Water Pollution Control Authority  
April 28, 2010  
Regular Meeting  
Town Hall – Council Chambers  

Members Present:  
Mr. Walter Gancarz  
Mr. Tim Pelton  
Mr. Thomas Scannell  
Mr. Mark Witek  

Members Absent:  
Mr. John Attwood (Chairman)  
Mr. Steve Eberle  
Mr. Mark Korman  

Others Present:  
Mr. Dennis Dievert, Superintendent, Water Pollution Control Division  
Mr. Donald Chelton, AECOM  
Mr. David Schrumm, Town Council Liaison  
Town Attorney Andrew Lord  

Mr. Pelton called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the absence of the Chairman. 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  

Mr. Pelton noted receipt of correspondence from Mr. Joseph Walters, 355 Spring Street regarding the sewer use fee and how it is structured. Mr. Pelton requested that Mr. Walters be informed that the WPCA did a thorough investigation of alternate means of assessing the sewer use fee, and determined that the current flat rate is the most balanced approach, as well as the easiest and least expensive to administer.  

A memo from Mr. Michelangelo to Mr. Michael Goggin regarding the Bartlem Park concession stand was received in the packet. Mr. Michelangelo stated that the location of the existing sanitary sewer manhole under Route 10 makes the connection to the Town sewer system very complex and costly. It is his opinion that utilization of a septic system will be permissible in this case.  

A letter from Dennis Greci, from the DEP and addressed to Town Manager Milone was discussed. The letter documents that Technical Memoranda 1 and 2 addressing the existing flows and plant capacity have already been discussed. The letter states that Technical Memorandum 4 addresses future flows to the treatment plant and evaluates future sewer needs in conjunction with the Conservation and Development Plan. The letter states that the DEP is in agreement with the identified future sewer service areas.
The DEP letter further states that Technical Memorandum 3 relates to inflow from sump pumps and refers to further information that was requested from the DEP regarding the problematic sump pump issue areas. Mr. Chelton commented that he is not aware of any request from the DEP in November of 1999 regarding this issue. He will check into this with the DEP. It is recommended by the DEP that the WPCA proceed with Phase 2 of the Wastewater Facilities Plan.

Mr. Pelton reported receipt of correspondence from Betsey Wingfield of the State DEP regarding nitrogen credits for 2009. Mr. Pelton offered that the dollar amount of the credit refund is $47,095, and within $2,000 of what was estimated. The value of an equivalent nitrogen credit is $4.54. The actual nitrogen discharge will remain the same, until phosphorus regulations are in place.

A newspaper article from the Waterbury Republican American regarding phosphorus discharge was presented. Mr. Michelangelo informed the newspaper that the Town of Cheshire has been told that it must reduce phosphorus discharges by 95.4%, which means the Town must meet the .2 parts of phosphorus per million gallons of discharge. This reduction will be a part of the upgrade of the Treatment Plant.

APPLICATIONS

Richmond Glen

Attorney Anthony Fazzone addressed the Authority on behalf of the applicant. He reminded members that the Authority granted Brodach Builders final design and award of capacity for the property at 210 Weise Road in September, 2008. Although continuing to finalize the project, several factors have prevented the developer from proceeding with the project. Therefore, Brodach Builders is requesting a two-year extension from September, 2008.

After a brief discussion with the applicant, Attorney Fazzone requested that he be granted time to discuss the request and speak later in the meeting. His request was granted.

REPORTS FROM CHAIRMAN/STAFF

Mixville Pump Station

Mr. Mariusz Jedrychowski, engineer representing Wright Pierce, addressed the Authority to report on the status of the Mixville Pump Station project. He informed the Authority that the project is moving along smoothly. The crew has been mobilized and site work has begun. There has been some excavation and demolition. Building materials are now being ordered. The old roof has been removed and a new roof will be installed soon.

The major pump was ordered and received, but does not exactly meet the specs from the Town documents. Mr. Jedrychowski has asked the contractor for a new submittal regarding to pump, to insure that it meets the specifications as set forth in the contract.
documents. A new schedule has been prepared and completion of the project is expected by the end of August.

Mr. Jedrychowski informed the Authority that the Town has requested that the contractor remove the existing Arborvitaes at the Mixville Pump Station and provide and plant 20 new Western Arborvitaes. The variety has been chosen because it does not attract deer. The amount of this Change Order is $7,450.00. Mr. Jedrychowski offered that the price for the removal and replanting is reasonable.

