medical retirement to get the items requested. I was told that there was no exception.

I know there is nothing in writing regarding retirement for an ID and a badge. I am not looking for any special treatment from the town of Cromwell.

I generously worked for the town of Cromwell for approximately 22 years, and without a doubt, I would do it all over again. I know for sure the citizens appreciated my services as a police officer.

Chief Lamontagne has the discretion to grant me the ID and badge. I am not looking for no special treatment, just some form of apprection. I would definitely like an ID as some form of consolation or something to look back, and I say, "I once worked for the Cromwell Police Department."

Is it possible to share my letter with the Cromwell town council to proceed further. I would definitely appreciate it.

Retired Police Officer

Robert Haughton

Andrew Holt

Town Council Meeting- Public Comment

April 12, 2023

In regards to the new middle school project, I believe that there are several design missteps in the current rendering that need to be addressed before moving forward. Also in the current economic climate with, cost of materials and labor at an all-time high, as well as ever rising inflation, I don't think anyone can say with any real certainty, how much this project will actually cost. Also future projects would be impossible for the next decade due to the unprecedented amount of debt the town would be taking on. Projects like ECS or a new senior center, will be ignored for the next 20 years. I think that before we start dumping millions into this project, we need to step back and look at what is the best path forward for the town and its citizens.

So the current design calls for a completely new building and a complete demolition of the existing middle school. The new and old buildings are roughly the same size, with the new sitting right next to the old. However, the new structure is a completely different footprint and comes up short in several areas. First the gym is considerably smaller with a lot less bleacher space. The current space has four large sets of fold out bleachers on each side of the basketball

court, to accommodate hundreds of people at capacity. The new school appears to have three rows on one side of the gym, accommodating a few dozen spectators. Now the response to that change is that the middle school was the high school and the eds spec doesn't require a full size gym. My question is, why would the town build a new facility, to be a downgrade from the old facility in such a glaring way. Regardless of its original intent, the town has the asset of a full size gym, one of two in town, that can be utilized not only for full school activities, but park and rec and others uses as well. We have this asset, so why would we bulldoze it and build a smaller, inferior one in its place?? We are losing value to the community by building smaller to replace larger. The same could have been said for the auditorium, until recently the smaller size design flaw was acknowledged and then the capacity of the auditorium was increased from 350 to 500, to match the size of the current auditorium, significantly increasing the cost estimates of the project. Another design flaw is the second floor on the north classroom wing of the new design, WHY?? . Now this would be the only school in town with a second floor, requiring staircases and an elevator, which add to the cost of the project. With a better design, the second floor should be eliminated along with a costly elevator that needs regular maintenance and yearly inspections by specialized technicians at additional expense to the town. Also

putting the kids on staircases will increase the amount of injuries from slip and falls, as well as an area of conflict between students pushing and shoving to get up and down the stairs and limited opportunity for supervision by staff in these confined areas. In other words, this design is DECREASING safety of students and staff, just with this design flaw. Another issue that the current new design doesn't really address at all is the VERY problematic main entrance and exit to the school on Geer St. From the beginning, due to the hill east of the entrance, that driveway has been the source of accidents and hundreds of near misses. There are a number of reasons for that, speeding on Geer Street being the main one, because no one goes the 25 mph speed limit down the long straight road. Also, having the entrance where it is, causes a major traffic jam and a dangerous situation every morning and afternoon for parents dropping off and picking up their kids. The change I've heard from the committee, is a 3 way stop sign at the current entrance, which will only increase rear end collisions of people driving too fast over the hill and slamming on their brakes for a new, blind stop sign. In other words, it just makes a bad situation worse. I think that any new design should include a new entrance and separate exit on Herbert Porter Rd and the elimination of the Geer Street driveway all together. At Herbert Porter Rd and Geer St, the sight lines are much better, creating safer situation for everyone and

also a better flow of traffic. Now these are just some of the issue so far from the "renderings" available.

So from what I understand, that if we move forward with this project, then the towns bond rating will go down significantly, due to the unprecedented amount of debt the town would be taking on. The town would be looking at an inability to borrow more money for any other projects for at least the next decade, due to the massive amount of debt the town would take on, due to the cost and scope of this project. Thus, putting the town in a weak position for growth over the next 15-20 years, to make other improvements and spearhead other initiatives. So what about ECS?? ECS is the same age and in the same shape as CMS, and if we move forward with this project in its current scope, then nothing can be done with ECS or anything else for years, so what do we do???

Now I'm not denying that improvements and updates need to be made. In looking at the committee's proposal, renovation needs to be on the table. From the numbers provided by the committee, renovation cost is higher, but state reimbursement is also higher and the town and taxpayers of Cromwell will save more, if we renovate instead of build. On slide 5 from the February 8, 2023 meeting, the slide says that a new building will cost \$5 million less than a limited

renovation, and over \$3million less than a “renovation as new”. However, in the next line of the table, it says that the state will reimburse the town more if we renovate the existing structure, shaving \$3.2 million off the cost to the taxpayers if we renovate rather than build. Now the committee has said the due to the additional logistics and maneuvering of students around construction, renovation was taken off the table. I think this is where this project may have taken a wrong turn. In taking a step back and looking at all the needs of the town, I think that if Cromwell is going to spend millions of dollars, we could do the following in order to meet ALL the needs of the town’s current school infrastructure and try to resolve all the issues, instead of one. What I propose is that Cromwell goes back to a 3 school model and add athletic complex with a football field at the high school, as well as a new senior center, here’s how we can do it.

1. Build additional classrooms at the middle school to accommodate the middle school population (roughly double the classrooms) but eliminate the new auditorium, gym, library, kitchen, cafeteria, and offices.
2. Once the classrooms are complete, move the middle school kids into the new classrooms and renovate the exiting Middle school to current standards.

