

## **Town of Lowell**

### **Department of Public Works - Wastewater Treatment Plant**

#### **Title: *Plant Operator (Non-Exempt, Regular Full-Time)***

*Revised June 29, 2022*

#### **POSITION PURPOSE**

The Plant Operator works under the direct supervision of the plant Superintendent and generally under the direction of the Director of Public Works. The Plant Operator oversees the daily operation and maintenance and repair of the wastewater treatment plant.

#### **PRIMARY JOB FUNCTIONS**

- Daily plant process control to assure plant quality measures are met
- Performs laboratory testing including: ph, Dissolve Oxygen , TSS, chlorine, total solids, SOC, VOC, fecal particulates, and various others.
- Monitors the performance of all equipment, gauges and charts in the treatment plant to include recording statistical data concerning plant operations
- Diagnoses and trouble-shoots problems thought the plant
- Calibrates, modifies, or repairs instrumentation and control equipment, including recorders, and other water quality monitoring equipment
- Collects samples and identifies concentrations of chemical, physical, or biological characteristics of wastewater required in accordance with local, state, and federal requirements.
- Maintains multiple chemical levels and makes adjustments accordingly to ensure a safe discharge level
- Conducts daily plant inspections
- Maintains operations, repair and maintenance records
- Cleans plant process equipment including clarifier weirs, bar screens, storm basin
- Responsible for lime sludge readings and adjustments accordingly
- Responsible for ensuring all plant equipment is running properly and make repairs as needed
- Conducts an inventory of plant chemicals and supplies
- Sludge processing and transport

#### **SECONDARY JOB FUNCTIONS**

- Maintains buildings and grounds, performs necessary repairs, as well as yard maintenance and housekeeping
- Assists street crews in for locating sanitary sewers lines for maintenance and construction activities
- Inspects, repairs and maintains sanitary lift stations weekly to ensure proper operation
- Performs minor maintenance on wastewater treatment plant equipment
- Assists with the development bio-solid application in the spring and fall

- Plows snow
- Serves as the lab technician on weekends and vacation
- Performs other public works functions as required or assigned

### **EQUIPMENT KNOWLEDGE**

- Must have the ability to operate machines such as pumps, generators, bio-solid solids mixer, portable pumps, drill press
- Must have the ability to operate all department vehicles, lawn mowers, sewer cleaning equipment, wastewater treatment equipment, and lab equipment

### **CRITICAL SKILLS/EXPERTISE**

- Must have a knowledge of wastewater treatment process and process control to assure proper quality measures
- Must be able to listen to differences in sounds throughout the plant
- Must have knowledge of bio-solids and what the plant process should look like during all seasons and conditions
- Must have knowledge of laboratory equipment and their use in performing required tests, to include the ability to apply this knowledge in performing tests
- Must have a basic knowledge of electricity and the required meters to install/repair and trouble-shoot wiring/electrical equipment
- Must have knowledge of pumps motors, blowers, and other wastewater equipment and their effective operation
- Must be knowledgeable of department policies, procedures, and standards and the ability to support them
- Must have the ability to read and accurately follow diagrams and detailed instructions to repair hydraulic, and mechanical systems
- Must have the ability to communicate effectively, both in writing and verbally to document lab findings, maintain records and work with department personnel

### **EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

- Must have a High School diploma or GED equivalent with related technical training, and related work experience
- Must possess a valid driver's license.
- Possess or the ability to possess certification as a Wastewater Plant Operator, Class IV

### **REPORTING RESPONSIBILITY**

- Reports directly to the Wastewater Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent and from

time to time the Street Superintendent/Assistant Superintendent.

## **PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS**

- Physical requirements expected are identified as heavy work which may require the incumbent to lift objects heavier than 50 pounds for extended periods
- May be required to climb, stoop, crawl, crouch, kneel, and/or pull

## **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

- May be required to work where he/she is exposed to temperatures below 32 degrees and above 100 degrees for periods of more than one hour
- May be required to work in a confined space
- May be exposed to noise, vibration, hazards, oil, and atmospheric conditions in which one of the following affects the respiratory system or skin: fumes, odors, dusts, mists, gases, or poor ventilation

## **SAFETY EQUIPMENT**

- May be required to be use/operate such safety related items as: hard hat, rubber gloves, ear plugs, safety glasses, welder hood, gloves, harness, ropes, air monitor, SCBA, confined space entry equipment, wear a respirator, and laboratory safety equipment
- Required to work in a safe manner in accordance with OSHA Standards.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I acknowledge that the above description is a representation of the major duties and responsibilities of this position.

Employee Printed Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Employee Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Employee's Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_