

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 10, 2014

The Regular Meeting of the Water Pollution Control Authority was called to order by Chairman Michael DeAngelis at 7:00 P.M. in the Shelton City Hall, 54 Hill Street, Shelton, CT. 06484, on December 10, 2014.

The following Commissioners were present to constitute a quorum:

Commissioner Michael DeAngelis
Commissioner Donald Ramia
Commissioner Edwin Hellauer
Commissioner Joseph Frolich
Commissioner Stephen Morse
Commissioner Todd Dowty

Also in attendance were:

Thomas Sym, Sewer Administrator
Ed Comboni- WPCP
Garritt Ogden- WPCP
Matthew Jermine- Fuss & O'Neill
James Swift

1. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public wishing to address the Commission.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 12, 2014

A motion was made by Commissioner Hellauer to approve the following meeting minutes:

Regular Meeting of November 12, 2014

Seconded by Commissioner Ramia. A voice vote was taken and motion passed unanimously.

4. COMMUNICATIONS

A. ASSISTANT TO WPCA REPORT

None presented.

B. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Ed Comboni: The average daily flow was 1.9 MGD; the peak flow for the month of November was 2.6 MGD.

Our effluent total nitrogen was 36.75 pounds per day; the limit was 106 pounds per day. We pumped out 188,500 gallons of sludge.

We now have had 42 months free from any accidents.

Our safety/training was hearing and noise.

Our chemical consumables were approximately the same.

The grease removal for Upper Route 8 was 220 pounds, Lower Route 8 was 40 pounds, River Road was 110 pounds, Ladas Place was 100 pounds and Meadowlark was 50 pounds, for the month of November.

From comparing November 2014, the total was 520 pounds, and in November 2013, the total amount of grease was 370 pounds.

We have had 0 complaints this month, making it a total of 27 months free of noise complaints.

We have had 0 odor complaints, which brings us to 18 months of no odor complaints.

The daily maintenance was basically the same. The corrective maintenance included installing a new inline grinder at the Bridgeport Avenue Station, replaced a few halide lights with LED lighting, swapped control valve from out of service plant water pump to other to keep it running, and installed door sweep on Blower Building door.

The SBR history is the same.

The future work includes testing alarm dialers for Bridgeport Avenue, Beard Sawmill and River Road Stations, awaiting parts for Beard Sawmill Pump and plant water.

C. BUDGET WORKSHEET

Commissioner Morse: The budget worksheet shows a big increase this year. The user fees have been put into the budget, which is good news. The bad news is the Employee Insurance is very low, as compared to previous months and years. I called the Accounting Department and they did agree it was low. The reason it was low was because they did not yet enter the prescription drug program costs, which comes to around \$3,000 per month. The next time we see the chart; those figures should be added in there. The other one is tracking of the very low rate; that is Tom's sewer business for sewer maintenance. That is below what we have planned, but the money is still there for when we get started.

Chairman DeAngelis: For the grit removal, was this one of those that we have moved money out of? There was \$28,000 in the original budget and the adjusted budget is \$13,000?

Commissioner Morse: The original budget is wrong; the adjusted numbers are right. It is just the way they entered it.

Chairman DeAngelis: Would it hold true for Municipal Electric? There are only a couple of them that were wrong; not all of them are wrong.

Tom Sym: How is the electric bill?

Commissioner Morse: The electric, on my mind, is on hold because starting next year with not only the plant and pump stations, they are getting hit with a basic charge. The electric rate on the generator side is going to go from .5 to .9 cents per kilowatt-hour. That starts December 1st. I have not seen any of those bills yet from Aequitas. That is what the Mayor has negotiated for a one-year contract, so we will have to watch it and see what happens. Our estimate when we put the budget is going to be low.

D. HOLIDAY BUFFET

The WPCA clerk took a head count of the members that selected to participate in the annual holiday party. Responses were given to Marilyn Gannon on the following day.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. FUSS & O'NEILL STATUS REPORT

Matt Jermine: We did a bid addendum that was sent on 12/2/14, for the CIPP Lining of Long Hill Avenue/Brewster Lane. The bid opening for that project is next week.

