

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY MINUTES

**Canoe Brook Senior Center, 11 Cherry Hill Road, Branford, CT
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, June 11, 2019 7 P.M.**

Chairman Mark Winik called the meeting to order at 7 P.M.

Roll Call: Chairman Mark Winik, David Steinhardt, Ryan Sullivan, Joseph Herget, and Mike Tamsin

Also Present: Town Engineer John Hoefflerle, and Operations Manager Brian Devlin

Absent: Superintendent Dan Gregory, Attorney Peter Berdon, Yvette Larrieu, and Robert Imperato

PUBLIC HEARING: Sewer Use Fee rate to be set at \$130 per Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU)

A motion was made to open the public hearing by Mr. Steinhardt, and seconded by Mr. Herget. Motion carries unanimously.

No public was present.

A motion was made to close the public hearing by Mr. Steinhardt, and seconded by Mr. Sullivan. Motion carries unanimously.

Resolution to set sewer use fee:

A motion was made by Mr. Steinhardt, and seconded by Mr. Sullivan, to set the sewer use fee for fiscal year 2019-2020, at \$130.00. Motion carries unanimously.

Resolved: The Branford WPCA hereby sets the sewer use fee at \$130 per equivalent dwelling unit for fiscal year 2019-2020

Approval of Minutes – May 14, 2019

A motion was made to approve the minutes as presented by Mr. Steinhardt and seconded by Mr. Herget. Mr. Sullivan abstains due to absence at the May meeting. Motion carries.

Discussion regarding Beacon Hill (Rose Hill Rd.) sewers (tabled from 5/14/19)

Mr. Hoefflerle has not heard from anyone on this project.

Mr. Steinhardt states this item be tabled for the next meeting.

A motion was made to table to the next meeting by Mr. Steinhardt, seconded by Mr. Sullivan.

Budget Transfer:

FROM: Utility Account 21043030-544100 (\$23,200.00)

TO: Tax Refund Account 21043030 588620 \$10,000.00

Accumulated Sick 21043030 519030 \$13,200.00

Mr. Devlin presented and explained the request for this budget transfer.

A motion was made to accept the budget transfer as presented by Mr. Steinhardt, and seconded by Mr. Sullivan. Motion carries unanimously.

Correspondence:

A letter was presented by Attorney Peter Berdon, regarding the WPCA implemented informal policy of refunding sewer use fees for up to three years for users that can establish that the subject property is not connected to sewer system.

There are no statutory or regulatory authority or Town ordinances which permits or prohibits the issuances of these refunds.

What has not been addressed is if the property owner fails to make timely payment and statutory interest and lien charges have accrued in addition to the use charges.

Statutory interest is charged at the rate of 18% per annum, and the lien fee is \$24.00 per lien. There was discussion whether to waive interest, but not the lien.

Add Agenda Item: Interest and Lien to Sewer Use Fees

A motion was made to add this interest and lien issue to the Agenda by Mr. Steinhardt, and seconded by Mr. Herget. Motion carries unanimously.

A motion was made to amend the regulatory rules of sewer use fees for the past three years to include interest paid by the property owner by Mr. Sullivan, and seconded by Mr. Steinhardt. Motion carries unanimously.

Mr. Hoefflerle would like permission from the Board to add to the August agenda, a sewer assessment of \$6,000.00 per unit for Riverview Avenue sewer extension?

He will set up a public hearing.

There was discussion regarding if everyone has to hook up to sewers once the extension is made. The only ones required to tie in are homes with holding tanks.

Add Agenda Item: Riverview Avenue Sewer Extension Assessment:

A motion was made to recommend the Riverview Ave. extension sewer assessment fee of \$6,000.00 per unit by Mr. Steinhardt and seconded by Mr. Sullivan. Motion carries unanimously.

Approval of Vouchers:

One voucher was brought forward from Atty. Peter Berdon in the amount of \$783.75.

A motion was made to approve the voucher for \$783.75 by Mr. Steinhardt, and seconded by Mr. Herget. Motion carries unanimously.

Superintendents Report:

Mr. Brian Devlin, Operations Manager, presented Mr. Gregory's report.

The plant is doing very well, and we will be getting a check for \$219,585.00 nitrogen credit from the State in August.

We processed 1,088,500 gallons of septic, and will receive payment of \$71,077.20.

Channel Monster and Vacuum Truck have been worked on.

We have a new generator at our Pawson Park Pump station. It is waiting for our Electrician to hook it up.

The road crew has been out jetting.

Engineer's Report:

Mr. Hoefflerle will set up a Public Hearing for the Riverview Avenue assessment fee.

Bid specs. are out with AECOM for sewer line for some hot spots in Town. We are requesting proposals for 3 or 4 on call contractors.

Hemlock Bid Opening will be coming up July 17th.

Adjournment:

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Sullivan, and seconded by Mr. Steinhardt at 7:36 P.M. Motion carries unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Camille Linke
Clerk