

Water Pollution Control Authority  
October 23, 2013  
Regular Meeting  
Town Hall – Council Chambers

Members Present: Mr. Matt Bowman  
Mr. Steve Carroll  
Mr. Tim Pelton (Chairman)  
Mr. John Perrotti (Vice Chairman)  
Mr. Thomas Scannell

Members Absent: Mr. Matt Bowman  
Mr. Ken Cianci  
Mr. Mark Kasinskas

Others Present: Mr. Dennis Dievert, Superintendent, WPCD  
Mr. Donald Chelton, AECOM  
Mr. Walter Gancarz, Town Engineer

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**

There were no public communications to come before the Authority.

## **APPLICATIONS**

### HAI Group Facilities Expansion

Mr. Pelton referred to a letter from Mr. Gancarz placed in members' packets regarding this application. Mr. Gancarz notified the applicant that he would not recommend that the application be approved. He noted that it appears that the requested flow of 4,000 g.p.d. is higher than justified. He further requested detail on how the existing private force main will be abandoned. Mr. Gancarz also requested more detail on how the connection will be made into the existing public force main while avoiding disruptions to other facilities connected to that line. Additionally the applicant was asked to provide information relating to the proposed grease trap.

Mr. Gancarz requested that the applicant provide the requested information for presentation at the November WPCA meeting.

## CALL FOR PUBLIC HEARING

Mr. Gancarz informed the Authority that he has reviewed data related to the proposed 2013 sewer use fee. There are three major items which are impacting the sewer use fee. One is the recalibration of the CCI meter, which has resulted in slightly reduced flows. The collapse of the pool cover and the subsequent reduction of backwash flows have resulted in a decrease in revenue from that facility. Also, there are currently 172 elderly accounts that have their sewer rates frozen.

Mr. Gancarz stated that the impact of these items has caused a reduction of approximately 2% of the entire number of sewer connections.

On the expense side, the current budget requires that an additional \$43,000 of income be generated from sewer use fees. Putting this with the loss of revenue previously discussed accounts for an additional \$12.00 sewer use charge. Mr. Gancarz recommends an increase in the sewer use fee to \$10.00 to \$15.00. Mr. Dievert concurred.

Mr. Gancarz noted that the budget currently has a below ideal contingency fund. He asked the Authority if they felt that more contingency should be generated for non-grant items to be paid for out of revenue.

In response to a query from Mr. Perrotti, Mr. Dievert stated that it is not known what the financial impact on the Operating Budget will be with the plant upgrade. Mr. Chelton added that his firm has not run those numbers at this time. Mr. Perrotti offered that it would be better to increase the sewer use fee now, rather than to wait until the upgrade is complete.

Mr. Pelton commented that it will be four years before the plant comes on line. He recommends setting the sewer use fee at \$12.00. In response to a query from Mr. Carroll, Mr. Pelton stated that the Authority place a not to exceed number in the public hearing notice. Once the fee is determined after the public hearing, the WPCA sets the fee and forwards it to the Town Council.

Mr. Pelton moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority call for a Public Hearing at the regular monthly meeting on November 20, 2013 to set the sewer use fee not to exceed \$370.00 per single-family equivalent dwelling unit. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scannell and carried unanimously.

## PROJECTS

### WPCD Plant Upgrade Design-Project Update

Mr. Chelton reported that the groundbreaking ceremony took place for this project and all contracts have been signed. The contractor has begun the early stages of mobilization and the project should commence in November.

Mr. Pelton requested that Mr. Chelton prepare a schedule timeline so the Authority would have a road map of project progress. Mr. Chelton agreed, but noted that schedules do change from time to time.

Mr. Chelton commented that at a previous meeting he informed the Authority that design costs exceeded the original design contract. Authority members had requested additional detail on those costs. He will be preparing the additional information and an amendment to the contract to be presented to the WPCA in the near future.

Mr. Scannell moved that the Water Pollution Authority approve Invoice #37383826 from AECOM for design work relating to the upgrade to the Wastewater Treatment Plant in the amount of \$14,645.17. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carroll and carried unanimously.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

### Cook Hill Pump Station

Mr. Dievert informed the Authority that rails are being manufactured and will be shipped next week. Mr. Dievert stated that they will be installed upon arrival. He noted that it is a good time to do the work since the flow rate is very low.

Mr. Gancarz stated that he is doing some investigating into the new pumps for the Cook Hill pump station. The ones recommended are quite a bit larger than the original ones and will require a great deal more electrical work. There is a possibility that the new pumps could be modified to limit the electric work.

Another option would be to use similar size pumps and move the smaller pumps to the Moss Farms pump station. The issue requires further study. Mr. Dievert commented that it will be necessary to make sure that the generator will be adequate. In response to a query from Mr. Pelton, Mr. Gancarz stated that any set of rails can be used for any pump.

Mr. Pelton stated that the new pumps will be shredder-type pumps to avoid the problems that are occurring with the flushing of wipes. Mr. Pelton inquired as to whether there will be any additional maintenance necessary for the new pumps. Mr. Dievert stated that having the new rails is extremely important to the maintenance of the pumps.

Mr. Pelton noted receipt of a donation of \$150,000 towards the new pumps from Elim Park.

## **TOWN ENGINEER'S REPORT**

### Water Consumption Billing

Mr. Gancarz offered that the reassessment of town properties is close to being completed. He noted that the issue of sump pumps should be addressed first with an educational component. He noted that even if 50 sump pumps are removed, it would be a good start.

### Update on North End Development

Mr. Dievert stated that he is hopeful that the developers will come to him with plans for sewers so that everyone's time will be better utilized. Mr. Gancarz commented that they seem to be on an aggressive schedule, but the engineer needs time to put plans together.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business to come before the Authority

## **OLD BUSINESS**

A letter was received from Chesprocott detailing septic system failures and repairs for the month of September. Nothing of significance was noted.

Mr. Dievert informed the Authority that there was another failure of the meters at the CCI. They are in the process of purchasing a new unit.

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mr. Pelton moved that the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of September 25, 2013 be approved as published, subject to correction. The motion was seconded by Mr. Carroll and carried unanimously.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Pelton moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority adjourn at 8:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Scannell 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

George Noewatne, Director of Public Works and Engineering.

Mr. Walter Gancarz, Town Engineer

Dennis Dievert, Superintendent [WPCD](#)

Susan Zwick, Recording Secretary