The Treatment Plant Water System Repair is pretty much done to send out to bid next week. We just have to finalize some pipe dimensions, miscellaneous things that we are going to fix as part of the project. It is one and two inch copper piping in the sludge handling building, that is all corroded. We want to cut back the exposed copper into the insulation so it is not exposed, and plumb it out with stainless steel piping. We have to make sure that we have all of the right pipe diameters to start with so everything else is set up the right way.

Tom Sym: Do you have an estimate for that?

Matt Jermine: I gave you a breakdown of what the estimate would be at our last meeting. From the original design instead of going with three small pumps, we are able to go with two small pumps just the way the flows worked out with the pressures. The system has 15 horsepower now, and now we can go down to 10 horsepower because right now it is set up as 100 horsepower. 100 PSI is a lot of pressure, so if you take that down to 80 PSI it will reduce energy because most of the equipment runs off of 40 PSI. You have 20 extra PSI that is burning energy while these things are cranking away. If you reduce power with slightly smaller motors; one pump is still 120 gallons per minute in which the plant should run on one pump. We will get that out to bid promptly.

NPDES Discharge Permit Renewal- I talked to you about this last month. This is the month that we really need to get under contract to get started on that. We have to get this in by June, which is ahead six months of the permit's expiration, which is next December. I put together a budget together for that. What came to be for the application itself and sending it in would come to \$17,900. Then, the DEEP is going to take around six months to one year to look at it. At that time, they will come back with questions and we can come up with a budget based on the questions that they ask to follow up with it. All of this is hourly, so if we do not spend \$17,900, then we will not charge all of it. For follow up review comments, which I anticipate would be next year's budget would be on the high side: \$8,000.

Chairman DeAngelis: So is the \$17,900 going to them this year?

Matt Jermine: The \$17,900 is to prepare and to submit the new application. What is costly about it is collating all of the information to put on DEEP forms. There must be at least a dozen attachments, and each attachment has a two or three page cover sheet with standard form that you would fill out, and all of the supporting paperwork goes underneath it. The positive part is that we do not have to print all of it out anymore. If we do not spend it, we will not charge you for it. The two biggest curveballs that I am going to watch out for is one section that asks if you had any basic consent orders, and that is what we have to get into with EPA.

I have two copies of the amendment to do this task.

Chairman DeAngelis: Are we putting that in this year's budget?

Matt Jermine: We did not have it in this year's budget. We really found out about this about one month and half ago. Garritt and I were at a conference and they gave an update on this process. Then all of a sudden, and checked the list and Shelton has received their notice within a couple weeks of that conference. It takes around one year to get this item done.

Tom Sym: When is the expiration date?

Commissioner Dowty: The expiration date is 12/12/15.

Matt Jermine: So it is six months to the day to act from that, when it needs to be submitted so you will not be late. Once you meet that deadline, it does not matter how long it takes for them to review it. Once this is approved, this permit lasts for a minimum of five years. The last time this was done was the year after the plant upgrade. We had a copy of the old application; I have a copy in the office. We will use the old application as much as we can, but the problem is that a lot of the sections move around. Since 2009, this was updated in 2011 and in 2013, so the program has changed a bit.

Tom Sym: Are you looking to get a motion for this?

Matt Jermine: Hopefully by the end of the meeting. We can talk about some ongoing things first. The SBR tank drains are in the works, as part of the air piping meter repair work. I finally got a hold of Kovacs today, and basically Wanda forwarded my email to her Tom and her response was when we put the project on hold three or four months ago they had three new projects come in that they scheduled while we were on hold. Now we are trying to get back in the queue for January. It is just a matter of her getting the crews out there. Right now they have a skeleton crew because everyone is on vacation; this is supposed to be their slow time of the year.

The odor control monitoring follow up- we have to start meeting with the guys at the plant for weekly odor air quality testing. We will try to keep it simple to meet with the requirements and the DEEP consent order for follow up. Now that the auxiliary turbo blower has been online, it has been working for a month or two so I think it is a good time to start that.

Sewer flow apportionment and Commercial EDU rate- we have not done that much in the last month because we have been focusing on the CIPP project and the plant water system repair. The plant water system repair is a timely project. That was broken again, and they were without it for three days so we are getting this done just in time.

Primary treatment alternatives for the treatment plant – We have to update the long-term needs matrix for plans for the City, but again that is not a priority right now.