Mr. Dievert concurred with the selection of the Western Arborvitaes and the fact that they do not attract deer. He added that the trees will offer a good screening. There was discussion regarding the installation of fencing around the pump station, and it was the consensus of the Authority to delay a decision on fencing until the new trees have been planted.

Mr. Witek moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve Invoice #69669 of Wright Pierce in the amount of $7,229.42, pending review and approval of Mr. Korman. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gancarz and carried unanimously.

Mr. Witek moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve Application for Payment #2 of Xenelis Construction Company in the amount of $29,260.00, pending review and approval of Mr. Korman. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gancarz and carried unanimously.

Mr. Witek moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve a Change Order to Xenelis Construction Company in the amount of $7,450.00 for removal and replanting of Arborviteae trees at the Mixville Pump Station. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gancarz and carried unanimously.

Facilities Plan Update

Mr. Chelton presented a document prepared by AECOM after the workshop which was held on April 14 to discuss the draft Facilities Plan and recommended project elements. The document summarizes the review status of the various project elements and identifies project elements which required additional information. Mr. Chelton presented a memorandum which provides that additional information. Mr. Dievert has prepared answers to some specific questions which were raised at the workshop.

Mr. Witek commented that approximately 2/3rds of the recommended proposed changes for the plant upgrade are endorsed by the Authority, and the remaining items must be discussed and acted upon. He requested that members come to the next meeting with feedback regarding the undecided elements. At the end of the meeting the Authority should come to a consensus regarding decisions relating to the plant upgrade.
Mr. Chelton offered that once those decisions are made by the Authority his firm will prepare a second report incorporating those elements. Mr. Witek questioned whether the Authority wants to leave all elements in the report and present it to the Town Council in that form, or take out what the Authority feels should not be included. Mr. Pelton stated that he feels that the Authority must tell the Town Council what is recommended as a result of the Authority’s research and investigation regarding the plant upgrade. The Town Council will be informed that recommendations have been developed as a result of documents and elements presented by AECOM, a workshop to discuss that proposal in detail, and final review and decisions made by the Authority.

Mr. Pelton offered that once final design is completed, a more firm cost estimate will be available. The Town Council needs a full spectrum of what has been accomplished by the Authority regarding this project. Mr. Dievert invited Mr. Scannell to visit the plant to become more aware of its functions and operations.

Mr. Pelton deferred discussion on the document until more Authority members are present. He asked that members review the documents and come prepared to discuss at the next meeting. A special meeting will be held from 6:30 to 7:30 prior to the regular monthly meeting on May 26 to discuss the details of Mr. Chelton’s report and to come to consensus on the plant upgrade design.

Richmond Glen

Attorney Fazzone requested an extension of the mandatory action deadline of 35 days for the Richmond Glen application. In response to a query from Mr. Gancarz regarding the absence of grinder pumps on the original plans, Attorney Fazzone commented that a new set of plans have been presented to staff within the last few weeks. The Authority agreed to the extension and Attorney Fazzone consented to the extension.

WPCD Influent Pump Station

Plans for this project are under discussion and arrangements have been made for a special meeting to be held on May 26.

I & I Program – Interceptor Manhole Rehabilitation

It was reported that the project has been awarded to C. H. Nickerson, and a detailed schedule will be presented at the next meeting. The project is just getting under way.

Lilac Drive Pump Station

Mr. Chelton reported that the warranty project for this project has just come to conclusion, and his firm recommends release of retainage.

Mr. Witek moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority release the retainage for the Lilac Drive Pump Station project to Weston & Sampson CMR for
Estimate #14 in the amount of $13,483.43. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gancarz and carried unanimously.

This project will be removed from the agenda.

Superintendent’s Report

Mr. Dievert discussed Document TR-16, which contains guides for the design of the lab of the Wastewater Treatment Works. Mr. Dievert emphasized that this is a guidance document, not a compliance document. Mr. Dievert is preparing a report regarding the issues related to this document, and it will be in the packet for next month. It will detail where the plant is and what needs to be done to bring it up to standards if the lab is not replaced. Mr. Dievert commented that the lab is the brains at the helm of the treatment plant and thus needs a great deal of consideration.

Chesprocott Information

Mr. Pelton reported receipt of information regarding failing septic systems and repairs for the month of March. He queried whether information regarding failing systems is still being plotted as it was in the past. Mr. Eberle will be asked for progress on this information since he had worked on this in the past.

