

**WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2012**

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Gary Laurito
Dana Steele, Town Engineer, Ex Officio

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

CALL TO ORDER: Steven N. Wawruck, Jr. called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

MINUTES: November 13, 2012 Regular Monthly Meeting: William Hamel made a motion: **TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 13, 2012 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING** - Seconded by Jeffrey Ives. Without further discussion, the motion to approve the minutes passed 5 – 0 with two abstentions for Denise Balboni and Kevin Brace.

PUBLIC INPUT: None

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- a. **November 2012 Cash Reports:** Jeffrey Ives made a motion: **TO ACCEPT THE NOVEMBER CASH REPORTS AND THE CD INVESTMENT UPDATE AND CHANGES** - Seconded by Dennis Gragnolati. Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.
- b. **CD Investments – update and changes:** Please see item (a) under Financial Reports.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **Delinquent Accounts:** This item is in regards to the discussion from October's meeting concerning whether legal action should commence when a single property reaches the threshold or when multiple properties, owned by the same person, cumulatively reach the threshold. Attorney Storms recommends legal action should begin when a single property reaches the threshold. Each property should be treated as a separate entity. Heather Kane may inform Attorney Storms of other delinquent properties owned by the same person so that the owner may be made aware of those accounts but legal action should not begin on a property until it reaches the threshold.
- b. **Dexter's Flow Monitoring:** This item is in regards to the discussion from last month's meeting concerning flow monitoring at Dexter's Pump Station. Paul Dombrowski presented his proposal to the Authority. When Mr. Dombrowski previously talked to Mr. Kuczarski about the situation at Dexter's, it became apparent that it would be very expensive to upgrade the station. Part of the cost (about \$500,000) would be associated with increasing the station's capacity to handle the extra flow that comes into the area. In addition to the station's upgrade, the Plant's hydraulics may also need to be upgraded to handle the greater load. Logically, it would be better to see if there was a reasonable way to reduce the flow and therefore reduce cost. Mr. Dombrowski recommends assessing the flow, at a reasonable cost, in order to determine what would be the most logical course going forward before any money is spent either upgrading the station or performing more extensive, and therefore expensive, investigative work.

Mr. Dombrowski's proposal includes three steps. Step one is putting the flow monitoring device in at Dexter's Pump Station. This device would capture the flow at 15 minute intervals. Step two is gathering the flow data and correlating it with ground water levels, precipitation amounts, etc. over

a 6 month period. Step three is taking that information and extrapolating the findings in order to determine what the plan should be going forward. This last step would not occur unless there were enough significant weather events to develop some correlations. This summer would be the earliest this would happen since the flow is to be monitored from mid-January through mid-June as a minimum six month window. That window could be extended, without much more cost, in order to capture data from enough significant weather events. The spikes in flow are definitely weather related. There are different pathways that water can enter the system and understanding the correlation in time between weather events and spikes in flow will help Mr. Dombrowski to determine the manner in which the water is getting into the system. Further investigation would be required to find the actual source.

Inflow comes from precipitation; infiltration comes from cracked pipes and ground water. There is also the in-between which is called rainfall induced infiltration. This occurs when rain falls or snow melts as the ground water table rises at a rapid rate. If the flow monitoring shows that the water is coming from an inflow source, the next logical step would be to put flow monitors at various locations in the lines going into Dexter's in order to narrow down the location of the source. For a good study, weather permitting, one would want 5-7 monitors out in the lines for 10-14 weeks at the cost of \$800 to \$1,000 per monitor for every week. The State may fund part of the study but it could still be expensive. If water is entering the sewer system from a direct inflow source such as a roof leader, it would be relatively easy and inexpensive to fix once the source is found. If flow monitoring shows that water is coming into the system through cracked pipe (infiltration), it will be harder and much more expensive to fix. Ground water is a big issue when there is a high ground water table and then there is a rain event that may not be significant but is enough to raise that table. It may be more cost effective for the Town to upgrade the station with bigger pumps than to fix thousands of feet of cracked pipe, though the infiltration would affect the Plant's nitrogen credits. It is a balancing act. If bigger pumps are installed, it could require a change to the electrical service, controls and generator costing close to \$500,000 dollars. If the WPCA can find a way to avoid such a cost, that would be good. By understanding how the water is entering the system, Mr. Dombrowski will be able to better recommend what the path should be going forward.

As for the cost of this project, \$9,000.00 would be billed this fiscal year and \$6,000.00 would be billed next fiscal year. The \$9,000 would be covered by unexpended funds in this year's budget. Transfers between budget line items can be made at the end of the year. Mr. Dombrowski hopes that the information gathered from the flow monitoring will save the WPCA money in the long run. The Authority is in consensus to move forward with the project.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Billing System Update:** Gary Kuczarski informed the Authority that the billing system has been running very slowly, freezing up, and knocking users out of the system. The billing system, which is about 8 or 9 years old, runs on a 32-bit platform when everything now is 64-bits. Mrs. Kane sent Blair from Connecticut Management (who created and maintains the system) an e-mail to see if there is a plan to upgrade the system. There is a chance Blair may be retiring at some point in the next few years so it is something that needs to be looked into for the future. Mrs. Kane is waiting on a response from Blair.

A proposed schedule for WPCA meetings from February 2013 through January 2014 was sent to the Authority prior to the meeting. William Hamel made a motion: **TO ADOPT THE MEETING SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY 2013 THROUGH JANUARY 2014** – Seconded by Denise Balboni. Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

At 5:58 p.m., there being no other business to discuss, Jeffrey Ives made a motion: **TO ADJOURN THE MEETING** - Seconded by Robert Crochetiere. Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Kane
Recording Secretary