Assignment Log Sheet – We have attached our budget on the second page. We are about half way through our regular budgets. Some of the discreet tasks, such as CIPP pipe lining and the plant water system repair are billed out on that. We will make the budget work on that.

Chairman DeAngelis: Why didn't you do the turbo blower process control?

Matt Jermine: We are waiting for Wanda to finish the air sensors because it does not make sense to optimize the turbo blowers if you have bad data coming in. I would rather wait and do it once.

Commissioner Morse: Are you going to add the NPDES permit to this matrix?

Matt Jermine: Yes I will.

Chairman DeAngelis: It can go under Sewer Technical Services.

A motion was made by Commissioner Morse to authorize \$17,900 to prepare and start work on the NPDES Discharge Permit.

Seconded by Commissioner Hellauer. A voice vote was taken and motion passed unanimously.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. BILLS RENDERED

(1) FUSS & O'NEILL INC. \$16,575.29

A motion was made by Commissioner Ramia to pay Fuss & O'Neill Inc. \$16,575.29.

Seconded by Commissioner Frolish. A voice vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

B. (1) 20 COMMERCE DRIVE

A PRESENTATION WAS MADE BY JIM SWIFT FOR BOTH AGENDA ITEMS:

Jim Swift: 20 Commerce Drive is an existing lot that was created years ago when we originally built Commerce Drive. Bob Scinto has bought it and has a building approved. The square footage was 58,000 more or less, so there was no zone change, no PDD's. Tom asked me to put the application together just more for tracking. There is no extension of the sewer main; there is nothing for the WPCA to take ownership of. This is just a straight up, lateral connection into the main that is in Commerce Drive. Tom just wanted to keep track of what the flows are when you have these jobs with significant flow but just a lateral. The average flow is 5,855 gallons per day. Again, there are no main extensions, no zone changes so nothing fancy.

Tom Sym: There are no zone changes for the existing five-acre parcel when they did Research Park. This is the last remaining, empty parcel over there.

Jim Swift: Yes, there are a couple of more but they had problems with wetlands and stuff like that. As a matter of fact, there is one right next door to us.

Tom Sym: We had some inspections done in the line that this ties to off of Commerce Drive. It is down in the right of way easement, next to the Far Mill River. We found there to be an inside drop in the manhole, and the pipe blew out. So now the inside drop is not functioning properly. I think we would like this repaired as part of the approval process to this. We keep adding and adding to this line and it is not getting any better. We were talking about addressing it around one year ago as part of an approval if we get that done. The cost factor, we can maybe reduce the connection fee by whatever it costs to add this manhole piping rearranged. It is the beginning of what they did when they picked up this part from the Huntington interceptor; it went into the woods along into the Far Mill River and started the subdivision line. It is part of this subdivision originally and it needs attention.

Jim Swift: I obviously cannot speak for Bob, but he has always been there for the town to do things. If it is a trade off for other monies, then I cannot imagine that you would have a problem with it. I am not sure if you can and should make it a requirement for approval if it is just a lateral connection?

Tom Sym: I do not know whom else we would get to do this?

Jim Swift: How big is the pipe?

Tom Sym: It is an 8-inch pipe that they used as an inside drop. Between the slope and the flow coming down, it blew it out and now it is laying in the manhole.

Jim Swift: I can pass this onto Bob to get some prices and work it out.

Chairman DeAngelis: In the meantime you are still going to give it to Fuss & O'Neill anyway.

Tom Sym: I do not think there is a need.

Jim Swift: It is just a lateral connection. We did not have to go to a Planned Development District or anything like that, because there is no floor area above and beyond what the LIP zone would give you.

Commissioner Morse: Does this need to go into the flow allocation?

Matt Jermine: Yes.

(While looking at the map) Tom Sym: The lateral is seven feet down from this manhole, so when they did the subdivision they installed laterals for each parcel. I just want to make sure the flow allocations are in place for this addition flow.

A motion was made by Commissioner Hellauer to accept the connection to Commerce Drive, Lot 6 – 20 Commerce Drive.

Seconded by Commissioner Ramia. A voice vote was made and the motion passed unanimously.

