

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF CHESHIRE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL  
AUTHORITY REGULAR MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23,  
2016 IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS, TOWN HALL, 85 SOUTH MAIN STREET,  
CHESHIRE CT 06410.**

Present

John Perrotti, Chairman; Steve Carroll, Vice Chairman; Matthew Bowman, Ken Cianci,  
Mark Kasinskas, Tom Scannell, James Sima.  
Staff: Walter Gancarz, Town Engineer

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Group Pledged Allegiance to the Flag

**ROLL CALL**

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

Chairman Perrotti read the emergency evacuation notice.

Chairman Perrotti welcomed Mr. Sima to the WPCA, and the great expertise he will bring to the Authority.

**1. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS**

**2. APPLICATIONS**

**a. Proposed restroom for Farmington Canal Trail.**

This is a DOT application for the restroom facility south of West Main Street when the last section of the Trail is done. Mr. Gancarz stated there is a sewer right by there for connection. The distance is about 130 feet of 4 inch pipe. The application was submitted, but it is just a lateral to the manhole, and will not be a public sewer turned over to the Town. It is owned by DOT; the Town takes care of the maintenance. There are no issues with the application.

Following a brief discussion, the Authority members stated their preference to turn this matter over to Town Engineer Gancarz with no further action from the WPCA.

**3. PROJECTS**

**a. AECOM Invoice #37717007 dated 3/11/16 in the amount of \$41,902.75**

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

MOVED to approve AECOM Invoice #37717007 dated 3/11/16 in the amount of \$41,902.75.

Discussion

Mr. Gancarz stated he has reviewed the invoice and recommends it for approval. The project is winding down; this invoice is for services continuing to be done...part time

inspections; and going through the punch list items to insure things are done. Other AECOM services such as record drawings, reports to be submitted, etc. will go through next year.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Chairman Perrotti moved item "c" to current status on the agenda.

**c. Change Order #23**

MOTION by Mr. Scannell; seconded by Mr. Carroll.

MOVED to approve payment of Change Order #23 in the credit amount of \$26,916.12.

Discussion

The credits for change order #23 were reviewed by the Authority members. Mr. Perrotti pointed out credits for allowance for concrete repairs, one belt filter press done, furniture costs less than estimated.

Mr. Gancarz noted that the Town contractor, Apex Technology, had to be used for the telephone data system to insure compatibility with the Town system. The extra system cost was \$37,714.92.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

**b. Carlin Contracting Co. Pay Estimate #28 dated 2/29/16 in the amount of \$49,029.196**

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

MOVED to approve Carlin Contracting Co. Pay Estimate #28 dated 2/29/16 in the amount of \$49,029.16

Discussion

Mr. Gancarz stated he has reviewed the invoice and recommends it for approval. He said we are down to the very end, and after these items there is a balance of \$118,887. Most of the items being held as change orders get clicked off. \$52,000 is the amount AECOM put aside to insure all is done.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

**d. Contingency Status as of March 2016.**

Mr. Gancarz brought the Authority Members up to date on the status of contingency for the project. The original construction contract with Carlin was \$27,968,633.00; AECOM construction administration was \$2,882,389; there were design extras to complete the design once phosphorous got put back into the project; the sub total is \$31,204,295;

and the referendum amount of \$32,150,000. Initial surplus was \$945,704; one final design was entered for \$20,750; AECOM portion of the PCB remediation was \$131,359 for testing, analysis reports, etc.; total change orders for the whole project was \$607,029 through March 23, 2016. Mr. Gancarz said this is an excellent number. Sheet #2 shows the total cost of PCB remediation was \$594,872, including the \$131,359. Other than PCBs there were not many changes.

In checking the status, Mr. Gancarz had been carrying the construction and engineering costs on this, and the Finance Department informed him the legal costs for all the bonds and loan agreement with DEEP accrued in this project. This all adds up to \$137,624 estimated contingency. There are estimated future change orders of \$76,203, and they are detailed in the report. Most of them are for flashing in some areas where PCBs were found, windows to be caulked, wiring, tank wiring and other modifications. These items will be the subject of future change orders to close the job out.

