

Water Pollution Control Authority
December 14, 2011
Regular Meeting
Town Hall – Council Chambers

Members Present: Mr. Walter Gancarz
Mr. Mark Korman
Mr. John Perrotti
Mr. Thomas Scannell
Mr. Mark Witek

Members Absent: Mr. Tim Pelton (Chairman)
Mr. Steve Eberle

Others Present: Mr. Dennis Dievert, Superintendent, WPCD
Mr. Jon Pearson, AECOM

Vice Chairman Walter Gancarz called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Roll was called and a quorum determined. The assembled group recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Gancarz explained to the audience how to exit the chamber in the event of an emergency, in compliance with the Fire Marshal's order.

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications to come before the Authority.

APPLICATIONS

There were no applications to come before the Authority.

REPORTS FROM CHAIRMAN/STAFF

Mixville Pump Station

This project is still under warranty and the pump station is performing satisfactorily.

WPCD Influent Pump Station

Mr. Pearson informed the Authority that the contractor has satisfactorily completed the remaining punch list items. The pump station is operating well.

Mr. Witek moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve Estimate #13 of CH Nickerson in the amount of \$13,607.28 for work relating to the WPCD Influent Pump Station. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scannell and carried unanimously.

WPCD Plant Upgrade Design-Project Update

Mr. Pearson informed the Authority that design of the project is progressing in accordance with the direction of the Authority. Design is moving towards the 90% completion stage, which will be available in April.

Mr. Witek moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve Invoice #37189435 of AECOM in the amount of \$48,485.59 for work relating to the WPCD Plant Upgrade Design Project. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scannell and carried unanimously.

Cook Hill Pump Station Design Project

Mr. Mariusz Jedrychowski of Wright-Pierce addressed the Authority with an update on the Cook Hill Pump Station design. Last month he submitted the initial design report. He is now submitting Amendment No. 1 to the Engineering Agreement dated July 28, 2011 relating to 90% completion of the design improvements to the Cook Hill Road pump station.

Mr. Perrotti requested of Mr. Jedrychowski that the proposal be more detailed including a more detailed scope of the work involved. He noted that it is not the intention to hold up the project, but to be more specific in design details. Mr. Jedrychowski agreed to this request.

Mr. Korman inquired of the Authority as to whether this request is something new, or has always been in place for design professionals. He advised that the Authority not blindside one professional, but be more specific in its request for design proposals. Mr. Korman recommended that the Authority develop a more uniform format.

Mr. Gancarz stated that the proposal submitted is very generic in nature, and the Authority is requesting more specifics regarding scope of work and deliverables to the Authority. Mr. Perrotti commented that hopefully being more specific in design scope will result in less change orders to the project. He further noted that this should be an evolving process for the Authority, to always be improving design plans.

Mr. Korman opined that the format regarding what the Authority is requesting should come before a request to one design professional. Mr. Gancarz stated that the Authority is requesting that it be clear as to what is involved in the project, which will be mutually agreeable between the architect/engineer and the Authority. Mr. Perrotti stated that the goal is not to recreate the whole process, but to bring more specifics to the process. The goal is to improve the process as each project moves along. The goal is not to slow down the process at this point.

Mr. Gancarz offered that the fairest way to complete this design is to approve the Agreement subject to any mutually agreeable changes between the engineer and the

Authority. In response to a query from Mr. Korman, it was noted that this agreement has been reviewed by Town Counsel.

Mr. Jedrychowski stated that this agreement was developed using the Town's documents. He offered his willingness to work with the Water Pollution Control Authority on this endeavor.

Mr. Witek moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve Amendment #1, Task 2, to the agreement with Wright Pierce relating to design improvements at the Cook Hill Road pump station. This will bring the project to 90% design phase and is subject to mutually agreeable defined scope of work between Mr. Jedrychowski and Mr. Perrotti. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scannell and carried unanimously.

In response to a query from Mr. Korman, Mr. Jedrychowski responded that he is comfortable working with the Authority to develop a more clearly defined scope of work for this project.

Mr. Witek moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve Invoice #80003 of Wright Pierce in the amount of \$6,492.30 for work relating to design of the Cook Hill Road Pump Station Project. The motion was seconded by Mr. Korman and carried unanimously.

West Johnson Pump Station Design Project

Mr. Pearson informed the Authority that the conceptual design documents were sent to the Authority via e-mail this week. The document was a response to a request from the Authority for a more detailed basis for the estimate previously presented by AECOM. Mr. Dievert stated that he and Mr. Scott Hallier have reviewed the report and are in agreement that it is complete.

Mr. Scannell inquired as to whether the e-mail transmitted regarding AECOM's estimate becomes part of the official record. It was agreed that Attorney Andrew Lord be contacted to determine the legality of transmitting information via e-mail. It was noted that all e-mails are available via the Freedom of Information Act. Mr. Dievert commented that all correspondence, including e-mails, are kept on file.

For informational purposes it was stated that the e-mail contained a detailed description of construction costs for the West Johnson Avenue pump station. It was sent to the WPCA as well as Mr. Michelangelo and Mr. Dievert by Mr. Pearson and Mr. Chelton to clarify what costs are included.

Mr. Perrotti noted that costs will be developed to take this project to the next phase in terms of the scope of the project. Mr. Gancarz commented that the cost basis is included in the report from AECOM.