(2) PERRY HILL ROAD

This is a project that is on Perry Hill Road; I believe it is around 13 acres. Right now, we have a sewer main that passes through our site, comes across and goes down Perry Hill Road. So we are proposing a Planned Development District, so it is a zone change. I have submitted this for what the original application was for, which was 26 units that had a possibility of being all three-bedroom units. When I made an application here, which is what I have calculated it as. The average flow is 9,750 gallons per day for twenty-six, three-bedroom units. We have Inlands/Wetlands approval, and it is working its way through Planning and Zoning right now. A hearing in Planning and Zoning was closed one month ago and last night was the first discussion amongst Planning and Zoning Commission, regarding what their intentions are for the parcel. The discussion last night, at Planning and Zoning was positive. It looks like the Planning and Zoning Commission is going to approve this project in some form. What they discussing is a reduction of the impact and the intensity of the development. They do not have a motion written up yet, but the discussion last night was going from twenty-six units to twenty units, and to limit the number of three-bedroom units in favor of going to some maximum number and the rest of the units would be two-bedroom. The bottom line of tonight is Planning and Zoning has not given a final action, which would give us a final discharge number. I guess the question before this commission tonight is that the project is going in a positive direction, looks like Planning and Zoning is going to approve it.

Chairman DeAngelis: How many are on that drawing?

Jim Swift: There are twenty-six.

Chairman DeAngelis: Then it is not reduced yet.

Jim Swift: Correct. That is because it is just discussion. The way that the Planning and Zoning Planned District Development works is you come and hold a public hearing for the initial development plans. So when Planning and Zoning makes up their mind for an actual motion to approve the Planned Development District, they are going to give us some guidelines but that is not the final step. Then we come in one more time with the final plans to Planning and Zoning. Planning and Zoning's final step is not their step that will give us a pretty good maximum development number; maybe within the next month or so.

They are cognizant of what we can do here as a standard subdivision, with the knowledge that a standard subdivision can have four and five-bedroom units. That was part of the discussion last night. If there was thirteen or fourteen standard subdivision lots that had four or five-bedroom units, they are trying to back it up. This is a good development for the town, in my opinion, for a couple of reasons. One reason is there is more undeveloped open space that could be protected. Secondly, there are no city services required; this would be a private road. Thirdly, as far as the school system impact, these are very small lots that they sit on. Swing sets will be prohibited and swimming pools would be prohibited. What we had presented to them was a mix of two and three-bedroom units. What I have submitted to this commission for flows was all three-bedroom units because I do not want to be caught short.

Chairman DeAngelis: If this was not a PDD, and if this were to go the normal route, what would have the flow been versus what you are trying to ask for now?

Jim Swift: I think the flow would have been marginally less if it were normal. Of course that all decides on the final action from Planning and Zoning.

Chairman DeAngelis: Marginally less as 1%-2%? Or marginally less as 15%-20%?

Jim Swift: If we had gotten approval for all twenty-six units and they were going to let us develop all units as three-bedroom, you are 25%-30%. That is not where they are headed. They are not approaching it from flow; they are approaching it from school impact, things like that. They have the same interest as you, but for a different reason. Your interest is the flow rate, and their impact is on the school system.

Chairman DeAngelis: I am not saying that the WPCA loses out, but the PDDs are handed out like candy. That is why I oppose these all of the time. Thirteen years ago, I spent three months putting together a plan that Tony Pagoda and Tony Paneco asked us as a WPCA to put together a long-range plan. I understand and you do too, that flow is flow. When we reach the maximum we cut everyone off. It does not matter where the flow comes from. My point was that we were asked to plan, and spent at least three months together to put this together. Now all of a sudden, our flow allocation chart is all over the place; it does not make sense anymore and not even close to what we have originally talked about years ago.

Jim Swift: I threw out 25%-30%, but it is going to be a lot less because they are looking to reduce our unit count. That does not mean that is going to be their final resolution of approval. The number that they were throwing around last night was from twenty-six to twenty, and limiting how many three-bedroom units there would be. That could knock it all of the way back to a normal subdivision. The question before this commission tonight is how do you want to analyze this? Do you want to table it until you get something more definitive from Planning & Zoning? Do you want to start just a basic analysis of what we have for capacity?

Chairman DeAngelis: Since you are not going to get any place with this tonight, you might as well table it.

Commissioner Morse: How about the sewer redirect that you were talking about?

