

**MINUTES OF THE CHESHIRE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
(WPCA) MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2014 AT 7:30 P.M. IN
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, TOWN HALL, 84 SOUTH MAIN STREET, CHESHIRE CT
06410.**

Present

John Perrotti, Vice Chairman; Matthew Bowman, Ken Cianci, Mark Kasinskas and Tom Scannell.

Absent: Tim Pelton and Steve Carroll

Staff: Walter Gancarz, Town Engineer

Guest: David Schrumm, Town Council; Don Chelton, AECOM; Miles Hovis, Solar City.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called and a quorum was determined to be present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The group Pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

Mr. Perrotti read the emergency evacuation notice.

REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

1. Public Communications

2. Applications

**a. DeVlyder Property Subdivision – 35 Warren Street
Final Design/Award of Capacity Presentation and Discussion.**

Darin Overton, P.E. Milone and MacBroom represented the applicant. At the last meeting there were commission concerns about ground water and connection of the laterals, and Mr. Overton displayed a copy of the town's topographical map. He pointed out the orange line for the DeVlyder property, red line for the water shed, and the canal line, Spring Street, Route 70. There is a ridge which creates a water shed divide; above the ridge is a wetland area trapping some of the runoff; this overflows onto a stream, and it goes underground through a pipe connection.

In regard to the sewers Mr. Overton noted there were concerns about connections, high water table, and sewers in Willow Street. He said the grade drops down about 10 feet after the subdivision; the southern part of Willow is not high ground water; the street is about 6 to 8 feet above the canal; and the front of the DeVlyder property is about 10 feet higher. In this location there are not too many ground water concerns as in the southern part. Considering the slope that comes down, Mr. Overton said there could be issues with the connections in Willow Street. His understanding is that the focus was Willow Street - which is a problem, He explained the concept of tying into the manhole and running a section of the main across the frontage of the DeVlyder property to pick up those laterals.

Copies of the plan were distributed to the commission, and Mr. Overton displayed a rendering showing the location of the manholes. The existing sewer line in Willow is located in the middle of the property; there would be connection to this manhole, extending the main out into the shoulder and run one length of sewer out to another manhole to be able to provide a new sewer line for the laterals of the 2 lots.

Mr. Overton stated that Warren Street is up higher; ground water is not an issue; and connections can be made.

Mr. Bowman stated that the pipe is clay and this is the biggest problem, which he explained at the last meeting. With 500 feet of pipe there will be tie in 5 times with 5 potential problems with clay pipe, and people do not work with clay pipe any more. There has not been installation of clay pipe since the 1970's or 1980's. It was not so much the water table, but the pipe. On the plans he noted the blue line, in the cul de sac of 2 houses, and pointed out the location of the tap into the clay pipe, which was a disaster. The clay pipe has been in the ground for 40+ years, is brittle, and should be replaced for multiple taps.

There is an existing sewer on Warren Street, which Mr. Overton highlighted on the map. There is one manhole on the southern corner. The only difference between Willow and Warren is elevation, but it could still be considered as a concept.

Mr. Perrotti expressed concerns of the WPCA as being the clay pipe, work starting and problems once the pipe is disturbed. He said this may not have been clearly expressed to Mr. Overton.

In light of the commission comments, Mr. Overton stated that ground water is not the issue...the issue is clay pipe. He said the original concept was doing the same thing on Warren, and thought the water table would be a factor. He went back and looked at the water sheds, and ground water is not a problem.

Mr. Bowman is looking at preventing future problems with the existing main and tying in 5 times plus 2 times could be an issue. His suggestion using the 3 manholes on the property.

Town Engineer Gancarz will be looking at the existing lateral, and if it is good it can be used; if it is not good it will be abandoned. At the northerly end there is one existing lateral which came from the greenhouses, and if it is sound it could be kept. Preferably, it would be better to tie everything into the manhole.

In that regard, Mr. Overton asked if it would be acceptable to tie into the manhole, or if it would have to tie into the main extension. He said the manhole is in the center of the right-of-way.

Mr. Gancarz will discuss the issues with Supt. Dievert.

This is a better solution and Mr. Perrotti said it addresses the concerns of the WPCA, and the same could be done on the west side as done on the east side.

There will be opportunity to shorten the length of the new main by coring the lateral into the main extension, and Mr. Overton asked if the lateral could be cored into the manhole.

There are 5 laterals, and Mr. Gancarz said Supt. Dievert does not want a bunch of laterals coming into the manhole which will have to be serviced at some point in time. The concept was one parallel sewer coming into the manhole, and this is the alternative the WPCA prefers.

The applicant must return next month (December 17th) with a plan on the connection to the manholes.