AECOM other adjustments (blue sheet). Their contract is divided into 20 different items...bidding, consultation, and some items ran over. The biggest one was shop drawings (771 drawings). Some other areas were under budget. All DEEP payment requests are done by the Town so there are no charges there. Resident engineering services had some residual left. Everything shown in purple is what AECOM needs to do to finish the project out...the biggest one is the record drawings. The net impact is \$212,936. \$131,000 is already accounted for in the PCB, so there is an adjustment of \$81,000, about \$20,000 over. There have been discussions with AECOM, Mr. Gancarz and the State, and these can be reduced down to end up at the zero point.

One area for savings is the first year summary of operation reports. It is not required by DEEP; is unnecessary, and is recommended to be removed from the AECOM services. This saves \$11,800, and another \$9,000 can be found in adjustments.

Chairman Perrotti commended Mr. Gancarz for being proactive, his knowledge of details and his sharp pencil to look at unnecessary things with no impact on the operation or performance or regulatory requirements.

MOTION by Mr. Carroll; seconded by Mr. Bowman.

MOVED that the WPCA requests AECOM remove the first year summary of operation reports removed from the scope of work, item 2.1.15 for a savings of \$11,825.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Mr. Gancarz will continue to work collaboratively with AECOM to eliminate another \$9,000 of services, not required, and stay within the total contingency. Mr. Gancarz said there will be an adjustment for AECOM down the road, largely because of the PCB issues, another \$131,000.

#### **4. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

**a. Update on Construction Progress.**

Mr. Gancarz informed the Authority that things are going well; they have started to fill the digesters; by Thursday the primary digester will be half full; it is expected to be heated next week. The biggest thing is finishing the SKADA system. The start up of the phosphorus removal disk filters was started, and it ran very well. Our limit is .2mg per liter, and there was consistent .1mg per liter. The season for phosphorous removal is from April 1st to October 31st. Next Monday the Kruger representative is coming back to the site, and there will be a restart that day. UV season is May 1st to September 30th, but this was running all last year. The treatment plant is running normal.

Cell Tower - this tower has been up for a while; nothing is hanging on it; the Town Police and Fire have electricity run back to the plant; and this will tap into the administration building. If power goes out they will be running off the plant generator.

**5. TOWN ENGINEER'S REPORT**

**a. CCI Claims Commission Update**

Mr. Gancarz reported there is nothing new to report. The Claims Commissioner ruled in favor of the Town of Cheshire, stating it had a case. Not, it continues in court. There was some indication of a negotiation settlement, but nothing has been heard since.

Rep. Fritz introduced a bill for one last attempt to secure Cheshire's phosphorous reimbursement from 30% to 50%. Cheshire was not mentioned in the bill, but it specifically refers to criteria which the Town meets. Mr. Gancarz testified on this matter 3 weeks ago, and his testimony seemed to be favorably accepted. He stated Cheshire went first, so it should have the same benefits as a town coming in later on.

Mr. Gancarz commented on the Elim Park money for replacement of pumps, slide and controls at the Cook Hill station. The 7' x 13' addition worked its way through the Council and PZC. The PZC was supportive of a waiver for all pump stations, but Council was more restrictive, and would go along with only the Cook Hill station. Other pump stations would be looked at on a case by case basis. PZC recommends the waiver from the Council so this project can get moving.

**6. NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Chesprocott Report dated 3/10/16**

The report was in the packets and reviewed by the Authority.

**b. Sump Pump Program**

Chairman Perrotti stated the WPCA wants to reinvigorate a good sump pump program, and a process to be proactive to reduce inflow. The Authority should be looking at this again, looking at the data in place, plan and create a long term strategy to be most effective, i.e. .a 5 year plan to go after offenders with illegal connections.

In the meeting packet Mr. Gancarz pointed out there was historical information back to 1988, some created by AECOM, technical memorandum 1 and 4 developed by AECOM

as part of the Facilities Plan. These reports talk about infiltrations/leakage in the pipes, inflow is from sump pumps, roof leaders, etc. at 4.3 and 4.7. There were a number of other house to house surveys done in 2006; 197 houses inspected; 18 sump pumps found; inspection of the major interceptors which did not find a tremendous amount; in 2007 there were 187 manholes inspected. The main pipe lines do not have a lot of illegal connections. Two sets of monitoring were done in spring 2013 during a dry year, and in 2014 it was a wet year for sampling. There is a lot of data on 12 main areas of the Town.

