

**WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2012**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Steven N. Wawruck, Jr., Jeffrey Ives, Denise Balboni, Dennis Gragnolati, Kevin Brace, Robert Crochetiere, William Hamel, and Gary Laurito

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Dana Steele, Town Engineer, Ex Officio

**ALSO PRESENT:** Scott C. Lappen, Director of Public Works, Ex Officio  
Gary Kuczarski, Superintendent  
Heather Kane, Recording Secretary

**CALL TO ORDER:** Steven N. Wawruck, Jr. called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**MINUTES: December 13, 2011 Regular Monthly Meeting:** Kevin Brace made a motion: **TO ACCEPT THE DECEMBER 13, 2011 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES** - Seconded by Gary Laurito. Without further discussion, the motion to approve the minutes passed 7 – 0.

**PUBLIC INPUT:** None

**FINANCIAL REPORTS:**

- a. **December 2011 Cash Reports, b. CD Investments:** Gary Laurito made a motion: **TO ACCEPT THE FINANCIAL REPORTS AS PRESENTED** - Seconded by William Hamel. Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

Steven N. Wawruck, Jr. informed the Authority that he is trying to set up a meeting for Thursday with Mrs. Oddo (who resides on Leslie Street), the Town Attorney, Scott Lappen and himself. Mrs. Oddo requested a meeting with First Selectmen Wawruck regarding remuneration of the blockage that occurred on Leslie Street. The Town's insurance company denied her claim. Denise Balboni asked what happened with the resident going to Greif for reimbursement. Mr. Lappen learned this morning that the Greif corporate office is not willing to pay the claim for fear that it would set a precedent for future incidents. Greif may be willing to make an internal cash donation for approximately half the claim but that would strictly be between Greif and the homeowner. In regards to the problem, a meeting has been set for Mr. Lappen and Gary Kuczarski to meet again with Greif at 1 p.m. on January 31<sup>st</sup> to discuss the proposed filtering system.

Residents should contact their insurance company when they need to file a claim. Their insurance company would then file a claim with the Town Clerk who in turn sends it on to the Town's insurance company. The Town's insurance company would review the claim to see if there was any negligence on the Town's side. When there is no fault through the Town, the Town's insurance company will not pay the claim. That is when the resident's insurance company would go after the source of the problem. Denise Balboni asked if the Town is basically stating that it will do everything in its power to maintain the sewer lines when the resident pays the sewer user bill. Steven N. Wawruck, Jr. said the Town is making such a statement but it must be made aware of a problem before it can fix it. Now if the Town neglects fixing the problem after becoming aware of it, then the Town is responsible. With the sewer lines, there is routine maintenance occurring on a regular basis. Known problem areas are maintained on a more frequent basis.

Dennis Gragnolati arrived at 5:37 p.m.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. **Water Pollution Control Plan:** Gary Kuczarski informed the Authority that the revised Water Pollution Control Plan was sent out in the packets. Attorney Storms did review the Plan and

made some changes to the wording in sections 2 and 3.5. Other than those few changes Attorney Storms is okay with the Plan. Jeffrey Ives made a motion: **TO ADOPT THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL PLAN AS PRESENTED** – Seconded by William Hamel. Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously. Each member of the Authority then signed the Water Pollution Control Plan.

- b. **Board of Health/ CT DEEP: Septic Systems & distance to available sewer:** This topic arose at last month's meeting in regards to the section down off of River Road. Gary Kuczarski talked to both the Board of Health North Central District in Enfield and the CT DEEP in regards to their regulations. There are no regulations that state one must connect with the Town sewer system if the system falls within a certain distance. If the septic system still works effectively, the soils are good and there is no contamination, it is up to the WPCA to decide if they want to extend the sewer system. William Hamel asked if a distance requirement for hooking up to the sewer system is in the Town's Sewer Use Ordinance. This will need to be looked into. But in regards to proximity to available sewer versus septic system, whether it's 1500 feet or 20 feet, it may come down to cost for the residents as long as it is not being enforced by the Board of Health or CT DEEP. For residents, the decision may be solely based on economics: is it cheaper to put in a new septic system or to hook up to the Town's sewer system. If there is a septic system failure, the Board of Health and the CT DEEP would get involved. Should a resident just want to connect to the Town's sewer system, they would incur the cost.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- a. **Obtaining quotes/estimates for possible future bonding of capital projects:** Gary Kuczarski would like to obtain estimates for a number of projects (he has 54 projects on a list) that would begin on or after Fiscal Year 2013-2014. Steven N. Wawruck, Jr. asked what the validity of the quotes would be as the prices could change before the commencement of the projects. At this point, it would be a best guess and a starting point. There are about six projects that the WPCF would not be able to get a good estimate on until the tanks are drained. It is hard to know how much any of these Plant upgrades will cost due to the size of the project. Starting to obtain estimates now will give Mr. Kuczarski plenty of time to plan, do some homework and check into bonding. Depending on the estimates for these projects, the WPCA may not need to bond them. The projects may just need to be spread out over a couple of years.

For this fiscal year, \$132,000 was budgeted for capital projects. Gary Kuczarski asked if the WPCA would like to stay near that figure for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 so as not to affect the rate. Steven N. Wawruck Jr. stated that such a decision ties into the budget process and that the WPCA would need to look at the operational needs and capital needs, weigh the two together and to determine how much to budget for capitals. It could go either up or down. Mr. Wawruck noted that capitals need to be addressed or else it could lead to further problems in the future. The WPCA cannot continue for very long with minimum or a 0% increase in budget. The average person does not understand all the moving parts that need to be maintained at the Plant.

Steven N. Wawruck, Jr. asked what type of process Mr. Kuczarski will use to obtain these quotes/estimates. Mr. Kuczarski stated that Tighe & Bond has given decent estimates on recent capital projects. Tighe and Bond usually gives the Plant a ballpark figure not to exceed knowing that the WPCA will work with the contractor on the project. If there is an issue, Tighe & Bond will send someone to the Plant to resolve it. William Hamel asked if there is anyone else other than Tighe & Bond that does this type of work. There are many other firms that do this type of work but they do not have the knowledge and experience Tighe & Bond has of this Plant. Steven N. Wawruck, Jr. does not want to just accept what Tighe & Bond says without looking further into it. He just wants the WPCA's credibility to be beyond reproach.

Scott Lappen asked if anyone else was interested in going to the awards ceremony which is being held on January 25<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Lappen will be attending. Steven N. Wawruck Jr. has a Policy Board meeting for which he is the legislative chairman. He will find out what the agenda is for that meeting.

Robert Crochetiere thanked Gary Kuczarski for giving Dennis Gagnolati and himself a tour of the Plant. He found it very interesting and knowledgeable. Due to the tour, Mr. Crochetiere has more knowledge today than when he first walked into the building making him feel more comfortable seating on the Commission.

He was really impressed with the computer system and the back-up. Mr. Crochetiere noted that the WPCF operators do a lot of work on their own saving the Town a lot of money.

At 6:00 p.m., there being no other business to discuss, William Hamel made a motion: **TO ADJOURN THE MEETING** - Seconded by Denise Balboni. Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Kane  
Recording Secretary