Mr. Witek moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve Invoice #37189411 of AECOM in the amount of \$4,400 for work relating to the West Johnson Avenue Pump Station project. The motion was seconded by Mr. Perrotti and carried unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Revenue New Fees

Mr. Dievert informed the Authority that Attorney Lord is working on how to incorporate the new fee structure for applications that come before the Authority into the Regulations. More information will be forthcoming at the next meeting.

Update on Phosphorus Meetings

Mr. Dievert updated the Authority on a coalition meeting regarding phosphorous removal. Representatives from the municipalities of Cheshire, Southington, Wallingford and Meriden were in attendance. Questions discussed related to why there is no regulation regarding fertilizers and what part the EPA will have in the regulations.

The coalition came up with three or four proposals for consideration by the DEP. One was a proposal that phosphorous removal in Meriden be funded by DEP, which would take some of the requirements off the other towns in the coalition.

Another issue discussed was the issue of permits, which when authorized will carry a 4-5 year window to complete requirements. It was proposed that the coalition towns agree to add chemicals to reduce phosphorous now, and in 4-5 years revisit the watershed at that time to collect more data. The coalition would also be involved in the watershed study. Members of the coalition feel that the current data is skewed because it only looks at one sample. It would be advantageous to see a model of the river calibrated with recent numbers.

Another meeting will be held with the four towns and Mr. Dievert and Mr. Michelangelo to further develop proposals to be submitted to the DEP. There is a large amount of money and pressure involved in phosphorous removal and it is a real concern to all four municipalities. There is not a lot of qualified data available to support requirements. Mr. Dievert opined that the DEP seemed open to looking at proposals, but it is unclear whether the EPA will be on board with it.

Mr. Dievert stated that watershed permits will be issued sometime between March and August of 2012. He is hopeful that proposals to the DEP and EPA will be successful. If so, it could mean a reduction of phosphorous via chemicals by 70 to 80 percent. Mr. Dievert will continue to update the Authority on the issue of phosphorous removal.

Plant Equipment Upgrade

Mr. Dievert informed the Authority that he is still working on plans for updating some equipment that will be necessary to run the plant until the project is approved. He has been spending a great deal of time bringing generators back to working condition after being used so much during the last storm.

Mr. Dievert stated that representatives from OSHA are in town and will be visiting the plant tomorrow. He does not feel the visit is in response to any issue, but more a routine visit.

Mr. Scannell complimented Mr. Dievert on the excellent information provided in the article relating to the plant upgrade in the Cheshire Herald.

NEW BUSINESS

Monthly Meeting Dates

After discussion the monthly meeting dates for 2012 were agreed upon by the Authority.

Mr. Witek moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve the monthly meeting dates as follows:

Wednesday, January 25, 2012
Wednesday, February 22, 2012
Wednesday, March 28, 2012
Wednesday, April 25, 2012
Wednesday, May 23, 2012
Wednesday, June 27, 2012
Wednesday, July 25, 2012
Wednesday, August 22, 2012
Wednesday, September 26, 2012
Wednesday, October 24, 2012
Wednesday, November 28, 2012
Wednesday, December 19, 2012
Wednesday, January 23, 2013

The motion to approve the meeting dates as amended was seconded by Mr. Scannell and carried unanimously.

Terms Ending

A discussion took place regarding three Authority members whose terms will be ending soon, Mr. Witek, Mr. Korman and Mr. Scannell. It is likely that Mr. Witek will step down but further discussion will take place when Mr. Pelton is present at the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Riverside/Applewood Project Appraisal

Mr. Dievert informed the Authority that Mr. Michelangelo sought proposals for completing the appraisals necessary before setting the assessment for the Riverside Drive/Applewood Drive sewer project. It appears that it will cost more than was originally authorized by the Authority. Mr. Korman commented that fees for appraisals have risen over the last few years.

Mr. Witek moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority authorize Mr. Michelangelo to seek a fee for appraisal of the properties involved in the Riverside Drive/Applewood Drive sewer project at a fee not to exceed \$5,500. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scannell and carried unanimously.

Mr. Dievert informed the Authority that the Town Council approved the freeze of the sewer use fee for those who qualify. This will affect approximately 200-300 seniors and the fee will be frozen at the current fee of \$335.00.

Chesprocott Information

Authority members received correspondence in their packets relating to septic system failures and repairs for the month of November. Mr. Dievert noted nothing of significance in the report.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Witek moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of November 16, 2011 as published, subject to correction. The motion was seconded by Mr. Perrotti.

Corrections:

Page 5, paragraph 6, line 1 should read, "Mr. Dievert estimated that it will cost approximately \$75,000 to do the necessary repairs to keep the plant in operation." The motion to approve the minutes, as amended, carried unanimously.

Mr. Witek moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve the minutes of the public hearing conducted on November 16, 2011 as published, subject to correction. The motion was seconded by Mr. Perrotti and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Korman moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority adjourn at 8:25 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scannell and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Walter Gancarz, Vice Chairman
Water Pollution Control Authority

Attest:

Susan F. Zwick

Distribution:

Members: W.P.C.A.
Michael Milone, Town Manager
David Schrumm, Town Council Liaison
Andrew Lord, Town Attorney
Donald Chelton/Jon Pearson, AECOM
Joseph Michelangelo, Ex-Officio Member
George Noewatne, Operations Manager
Dennis Dievert, Superintendent [WPCD](#)
Susan Zwick, Recording Secretary