With data update from the Assessor in 2013 there was a question on the card about the house having a sump pump; 1040 houses had pumps; 777 were in the sewer system; and this is reflected in the graph. Preliminary mapping was done, and there are ways on how to handle the situation. It is thought this is something the Town can get to, rather than chase the pipeline a mile long, and come up with 50,000 gallons of infiltration. A sump pump going 40 gallons a minute is 2,400 gallons an hour. Mr. Gancarz referred to the map on display; purple area is the sewer service area; light purple shade shows the lots identified to have sump pumps, 777 houses; the yellow is large lot zoning area, with no intention to ever be sewered; fringe pink and green areas out outside of the sewer service area and they were evaluated in the facilities plan as to whether they should be sewered or not. The center of Town, south and off West Main Street are the areas that correlate to the hot spot areas. In the northern part of Town there are not many sump pumps; there is not increased flow when it rains; ground water is high; and very little was found.

Chairman Perrotti has researched what other towns do, and there are varied plans including education, long term plans with funding to offset some of the costs to fix the issue, and penalties for violations.

Mr. Bowman said we were looking into encouraging people to tie into the Town's system.

In some towns, Mr. Perrotti said the permitting fee is waived. He asked about setting up a special subcommittee to spearhead this effort, return with ideas to the WPCA, let it run parallel to other efforts ongoing.

Mr. Bowman suggested doing a street a month, looking at about a 4 square mile area.

The WPCA was told by Mr. Gancarz that monitoring equipment is expensive to purchase. If you took the 777 sump pumps within the sewered area...they are not all connected to the sewer system...we just know they exist. Some of the best information indicates 5% to 10% may actually be connected to the system. This is under 100 sump pumps, and we can go back out and look at them. However, people may not want to let inspectors into their homes or businesses.

Mr. Bowman commented on marking a pump connected to the system; get it disconnected; it is red flagged; the Town goes back in 2 years and it is reconnected, there should be a penalty attached.

According to Mr. Perrotti the WPCA needs to come up with a program. There is data to be validated at the individual sites. The problem could be the inspections, going into a house. He said the sump pump inspection could be part of a permit. He noted the State of Massachusetts is putting in an I&I requirement.

Mr. Gancarz suggested making sump pump inspection a requirement as part of transfer of a house.

The WPCA Subcommittee members are Mr. Bowman, Mr. Carroll and Mr. Sima.

With regard to funding, Mr. Gancarz said there were two sources, and he will check on what is left. One use was only for a study and the other was inspections only. He commented on disconnection, if it was legal, and having a stipend, i.e. \$500 for the homeowner to take care of the problem.

Mr. Sima talked about areas where he has done well work, once the sewers are in, they chase the sewer lines, put in new wells, because within a year after the new sewer lines are in, they dewater the area, and wells go dry. There are many shallow wells in the lower part of the State.

Mr. Gancarz stated there was nothing in the operating budget for sump pumps, and the capital budget has \$300,000. He will get a list, street by street, in the areas where there should be concentration for sump pumps.

It was stated by Mr. Kasinskas that the Elmwood Road and Drive pump station had ten times more than anywhere else, and this should be the start of the inspection.

**c. Other Business of the WPCA**

Mr. Scannell asked about the reason for taking down trees prior to the East Johnson bridge replacement.

In response, Mr. Gancarz said there is a long eared bat that, perhaps, nests in those types of trees. There is a restriction on cutting from April 15th to September 1st. Since the Town was out to bid due April 11th, the trees had to be cut before this date. The road will be shut down in May.

**7. OLD BUSINESS**

**a. Approval of Minutes - Regular Meeting of February 24, 2016.**

MOTION by Mr. Carroll; seconded by Mr. Scannell.

MOVED to approve and accept the minutes of February 24, 2016 subject to corrections, additions, deletions.

VOTE           The motion passed 5-0-2; Bowman and Sima abstained.

**8.     ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION by Mr. Scannell; seconded by Mr. Carroll.

MOVED to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 p.m.

VOTE           The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Attest:

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Marilyn W. Milton, Clerk