3. Projects

a. AECOM invoice #37484808 dated 11/4/14 in the amount of \$96,010.21
Mr. Gancarz has reviewed the invoice and recommends it for payment. He distributed the monthly update sheet, and commented on items in the report. Consultation is above budget due to pcb remediation, shop drawings used up lots of budget, DEEP payment was made, change order review and process fees, and the project is half-way through construction with less than half of the money left.

MOTION by Mr. Scannell; seconded by Mr. Bowman.

MOVED to approve payment of AECOM invoice #37484808 dated 11/4/14 in the amount of \$96,010.21

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

b. Carlin Contracting Co. pay estimate #12 dated 11/11/14 in the amount of \$1,797,265.72

MOTION by Mr. Scannell; seconded by Mr. Cianci.

MOVED to approve payment of Carlin Contracting Co. pay estimate #12 dated 11/4/14 in the amount of \$1,797,265.72.

Discussion

Mr. Gancarz distributed the summary sheet, noting that it reflects work done to justify the invoice, with much work done in the last month, and the project just past the one-half way construction point. The primary clarifier(s) back on line; boiler installed; hot water piping done; roof is on the phosphorous/UV building; electrical work done; work being done in the de-watering building; telephone and internet connection expected to

be done by December 1st; much of the outside work is getting done so interior work can be done during the winter season.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Mr. Chelton stated 5% retainage is current on the project; it will be reduced to 2% next month with 50% of the construction completed; and Carlin still projects early completion.

c. Carlin Change Order No. 10 in the amount of (\$20,278.82).

MOTION by Mr. Scannell; seconded by Mr. Kasinskas.

MOVED to approve payment of Carlin Contracting Co. change order No. 10 in the amount of (\$20,278.82).

Discussion

This is a housekeeping item which will continue to come up. Mr. Gancarz said conditions inside the digester are better than expected; painting the basement of the operation building is out; paint is in good shape and will be left.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

4. Superintendent's Report

a. Update on Construction Progress

Mr. Gancarz commented on the contingency, which started with \$945,704, and the net effect of change order #10 is \$413,000. There was transfer in of \$139,000 from the left over influent pump station, and \$338,000 is the estimated current contingency. \$450,000 to \$460,000 is shown as potential for the work on the belt and compressor which will be put off because they are operating okay. Cost of the new control panel/drive shaft is about \$140,000. Supt. Dievert feels the compressors are working fine, and in the future his staff can work on them if rehab is required, with costs as part of the operating budget. This could be another \$350,000 to keep a higher contingency, and it is hoped the project is through most of its surprises.

Mr. Chelton and Mr. Gancarz were at a recent seminar where there was a DEEP report about a 20% grant for pump station rehabilitation. Not many applications are received, and WPCA will continue to press the Town Council and recommend West Johnson go into next year's referendum.

5. Town Engineer's Report

a. Claims Commission Update

Everything is filed and Mr. Gancarz reported on correspondence between Town Manager Milone and OPM on the issues but nothing has materialized yet. There was a discussion between Mr. Milone and Rep. Bartolomeo and concerns expressed that the Commissioner of OPM had not reached out to the Town. Mr. Gancarz advised that he

and Supt. Dievert can access the new flow meter at the prison site; it has software connected; and WWTP staff can find out real time numbers.

b. PCB Remediation Update

The digester building is done, and Mr. Gancarz reported that there are some concerns about the outside wall and north side windows. More sampling will be done on this below ground level issue and AECOM is looking into it further.

Mr. Chelton informed the WPCA that the pcb numbers are 1.2; federal limit is 50; state limit is 1; the limit is 15 inches below ground surface; and AECOM is looking into speaking with the regulatory agencies.

For pcbs at the influent pump station the contractor does not expect this to be a big ticket item to protect the equipment in the building.

According to Mr. Chelton the walls are in the change order, and the only piece missing is electrical work to relocate equipment, and there will be some costs involved.

Once the contractor gets to the operations building, Mr. Gancarz said there should be no mysteries there. We want to get the influent pump station done, and we will have a more refined idea on the costs. The project is carrying an extra \$200,000 beyond the initial change order for all the pcb remediation.

6. Old Business

- a. Sump Pump subcommittee
Committee has not met.**

7. New Business

- a. Letter from Chesprocott dated November 3, 2014
Letter in the packet.**

Mr. Scannell and Mr. Kasinskas informed the WPCA that they familiarized themselves with the record of the 10/22/14 meeting, and will vote on the meeting minutes.

b. Approval of Minutes

- i. Regular Meeting held October 22, 2014**

MOTION by Mr. Cianci; seconded by Mr. Perrotti.

MOVED to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 22, 2014, subject to corrections, additions, deletions.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

- ii. Regular Meeting held September 24, 2014**

MOTION by Mr. Scannell; seconded by Mr. Kasinskas.