Jim Swift: We have an existing sewer that comes down through here. Our plan is to develop this all gravity sewer coming down. We looked at a low velocity pump type system for some of these lower units, because this sewer gets down to about a fifteen foot cut. It goes through wetlands, so we were not sure wetlands were going to be happy with it. As it turns out, it is okay with wetlands. You always want to gravity when you possibly can so this is an all gravity system. So the next question to the commission is does the commission find it beneficial/not beneficial to take that as a public sewer, so that it is under your control or not?

Chairman DeAngelis: It does not benefit us.

Tom Sym: Do you think the sewer plans are going to be deviated when the number of units are lowered?

Jim Swift: The sewer plan is going to stay the same.

Tom Sym: The only thing that I have noticed is that we do not have a profile on this.

Jim Swift: These are initial development concept type of plans. Are you going to review the private sewers that we are going to retain ownership of?

Tom Sym: Absolutely. We want to make sure it works.

Chairman DeAngelis: DEEP ultimately makes us responsible in the end.

Jim Swift: Normally the community sewer permit is more important when there is a pump station. Or, it is taking flows from something other than a strong association community.

Commissioner Morse: So it is headed toward some kind of association since you have private roads. The question is where do you put the sewers, streetlights?

Jim Swift: In defense of PDDs, that is one of the reasons why Planning and Zoning likes them because they have control. Should we table it?

Chairman DeAngelis: I would recommend tabling it.

Jim Swift: Just so I get direction, my next appearance here before this commission would be when we have more direction from Planning and Zoning that limits the flow-

Chairman DeAngelis: It does not limit the flow, it just tells you what the flows will be.

Jim Swift: Well it is going to limit us.

Chairman DeAngelis: How is that?

Jim Swift: If the two-bedrooms sell better than the three-bedrooms, they will go with the two-bedrooms because it is market driven.

Chairman DeAngelis: That has no bearing on us; the flow is flow.

Jim Swift: We are going to get an approval from this board as to our maximum discharge. It does not mean it could be less. If and when Planning and Zoning takes a vote and an action on this, then I will revise the application with the correct numbers and generate some profiles for the sewer.

C. SEWER ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Tom Sym: I sent an email to Charlie about closing out the consent decree, and he sent me back a 38-page document. He is recommending consulting with Corporation Counsel.

Chairman DeAngelis: So you had to ask him for him to get it. So if we never asked for it, then we never would have received it? This is why they are not here anymore.

Tom Sym: He is also trying to set up a meeting with EPA and DEEP. So basically we did not have any capacity related overflows for one year so that is good that there are other items when we submitted and signed off on the original consent decree, that we have deviated a bit from what the original plans were.

Commissioner Hellauer: Are they under contract for producing the report?

Tom Sym: Yes.

Commissioner Morse: Before he can get to that, he has to have this stuff answered. Did he say when he is going to do the CMOM?

Tom Sym: No not yet. We are going to have a bid opening next week for this lining operation. Do you want to wait until next month to make a recommendation to the Board of Aldermen? They meet after the day that we do. Or, do you want to make a recommendation now? We want the Board of Aldermen to appropriate the amount of the lowest bidder?

Chairman DeAngelis: Do you know if they can start right away?

Tom Sym: I am not saying if they can start right away but if we wait to do this next month, the Board of Aldermen meets the next day so they would not act on it then. Now it then goes into February.

Chairman DeAngelis: Yes, let's make a recommendation now.

Commissioner Morse: To accept the low bidder. What if there is something out of whack?

Tom Sym: It is for a responsible low bidder. Matt and I will have some input to make a recommendation.

Tom Sym: The bidder has to be responsible, and has to show a list of all projects that they have done and references they have. The project is going to be around \$300,000 to \$400,000.

A motion was made by Commissioner Morse to advise the Board of Aldermen to select a low, responsible bidder for the Long Hill Sewer Lining Project, after review and recommendation from the Engineering Consultant and the Sewer Department.

Seconded by Commissioner Ramia. A voice vote was taken and motion passed unanimously.

7. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

None made during meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Morse to adjourn the December 10, 2014 Regular WPCA meeting at 8:10 P.M.

Seconded by Commissioner Hellauer. All were in favor and motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Brittany Gannon, WPCA Clerk