Mr. Gancarz requested that information on the history of flows be updated to reflect current status.

APPROVAL OF INVOICES

Mr. Witek moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve invoice #7076734 from AECOM in the amount of $5,270.93, for services relating to Phase 2 of the Facilities Plan, pending review and approval of Mr. Korman. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gancarz and carried unanimously.

Mr. Witek moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve invoice #7076733 from AECOM in the amount of $5,270.93, for services relating to the Interceptor Manhole Rehabilitation Project, pending review and approval of Mr. Korman. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gancarz and carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Pelton referred to the sequence of steps which have been taken to obtain the DEP approval of plans to update the Treatment Plant. The DEP has signed off on Technical Memorandums 1 & 2 of the Town’s previous application. The Authority has been given approval to proceed with Technical Memorandum #4.

Attorney Lord commented that the Authority has requested funds from the Clean Water Fund. He stated that while it may not be a requirement to hold a public hearing regarding
this project and DEP funding, he recommends that it be done. Mr. Chelton noted that during the last treatment plant update in 1979 the Authority did hold a public hearing before approving final plans. Attorney Lord stated that the Authority may decide to make some changes based upon public input from the public hearing. Attorney Lord recommended conducting a public hearing upon completion of Technical Memorandum #4.

Since there are some questionable items in the letter referred to earlier in the meeting from the DEP, Mr. Chelton will contact Ms. Stacy Papano to determine whether the DEP is awaiting additional information from the Authority. It could be possible that Mr. Greci, who authored the letter to the Authority, does not have all of the prior facts relating to this issue. Mr. Chelton is not aware of any information that has not been presented to the DEP, but will check to determine what if anything needs to be done. The Town Council will be updated on the status of this project. It was the consensus of the Authority to conduct the above referenced public hearing at the June meeting.

Mr. Chelton stated that potential sewer areas have been identified over the period of the next 20 years, using the 4 m.g.p.d. statistics. He expressed concern that there is no program in place to extend sewers to potential needy areas in the future. He suggested a public education campaign to solicit information on potential problem areas which may be in clusters. It would be prudent to have a long range plan in place to sewer potential problem areas in Town.

Mr. Chelton informed the Authority that he has viewed the draft priority list for funding from the Clean Water Fund. Cheshire is very far down on the list, even for the year 2012. Priority is based on accumulated points, and unfortunately those municipalities who have the worst conditions get more points towards funding. Mr. Chelton doesn’t necessarily agree with the point system, and will do more investigation to try to move Cheshire up on the list.

Mr. Chelton recommends that someone from the Authority or staff attend the State public hearing regarding the funding issue. Mr. Chelton will draft information to be used at the public hearing. Mr. Dievert commented that the larger towns seem to be higher on the list of funding priorities. Large CSO’s combined with sewer overflows result in a large amount of points, as well as towns in violation of the Clean Water Act. In some cases, diluted sewage is being discharged into the water course, which is a serious concern. Mr. Chelton stated that another priority list will be developed next year, and he is hopeful that Cheshire can move up on the list for the potential 20% project funding.

Mr. Chelton informed the Authority that he is not sure about regulations regarding phosphorus removal at this time. The DEP is reporting that regulations may be very tight and expensive to address. Considering the Town’s current ranking, it is possible not to be on the 2012 priority funding list.

Mr. Gancarz pointed out that since phosphorus regulations are not yet in place, it appears that the Town is meeting the regulations. That could affect the point total. Mr. Chelton
concurred that points will go up when phosphorus regulations come out. The bigger offenders receive more points under this system.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business to come before the Authority.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Gancarz moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority approve the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of March 24, 2010, as presented, subject to correction. The motion was seconded by Mr. Witek.

Corrections: Page 1, Mr. Dievert’s title is “Superintendent of Water Pollution Control Division”

Page 2, references to award of capacity for Richmond Glen should be “6,151 g.p.d.

Page 2, paragraph 4, line 3 should read, “…….pumps drain into a small wet well.

Page 7, paragraph 4, should read, “…….informed the Authority that the Town’s counsel…”

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Witek moved that the Water Pollution Control Authority adjourn at 8:45 p.m. The motion was seconded by Mr. Gancarz and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Tim Pelton, Vice Chairman
Water Pollution Control Authority
in the absence of the Chairman
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