

Water Pollution Control Authority
November 28, 2012
Regular Meeting
Town Hall – Council Chambers

Members Present: Mr. Matt Bowman
Mr. Walter Gancarz
Mr. Mark Kasinskas
Mr. Tim Pelton (Chairman)
Mr. John Perrotti
Mr. Thomas Scannell

Members Absent: Mr. Steve Carroll

Others Present: Mr. Dennis Dievert, Superintendent, WPCD
Mr. Donald Chelton, AECOM

Chairman Pelton 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. Pelton 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

The Chair informed the Authority that he sent a thank you note to the Cheshire Herald in appreciation of their support and publicity regarding the referendum for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project. Mr. Pelton has invited Mr. Noewatne to attend WPCA meetings, but he has declined until the Director of Public Works position has been announced.

APPLICATIONS

60 Fieldstone Court

Mr. Ryan McAvoy of Milone and MacBroom addressed the Authority on behalf of the applicant. He stated that the applicant is seeking feasibility approval to connect an existing property to the sewer system. The building is currently a warehouse and the size of the system is very small.

It is anticipated that the property will be rented as a food distribution company for offsite distribution of foods. Mr. McAvoy stated that he is proposing to connect to the sewer via a force man and pump station. There is a possibility of connecting to Highland Avenue, or to run down Fieldstone Court. Fieldstone Court would be a 1,220 ft. connection and Highland Avenue would be a 1,200 ft. connection.

In response to a query from Mr. Dievert, Mr. McAvoy stated that there is a possibility of connecting to the building which is currently tied into the sewer system. Mr. Dievert questioned why the applicant would not like to sewer other buildings in the area as well. In response to a query from Mr. Bowman about the size of the force main, Mr. McAvoy stated that it will be 2-4 inches.

Mr. McAvoy will investigate the possibility of using the existing septic tank as a grease interceptor. After discussion it was the consensus of the Authority that it would be advantageous to have the sewer run down Prestige Court rather than connecting to Highland Avenue.

Mr. Dievert stated that the sewer should be designed and constructed as a gravity sewer. Also the adequacy of the current septic system needs to be evaluated to determine if it can handle the grease discharge.

In response to a query from the Authority, Mr. McAvoy stated that the sewer will be privately owned until it gets to the gravity section. There is a private easement on the property.

Mr. Pelton moved that the Cheshire WPCA has reviewed the application and submittals of Apple Valley Industrial Association Limited for Feasibility Approval For Extension of Public Sanitary Sewers. Based upon that review and based upon the recommendation of the Acting Director of Public Works, the WPCA has determined that the application and submittals detail a sanitary sewerage system which is generally capable of construction and which is capable of being connected to the Town of Cheshire public sanitary sewer system; therefore, the application is APPROVED, with the following conditions:

This Approval is preliminary and does not constitute conclusive nor final approval. The right to connect to the sewer system can only be gained by applying for, and obtaining approval of, Final Design Approval, an Award of Capacity, and a Sanitary Sewer Connection Permit.

1. All costs connected with the proposed sewer system shall be borne by the developer.
2. All transfers of property in the subject development shall be encumbered by written waiver by each grantee to any right to appeal any benefit assessment which the Town of Cheshire may levy on such property; however, each grantee may reserve the right of appeal regarding supplemental assessments that the Town may levy.
3. The application and submittals are incorporated and made a part of this Approval.
4. The proposed sanitary sewer system shall become a part of the public sanitary sewer system beginning at the existing manhole on Prestige Court where gravity discharge takes effect.

5. The construction will be based on Option 1, moving in an easterly direction to Prestige Drive and further assessment of the existing septic system will be done to determine if it is a suitable discharge point for F.O.G.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Scannell and carried unanimously.

650 Oak Avenue

Mr. Ryan McAvoy of Milone and MacBroom addressed the Authority on behalf of the applicant. Mr. Bowman informed the Authority that the applicant is his nephew, but he will not recuse himself from this discussion because he does not receive any compensation from the applicant, nor does he reside in his household.

Mr. McAvoy informed the Authority that the applicant is requesting feasibility approval to connect two proposed houses into the sewer system. The applicant is currently pursuing a subdivision for this parcel which contains 36 acres.

At the present time the property is used for agricultural purposes and there is currently one house and one greenhouse on the property. The current house is currently served by a septic system, and is not likely to connect to the sewer system. There is a sewer which runs from Wintergreen Lane down to Higgins Road.