MOVED to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 24, 2014, subject to corrections, additions, deletions.

VOTE The motion passed 4-0-1; Bowman abstained.

c. Presentation by Solar City

Miles Hovis represented Solar City and gave a short presentation to the commission, and distributed a packet of information on the firm.

Solar City is a national leader in clean energy services; employs +7000 people; has financed more than \$4 billion in solar projects; has a Rocky Hill CT office with 60+ employees; and over 20 commercial and 850 residential projects in Connecticut. The company started in 2006 and is key in getting financing for solar projects, is an end to end developer, and long term manager of solar systems. Solar City provides a single source for solar financing, engineering design, installation, monitoring and maintenance. The firm has expertise in engineering and building complicated solar systems; has experience in 1000 jurisdictions with planning/zoning/building departments. The financing is the core of the business.

PPA/Power Purchase Agreement - Solar City owns the project, installs the system, operates it for 20 years, and the town purchases power at a lower cost than current rates. The town "hosts" the system paying only for electricity the system produces. There are no upfront costs; there is immediate payback, reduced electricity costs, and lock in of rates for 20 years.

CT ZREC Program (Zero Emissions Renewable Energy Certificate) – there are contracts with solar/renewable energy developers; reverse auction for projects with lowest bid projects awarded first, highest bids unlikely to receive incentive funding.

Virtual Net Monitoring (VNM) allows projects to be sited elsewhere within the same utility territory. In 2014 there was 100% award of projects.

WWTP Savings Analysis – in contract year #1, savings of about \$30,000; 20 year savings estimate is \$1.079 million. PPA rates range in 2014 is 6-8 cents flat for 20 years; current energy pricing is 7.88 cents flat; Solar City average is 7 cents flat; with utility company total charges would be about 9 cents flat rate.

Mr. Hovis reviewed the Solar City process starting with a feasibility study taking about 2 weeks, followed by a review of the program with the Town Council, presentation to board and staff, RFQ/RFP, energy contract award, financing, design/installation, and maintenance and support.

At the present time Solar City has business with the Regional Water Authority, Town of Glastonbury, City of New Haven and other municipalities throughout the U.S.

There was a brief discussion about the solar panels on roofs, possible roof replacement in 15 years, who pays for the costs involved in moving panels. Mr. Hovis said panels can come off and be reinstalled, and Solar City has insurance to cover the costs.

Mr. Gancarz pointed out WWTP has 6 buildings with flat roofs, and he asked about inter-connection of the panels.

In response, Mr. Hovis said this depends on the inter-connection between buildings, and there could be one combined inverter and it also depends on the existing infrastructure. A master meter situation is one system used. Equipment can fit into the current electrical room; there can be a two inverter system, simple inverter or spring inverter, and there are no compatibility issues with the generator.

Mr. Hovis explained the process with Cheshire and Solar City coming together on the project, looking at available spaces, decisions made on demands, bidding on the ZREC, and in March 2015 there could be an idea of market conditions. Solar City needs a letter of intent to enter into an agreement, a PPA signed and then the process is underway.

The WPCA members were informed by Mr. Gancarz that the town's contract with other suppliers does not prohibit the town from doing something like this. He asked about how long Solar City would wait before doing the project because the treatment plant has a contractor on site for another year, until November 2015.

The timing is now more than 6 months and Mr. Hovis said the town could apply for an extension. He does not think November 2015 would be a time issue. He did state that without winning the ZREC award, nothing happens.

It was noted by Mr. Chelton that the amount of energy the plant uses varies with the amount of flow. He questioned the ability of the panels to provide that type of power to meet the demand which varies significantly.

This hinges on the installation of a net meter that registers flow both ways, and Mr. Hovis said there are times the solar system will be over producing, exporting energy back to the grid, and times when nothing at all will be produced. Through net metering the usage and production can fluctuate but what matters is the net at the end of the month and end of each year. A totally zeroed out load would be about 1.7 mega watt system.

Mr. Gancarz stated his understanding is wanting to use all the power on the site because once it leaves and starts to flow back into the system, there is still the transmission charge. The town is looking at something sized just for the treatment plant.

According to Mr. Hovis the Connecticut net metering has room for about 50 mega watts, and it allows building out in the field more quickly. Kilowatt hours are transferred into monetary credits applied to bills, and transmission and distribution would be 80% the first year, 50% the second year, and 30% the third year.

The Energy Commission has looked at the town landfill for solar energy, and Mr. Gancarz said the WPCA is specific to the water pollution control facilities.

Mr. Perrotti thanked Mr. Hovis for his informative presentation on Solar City.

A copy of the Solar City presentation is attached to the minutes of this meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mr. Bowman; seconded by Mr. Scannell.

MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Attest:

Marilyn W. Milton, Clerk