

**WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
ZOOM MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 13, 2021 7:00 P.M.**

Chairman Mark Winik called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Roll Call: Chairman Mark Winik, Robert Imperato, Yvette Larrieu, and Joseph Herget

Also Present: Superintendent Brian Devlin, Engineer John Hoefflerle, and Attorney Peter Berdon

Absent: David Steinhardt, Ryan Sullivan, and Mike Tamsin

Approval of Minutes:

A motion was made by Mr. Imperato to approve the minutes as presented, and seconded by Ms. Larrieu. Motion carries unanimously.

Review and if appropriate approve extension for Order to connect for 84 Riverview Avenue

Mr. Hoefflerle explains this is resident at 84 Riverview Avenue who is currently on a holding tank that the Town pumps out. They are requesting an extension to the order to hook up to sewers by May 21, 2021. The letters were sent by certified mail, to residents currently on holding tanks, stating they were ordered to hook up by May 21, 2021. They would like to extend this to May 21, 2022. Due to COVID they are having problems getting a contractor to do the trench work.

The owners Mr. & Mrs. Corry, present tonight, are eager to move forward, and may need less than a year, but will request a year extension for now.

A motion was made by Mr. Imperato to approve the extension to May 21, 2022, and seconded by Ms. Larrieu. Motion carries unanimously.

Sewer Access Application

- a. 45-55 Alex Warfield Road (Shoreline Trolley Museum)

The Shoreline Trolley Museum is proposing a bathroom facility that would run into a private pump station, bringing a forcemain through their property to Dominican Rd. to a gravity flow. This pump station would be raised above flood levels.

Jim Pretti from Criscuolo Engineering further discusses there are currently no bathrooms, where the older trolley cars are being restored.

The flows to the Pump Station would be about 750 gallons a day.

When they have their largest event at Halloween, they will get portable toilets, to avoid a larger flow to the sewer system.

A motion was made by Mr. Imperato to approve this sewer access, subject to sewer agreement, and seconded by Ms. Larrieu. Motion carries unanimously.

Add to Agenda – Sewer Access Application – 434 East Main Street

A motion was made by Imperato to add this Sewer Access Application – 434 East Main Street, to the agenda, and seconded by Ms. Larrieu. Motion carries unanimously.

Mr. Hoefflerle received a letter today, regarding this sewer access application at 434 East Main Street. The site plans have already been reviewed by Planning & Zoning, and wetlands.

This will be an office building east of property on Business Park Drive, at 25,000 square feet.

The applicant, Mr. Vincent Giordano, would like to hook up to the existing sewer system. Mr. Giordano said it is not specifically determined how many tenants will be in this office building. When there is a final determination, Planning & Zoning will ask to come back.

A consultant would check capacity to Rte. 139.

Attorney Berdon said, if there is a change of flow, they would have to come back for approval.

A motion was made by Mr. Imperato, subject to sewer agreement, reviewed by a consultant with final approval by Mr. Hoefflerle, Town Engineer, and seconded by Ms. Larrieu.

Motion carries unanimously.

Discussion and possible action regarding assessing property owners for professional fees incurred

This discussion was initiated by Mr. Imperato, discussed over 3 to 4 years regarding who should pick up Attorney fees, document fees, and recording fees. If the property owner comes to us, they should be paying the fees. A developer should also be picking up the fees.

Attorney Berdon said, the legal counsel can do a policy enactment. For the fees to be turned over to the property owners, a resolution or policy will require a public hearing. Over the years, the WPCA has paid these fees.

Attorney Berdon said he will do a formal resolution to the formal policy and present it at the next WPCA meeting.

There was also discussion regarding the fairness of one district paying \$650.00 for assessment, and another district paying \$6,500.00, and if the districts can be brought to the same costs.

Mr. Hoefflerle states that the connection fees are within the Town Ordinance. This would have to go to the RTM and may have to look into the State Statutes to change district rates.

If the WPCA recommends this to the RTM, it goes to committee for an ordinance revision.

We can propose language, there is a 6 month window before new representatives are sworn in.

Attorney Berdon said he can propose language for next month's meeting before public hearing.

Budget Transfer/New Account:

FROM: Technology acquisitions: 21043030 579150 (\$500.00)

TO: Furniture and Fixtures NEW \$500.00

Mr. Devlin explains he is transferring to a new Furniture and Fixture account, to be able to purchase a chair for the Operations Manager. His chair now is on its last leg.

A motion was made by Ms. Larrieu to approve the transfer from the Technology Acquisitions account to the new Furniture and Fixtures account, and seconded by Mr. Imperato. Motion carries unanimously.

Reports:**Superintendent – Brian Devlin**

The plant has been running well.

Linden Shores pump station has a forcemain problem, which was repaired and is finished.

This was an emergency repair, the electric panel above the forcemain had to be moved. A bypass valve was put in that can be pulled out to pump out.

Next week he has a septic receiving meeting to get that going.

The gravity thickener parts will be coming in.

The mixers are working now.

Bradley pump station is being worked on today for the forcemain.

Watch Hill had a temporary repair at the pit, and am getting a price for that.

There is enough money in the budget to get us through until June 30th.

Mr. Imperato is questioning Brian's projects and spending down capital money, since if this is not used it will be turned in.

Brian has a quote from Fleet and will use that from that money.

Mr. Hoefflerle said he sat down with Brian and Jim Finch to go over the capital projects.

2016 funds appropriated through bonding and taxation.

Mr. Imperato would like to come down to the Treatment Plant to meet with Brian, and Yvette Larrieu, next week to go over these capital accounts, and the projects in progress.

Mr. Imperato had to call Brian after hours, regarding a resident having sewage in their basement. Brian called his crew in overtime, and got the job accomplished.

Town Engineer – John Hoefflerle

Mr. Hoefflerle said in May or June, he will send out a public hearing for sewer use fee for the upcoming year. With the \$130.00 currently being collected, the last 8 or 10 years, there is now a bit of a deficit.

Per modeling, and budget he is recommending the sewer use fee to \$160.00 a year per each EDU.

Mr. Winik said, moving forward he would like to see different models. Will discuss sewer use fee next meeting, with June public hearing.

Another topic to discuss is a Coastal vulnerability Group created with the Planning & Zoning process, looking at our coastal vulnerabilities, as sea levels rise, and looking at long term planning. This was created by Board of Selectman to give us recommendations for the shoreline. Looking at all of the shoreline, and treatment plants, and how to protect the Treatment Plant from flooding, going forward to 2050.

Looked at a facility plan from 1996 when a facility study was done, and looking at infrastructure.

WPCA – Attorney – Peter Berdon

Attorney Berdon said he's still working through the Etzel Road easement realignment, waiting for revised drawings finalized for that agreement. There will be a reduction in size of the current sewer easement in order to mirror what's actually on the ground.

Also had a discussion with Mr. Imperato regarding the professional fees.

Adjournment:

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Imperato and seconded by Ms. Larrieu at 8:20 PM. Motion carries unanimously

Respectfully submitted,

Camille Linke, Clerk