3. Once completed, Move the kids and staff from Woodside Intermediate into the renovated Cromwell Middle School.
4. Make Woodside Intermediate ready to become the new elementary school (renovate if necessary), once ready, move ECS students and staff to Woodside as the new elementary school.
5. Once ECS is empty, renovate part of ECS to create a new Senior Center, demo the now unused portion of the old building and build the new Cromwell Athletic Complex with new fields and additional parking at the ECS site, right next to the high school.

Now I understand that this is a lot more than the current proposal, however it doesn't have to be all done at once, and puts the town on a path where all the needs are met. By doing things incrementally, and hoping that costs may come down over time, the town can complete these projects in stages and not spend massively and all at once. Also by renovating and increasing the size and population of the middle school, the town should be able to receive more state money, reducing the cost to the taxpayers. It solves both school problems instead of one, and we are utilizing and keeping unique and expensive infrastructure that we already have (i.e. Full gym, auditorium, library, cafeteria, kitchen, offices). We are not just bulldozing and building new, thus reducing new construction costs.

The assets of the town need to be protected, and if they can still serve an educational and/or public use moving forward, then we need to keep what is already there. We have a unique situation in Cromwell, where class sizes get smaller as they enter high school, not bigger. With a percentage of each class going out of town for other high schools like Mercy, Xavier, and Vinal, the size of each class meets their peak in the middle school. Having full size gyms and other facilities is essential at the middle school, and if we cut corners on size now, we could be making things worse, not better, for students and staff in the generations to come.

Putting this decision to a second referendum vote and letting the people decide the course the town will take is the right thing to do and I commend the town council for making that choice. I'd like to ask everyone to please take the time now, while the cost of labor and materials is at an all-time high, to come up with a long term and permanent solutions to make Cromwell the best it can be. Please, do not rush to decisions because of perceived legislative "deadlines" on a flawed plan that spends too much and doesn't meet the needs of Cromwell. At the council meeting on April 6, 2024, it was said that if the town incurs the amount of debt that the middle school project would cost, the town will be unable to do any other bonded projects until 2037, due to a decrease in the



towns bond rating. If we as a town make a mistake here, and spend more money and get into more debt than ever before in the history of this town, on a plan with no vision to the future, we will regret it when we pay our property taxes and we will have wasted a chance to make Cromwell the jewel of Central Connecticut for years to come.

Andrew Holt- Town Council Meeting Public Comment- April 12, 2023

Members of the town council,

Good evening. I am here to express my deep concern about the environmental issues that we face in our town, regarding the Mattabassett District wastewater facility. I hope to respectfully draw your attention to the issues that are affecting the lives of many residents.

Firstly, the frequent smell of H<sub>2</sub>S gas (rotten egg) has been a persistent problem for a long time, and it is causing discomfort and frustration among the people living in the affected areas. The residents have been unable to enjoy their properties, and it is essential to note that this is not a minor inconvenience but rather a major issue that needs immediate attention.

Moreover, the health concerns related to H<sub>2</sub>S gas are alarming. The residents have reached the odor threshold, which is a clear indication that the gas is present within our community. It is unacceptable for residents to be subjected to similar levels of H<sub>2</sub>S gas as workers at the plant. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has set threshold limits for workers' exposure to H<sub>2</sub>S gas to prevent any adverse health effects. However, residents are exposed to H<sub>2</sub>S gas in their homes, where they are supposed to be safe and protected. This situation is unacceptable.

Secondly, we are concerned about errors in the data due to faulty equipment. Faulty equipment can result in incorrect readings and reports, which can lead to wrong decisions being made. We urge you to investigate this matter with a sense of urgency and take the necessary steps to ensure accurate data collection.

Thirdly, we are very concerned about the unacceptable time taken in fixing faulty equipment. It is understandable to expect delays when maintaining equipment, but a 5-month delay is unacceptable. The equipment must be fixed promptly to prevent further issues and ensure the safety of residents.

We understand that some residents may not have been filing complaints as they should have, and this may have contributed to the delay in addressing these concerns. Moving forward, I encourage all residents to file reports whenever they experience issues related to environmental concerns. By working together and keeping a record of these complaints, we can hold the Mattabassett board accountable and ensure prompt and effective action.

In light of these concerns, <sup>I</sup>we humbly request that the town council reach out to the Mattabassett board and demand an expected plan for improvement. We must take immediate action to address these issues and prevent further damage to our environment and the health of our residents.

In conclusion, I thank you for taking the time to listen to our concerns, and I hope that you will take the necessary steps to address these issues. Let's work together to create a better and safer environment for everyone.

Thank you.

~~Over of me? If no then ask why~~

March 15, 2023

Linda Koch  
39 Elm Rd.  
Cromwell, CT 06416

Dear Linda:

Enclosed is a USB drive with the odor complaints and data from the Hydrogen Sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) meters located on The Mattabassett District fence line. There are two (2) meters; one is on the northwest area fence line and the other is on the northeast area fence line. Both the meters grab a sample every fifteen (15) minutes.

There is some downtime with both meters that was due to maintenance or replacing parts. The northeast meter is missing data from January through May due to a faulty circuit board that needed to be replaced. There was a shipping delay that further extended the receipt and installation of the new circuit board. The northwest meter is missing data from August as well as from the beginning of December through the end of the year due to the meter being serviced.

Please reach out with any questions. My contact information is listed below.

Sincerely,



Ty Wagner  
Operations Manager  
The Mattabassett District  
245 Main Street  
Cromwell, CT 06416  
[TWagner@mattdist.org](mailto:TWagner@mattdist.org)  
(860) 635-5550, ext. 214