

**TOWN OF WINDSOR LOCKS
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2014**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeffrey Ives, Robert Crochetiere, Gary Laurito, Michael Russo and Denise Balboni

MEMBERS ABSENT: Steven N. Wawruck, Jr., Dennis Gragnolati and William Hamel
Dana Steele, Town Engineer, Ex Officio

ALSO PRESENT: Scott C. Lappen, Director of Public Works, Ex Officio
Gary Kuczarski, Superintendent
John Ferrari, Recording Secretary
Attorney Scott Storms, WPCA Attorney
Paul Dombrowski, Woodard & Curran
Mark W. Peszko, Resident

CALL TO ORDER: At 5:45 p.m., Jeffrey Ives called the meeting to order.

Michael Russo made a motion: **TO MODIFY THE AGENDA BY MOVING ITEM (A) UNDER NEW BUSINESS UP TO THE NEXT ITEM OF BUSINESS ON THE AGENDA** – Seconded by Denise Balboni. Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Appeals

- 1) **9 Chamberlain Crossing:** Mr. Mark Peszko presented his appeal to the Authority requesting a reduction in his sewer usage from 56K gallons to 32K gallons due to water used for irrigation, house washing and other outdoor activities. He understood that the WPCA eliminates the highest quarter, which is often the quarter people are watering their lawn or filling swimming pools, and averages out the three lowest quarters to calculate the sewer usage bill. Mr. Peszko's increased usage spanned two quarters which resulted in a higher bill. When the two highest quarters are eliminated, the average over the past two and a half years is roughly 8K gallons per quarter. Mr. Peszko has lived in the home since 2008 yet he just installed a sprinkler system last year. Mr. Ives shared that it is common for residents to have two high quarters and that historically the Authority has recommended that a meter be installed on the irrigation system. Mr. Peszko was aware that the Authority recommends installing a meter which will help going forward but he is looking for a reduction on previous usage based on documentation that he provided to the Authority. Various members of the Authority reiterated that a meter would need to be installed on the irrigation system in order to subtract the water used by the irrigation system from the water usage reported by the Connecticut Water Company. After thanking the Authority for their time and consideration, Mr. Peszko left the meeting.

Mr. Ives stated that the remainder of the appeals and votes would come under Item 7 on the agenda.

MINUTES: July 8, 2014 Regular Monthly Meeting: Gary Laurito made a motion: **TO ACCEPT THE JULY 8, 2014 REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES AS PRESENTED** – Seconded by Robert Crochetiere. Without further discussion, the motion passed 4-0 with one abstention for Denise Balboni.

PUBLIC INPUT: None

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

- a. **July 2014 Cash Reports:** Gary Laurito made a motion: **TO ACCEPT THE JULY 2014 FINANCIAL REPORTS** – Seconded by Denise Balboni. Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

CORRESPONDENCE: Gary Kuczarski informed the Authority that Wednesday, August 20th will be John Ferrari's last day. He invited the Authority to John's farewell pizza party at noon on August 20th. Mr. Ives wished Mr. Ferrari all the best on his future endeavors.

OLD BUSINESS:

- a. **National League of Cities (NLC) – Service Line Warranty:** Scott Storms met with Gary Kuczarski and reviewed the information given to him in regards to this program. Legally, the documents look okay. Though the documents state that the WPCA will not be held responsible should anything go wrong, the WPCA can get sued for anything. The Authority needs to decide if it is ready to do brand name endorsements, basically standing behind one company stating that it is the best company and the Authority is recommending this company. Attorney Storms stated that this is not a legal decision but more a policy decision by the Authority. In his online research, Attorney Storms did not find anything negative about the company so this is not a commentary on whether this is a good company or a bad company; it is really a question of whether WPCA wants to get into brand name endorsements. Attorney Storms recommended, as the WPCA's lawyer, to err on the side of caution and not get involved in endorsing a product. He recommended that the WPCA does not allow the Town seal to be used on any correspondence from a private enterprise and that the WPCA does not provide a mailing list. Attorney Storms stated that the WPCA could educate the residents regarding their responsibility for the lateral up to the main and informing the residents that there are companies that provide a service that covers the cost of such repairs. The residents can then do their own research on such companies. The WPCA discussed Attorney Storm's recommendation and decided to not go forward with this program. Since there were no decisions or motions previously made regarding this program, it was not necessary to take a vote. Mr. Laurito stated that the program representatives should be notified of the WPCA's decision to not move forward with it. Mr. Kuczarski will send the representative a letter.
- b. **Clean Water Fund – Dexter's and Halfway House Pump Stations update:** Paul Dombrowski informed the Authority that the DEEP issued their final priority list in July and the Windsor Locks WPCA is on it. The loan program is still in place for the pumping stations. The DEEP is putting together a memo regarding the standard practices for this program as it is different than previous years. The DEEP will not be making any decisions until after this memo has been distributed. Mr. Dombrowski continues to contact our DEEP representative every week to see how it is coming along.
- c. **Mixer Project:** Previously the WPCA decided to move forward with preparing a package proposal to do a "design build" project to modify the mixers. In the course of preparing the proposal, Mr. Dombrowski got first cut prices from contractors of every type of equipment and packaged everything to one number which is approximately \$30,000 more than what was originally budgeted. Mr. Dombrowski wants to ensure that the WPCA is willing to proceed with the project if it cost anywhere from the budgeted amount to \$30,000 over the budgeted figure. The original budget was \$248,000 and the first-cut proposal was \$279,000. The increase from the original estimate (which was obtained about 18 months ago) is due to the addition of some installation work to the original process and the fact that contractor prices have increased by 10-12% over the past 18 months. Mr. Dombrowski did not want to assume that the WPCA would want to proceed with the project since there was an increase in cost. Mr. Kuczarski mentioned that there will be an additional cost (not included in the \$279,000 figure) for the fabrication of the two stainless steel ladders that will allow for confined space entry into the mixers. Mr. Kuczarski has received two estimates; one is slightly over \$11K and one is slightly under \$11K. Mr. Kuczarski is waiting for one more quote that he expects to receive by the end of this week. Gary Laurito made a motion: **TO ADJUST THE BUDGET [FOR THE MIXER PROJECT] TO A MAXIMUM OF \$290,000** – Seconded by Robert Crochetiere. Mr. Kuczarski mentioned that of the original \$248,000, \$51,000 was funded by money in the unallocated capitals account. Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously. Mr. Dombrowski asked if the WPCA

would allow Steven Wawruck to sign an agreement with Woodard & Curran up to \$279,000. The key schedule component in moving forward with this project is getting the mixers ordered as there is a very long wait time. Mr. Dombrowski would prefer not to wait another month to order the mixers. The Authority acknowledged the fact that Steven N. Wawruck, Jr., as President of the WPCA, is authorized to sign on behalf of the group.

NEW BUSINESS:

a. Appeals:

- 1) **9 Chamberlain Crossing:** Gary Laurito made a motion: **TO DENY THE APPEAL** - Seconded by Robert Crochetiere. Without further discussion, the motion passed with 4 votes in favor and 1 vote opposed.
- 2) **417 South Elm Street:** Michael Russo made a motion: **TO DENY THE APPEAL** - Seconded by Robert Crochetiere. Mr. Laurito stated that the resident intends to use less water than the previous owner. The Authority has previously discussed that this type of adjustment is something that should be handled during the sale of the property. Without further discussion, the motion passed with 5 votes in favor and 0 votes opposed.
- 3) **10 First Street:** Michael Russo made a motion: **TO DENY THE APPEAL** - Seconded by Robert Crochetiere. Without further discussion, the motion passed with 5 votes in favor and 0 votes opposed.
- 4) **60 Webb Street:** Michael Russo made a motion: **TO DENY THE APPEAL** - Seconded by Robert Crochetiere. Mr. Laurito requested that a letter be sent to the homeowner to notify them that the minimum usage charge for Sewer Use is stopped with the removal of the water meter. Without further discussion, the motion passed with 5 votes in favor and 0 votes opposed.

ADJOURNMENT: At 6:22 p.m., with no other business to discuss, Michael Russo made a motion: **TO ADJOURN THE MEETING** – Seconded by Robert Crochetiere. Without further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

John Ferrari
Recording Secretary