The applicant is proposing to subdivide the property into three lots where the existing house will remain on septic and Lots 2 & 3 will have houses that tie into the sewer system. It will be possible to achieve gravity service for the two properties.

Mr. Schrumm entered the meeting at 8:10 p.m.

In response to a query from the Authority, Mr. McAvoy stated that the sewer depth is 10 – 11 feet and there will be individual connections to each house. Because this is a new subdivision, the properties have not been assessed. Mr. McAvoy commented that there is the potential for further development on this property. He further stated that the total estimated capacity is 4,000 g.p.d. for both houses.

Mr. Dievert stated that he has no objection to granting feasibility approval.

Mr. Pelton moved that the Cheshire WPCA has reviewed the application and submittals of Pinnacle Land Development for Feasibility Approval For Extension of Public Sanitary Sewers. Based upon that review and based upon the recommendation of the Acting Director of Public Works, the WPCA has determined that the application and submittals detail a sanitary sewerage system which is generally capable of construction and which is capable of being connected to the Town of Cheshire public sanitary sewer system; therefore, the application is APPROVED, with the following conditions:

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3. The application and submittals are incorporated and made a part of this Approval.
4. The proposed sanitary sewer system shall become a part of the public sanitary sewer system.
5. This Approval permits the construction of the sanitary sewerage system in installments or phases, but it requires the construction to proceed in consecutive order of the numbered sections two and three.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Scannell and carried unanimously.

PROJECTS

WPCD Plant Upgrade Design-Project Update

Mr. Chelton informed the Authority that he met today with Mr. George Hicks of the DEEP to review where the Town is today on the upgrade project, and what the schedule will be going forward and how it relates to the DEEP funding. It was noted that the project must be out to bid by June 30, although Mr. Chelton sensed that there may be some leeway in that date.

Authority members stressed the importance of adhering strictly to the timetable. Mr. Chelton stated that AECOM will submit plans to DEEP for approval by March 1. He will meet with them at that time to review the plans and receive comments. He will also keep DEEP updated as design moves along.

In response to a query from Mr. Gancarz, Mr. Chelton stated that the project must be out to bid by June 30, not awarded. Mr. Chelton stated that he feels the project is in good shape regarding the schedule of design completion dates.

Mr. Chelton informed the Authority that DEEP informed him that the plant site has been identified by environmental agencies as a site for endangered species, specifically, turtles. He does not envision that to be an issue with the project. Mr. Chelton noted that there has been other work done on that site and the endangered species issue was never a problem.

Although he does not see it as an item of concern, Mr. Chelton did stated that there is always the possibility, although slim, that State funding for this project could be cut. He does not see this as happening, however. Mr. Hicks did comment that he could not say with certainty that it could never happen.

Mr. Bowman commented that the sooner this project is designed the better. Authority members stated that there cannot be any delays on the design of this project. Mr. Chelton stated that AECOM is pushing this project through as quickly as possible.

Mr. Gancarz moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve Invoice #37291424 in the amount of \$29,941.08 for work relating to the design of the WPCD Plant Upgrade Design. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scannell and carried unanimously.

Amendment #4 AECOM

Mr. Chelton informed the Authority that as a result of a request at the last meeting, he has prepared an estimate of the cost to complete the design effort that reflects the re-addition of the disc filters for phosphorus removal, the disc filter pre-selection and design completion. The report details the level of effort necessary for those three components.

Mr. Perrotti queried as to how AECOM derived the \$140,000 disc removal/re-addition. He felt that a portion of that should have already been paid. Mr. Perrotti inquired as to whether Mr. Chelton could produce budget sheets that go along with the estimates. Mr. Chelton responded affirmatively, and stated that he would present them at the next meeting.

Mr. Gancarz offered that there are always uncertainties in any project, and some were known before design began. He further stated that when the disc filter situation occurred, design was only at 30%, it was not like design was already developed. He noted that \$140,000 is 10% of the effort involved in design. He would like to see some back-up data since this was a separate task. He would like to see how much effort was involved in revising the plans.

Mr. Chelton stated that AECOM had advanced to the 80% completion phase with the disc filter out. It was designed to the 80% level then AECOM had to go back and design it with the disc filters in.

Mr. Perrotti requested budget sheets for the vender selection also. He noted the importance of making sure that the Town is getting its best value for money spent, and the numbers need to be substantiated.

Mr. Chelton reminded Authority members that his firm is working on this part of the project without profit. After discussion regarding the design costs to date and what was in the original agreement, Mr. Chelton stated that the Authority does have a copy of the

original agreement, but he will present another so each member has one. This may clarify some of the confusion regarding the cost numbers and the original appropriation.

Mr. Gancarz stated that when he was presenting the project to the public as part of the education effort, it was clear that people want to make sure that the WCPC is doing due diligence. Therefore the Authority is requesting more back-up data and a copy of the original agreement. Mr. Gancarz offered that it is important to keep the project moving along, and he suggested that the Authority approve a portion of what has been requested in Amendment #4.

Mr. Pelton reiterated the issues, that the Authority is interested in how the project got to the final number and what were the aberrations along the way that occurred. He requested that Mr. Chelton present the budget sheets and any additional information requested at the next meeting.

Mr. Gancarz suggested that for the contract administration portion of design, that the Authority get a draft of what that will entail very early on in that phase. He queried whether there is any way to reduce costs of construction design. He would like to see that addressed early on.

Mr. Chelton stated that he will get that information to the Authority in advance of the January meeting. He noted that those fees have to be reviewed by the DEEP before they are approved by the Authority. That review will take place before the January meeting.

West Johnson Pump Station Design Project

Mr. Chelton informed the Authority that design is advancing on this project and completion is expected by the middle of January. Progress is on target.

Mr. Gancarz moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve Invoice #37290822 from AECOM in the amount of \$47,040.00 for work relating to the West Johnson Avenue Pump Station Design Project. The motion was seconded by Mr. Perrotti and carried unanimously.

Wastewater Facilities Plan Phase I

Mr. Chelton informed the Authority that this invoice represents costs associated with reproduction of documents relating the Phase I of the Facilities Plan.

Mr. Scannell moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve Invoice #37291893 of AECOM for work relating to reproduction costs associated with Phase I of the Facilities Plan. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gancarz and carried unanimously.

WPCD Plant Upgrade Design (continued from previous discussion earlier in the meeting)

Mr. Chelton requested that the Authority revisit this topic. He noted that a good portion of design fees associated with the plant upgrade are eligible for reimbursement through the grant program. Authority members expressed surprise with that information. Mr. Chelton will check the mechanics of how that will play out.

Mr. Gancarz moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority authorize funding of \$217,000 for the Portion of Amendment #4 of AECOM that was to take design of the plant originally to 100% completion, with the understanding that the other proposals are still under review by the Authority. The motion was seconded by Mr. Perrotti and carried unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Dievert informed the Authority that Cheshire was able to assist Fairfield after they basically lost their plant during Hurricane Sandy. He conferred with AECOM as to what to do and they were very helpful.

Fairfield took 30,000 gallons of bio-mass from Cheshire and they were able to get their plant up and running. Authority members commended Mr. Dievert for what he did to help Fairfield, and suggested that he contact the Cheshire Herald to publicize this act of kindness on the part of Mr. Dievert and the town of Cheshire.

NEW BUSINESSSewer Use Fee

Mr. Pelton moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority set the annual Sewer Use Charge Fee at \$355.00 per single family equivalent dwelling unit. Non-residential users shall pay an amount based on their relative water usage in accordance with the format outlined in the Sewer User Charge Regulations but not less than \$355.00 per year. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gancarz and carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESSWPCA OPM Map

Mr. Kasinskas informed the Authority that progress is being made on the update of the OPM map. He is continuing to do research on this revision, which he noted is extremely complicated and is very different in scope and terminology from the original OPM map. He will have a report for the Authority at the next meeting. Mr. Chelton noted that even DEEP acknowledges that the new map is very confusing.

WPCA Education Effort

Authority members thanked Mr. Pelton and Mr. Gancarz for their hard work in publicizing the plant upgrade and referendum. Mr. Pelton stated that he was very pleased with the outcome of the referendum.

Chesprocott Summary

Mr. Dievert noted nothing of significance in the report from Chesprocott detailing septic system failures and repairs for the month of October.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Scannell moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of October 24, 2012, as published, subject to correction. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gancarz and carried 5-0-1. Mr. Pelton abstained.

The next meeting will be held on December 19.

ADJOURNMENT

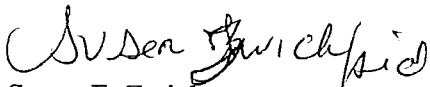
Mr. Scanlon moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority adjourn at 9:10 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gancarz and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



Tim Pelton, 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