



# WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

The City of Ansonia  
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TOWN AND CITY CLERK  
ANSONIA, CONNECTICUT

## Special Meeting

November 9, 2016

Present: Nunzio Parente, Chairman  
Carmine Durante  
Andrew Geruntho  
Ken Plavnicky

Absent: William Nimons - Resignation  
Charles Stowe, 1<sup>st</sup> Ward Alderman  
Robert Turschmann

Others in Attendance: Rita St. Jacques  
Richard Bshara  
Brian Capozzi  
Joan Radin, 5<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderwoman

The Special Meeting of the Ansonia Water Pollution Control Authority was called to order at 7:06 p.m. by Chairman Parente.

All present rose and pledged Allegiance to the Flag.

The secretary called the roll. There was a quorum present.

DISCLAIMER: The minutes of the WPCA provided by the Secretary are not verbatim and are the best effort of the Secretary to capture all of the conversations taking place during the meeting.

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Chairman Parente said that William Nimons has resigned from WPCA. He said he has not been contacted about a replacement yet.

### **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Durante made a motion to accept as written and place on file the minutes of the October 5, 2016 Regular meeting. Mr. Plavnicky seconded. All in favor, the motion carried.

### **Public Session**

Chairman Parente asked three (3) times if there was anyone from the public who wished to address the Commission. There being no one, he closed the public session.

### **WPCA Counsel/Attorney Decision**

Ms. St. Jacques said she has been contacted by Mr. Lord and Kari Olson asking if anything has been decided. She said she told them the meeting had been postponed.

There was a brief discussion on the applicants for the WPCA attorney. Mr. Durante asked if Chairman Parente and Ms. St. Jacques have reached a decision. Chairman Parente said yes they have reached a decision.

### **Mr. Durante made a motion to hire Murtha Cullina. Mr. Plavnicky seconded.**

Mr. Plavnicky asked the hourly rate.

Chairman Parente said he is not sure but the rates are in the proposal. He said with respect to bankruptcy accounts WPCA needs to find out how they will be billing for this service. They have to file the paperwork, etc. for bankruptcy accounts. What will WPCA receive from the bankruptcy action and what will the cost be to WPCA to file. We also need to know how the process works.

### **Chairman Parente called for a voice vote. All in favor, so carried.**

Chairman Parente asked the Commissioners if there is anything that they want Murtha Cullina to address or check for WPCA. He asked if he should invite them back to Ansonia to discuss the things the Commission would like them to work on.

The commissioners felt it wasn't necessary to invite them back to Ansonia.

Mr. Plavnicky said they can address the sewer back-ups and the Charter to see where we stand with regard to who is responsible.

Ms. St. Jacques said we need to know how to handle bankruptcy's. She said in the past she faxed the bankruptcies to the Attorney and they would file the paperwork.

Chairman Parente said WPCA needs to know how much time it takes to do certain jobs and tasks, for example 10 minutes or 2 hours. He said the attorney's issue a position paper and backup on the issues they are working on.

Ms. St. Jacques said they should review the Derby Agreement. She would also like a policy with regard to files. After each bankruptcy or project happens WPCA should have copies of the paperwork, the findings and a copy of the resolution in the WPCA office file.

Ms. St. Jacques said there are 15 boxes of material from Attorney Androski. She is going through one box at a time and if there is "people" information it will be shred. She will keep the pertinent information in the WPCA files.

Chairman Parente said with regard to the Charter question, he spoke with the Board of Aldermen and regardless of who is responsible, WPCA has a vested interest in taking care of the problem. He said WPCA will sit down with the Insurance Company and Public Works Dept. to "hammer" out a written policy.

Ms. St. Jacques said the policy should be something posted, i.e. punch list of what Supt. Capozzi has to follow so that it is easier than going through a document.

#### **Sewer Administrator's Report (copy on file in the Town Clerk's office)**

Rita St. Jacques, Sewer Administrator was present.

Ms. St. Jacques advised the Commissioners that the Reminder Cards for the December 2016 payment were mailed as was the first delinquent notice. She said she received the first installment from Derby in the amount of \$36,000+. Derby is still delinquent on some accounts. She will be sending out delinquent notices for the first installment that is past due.

Ms. St. Jacques said the Monthly Financial Reports, the Due To Due From Report is in the packet. She reviewed Marshall Davies report. He is doing very well with collections this year. She said the criteria for delinquent accounts is if they are 2 years or older or are \$1000 or more. These accounts are being sent to the Marshall. Ms. St. Jacques said she is in the process of preparing a WPCA Policy. She will provide a copy to the Commission once it is complete.

**Mr. Durante made a motion to accept Ms. St. Jacques Report as presented. Mr. Geruntho seconded. All in favor, so carried.**

## **New Business**

### Ansonia Derby Agreement and Derby Fee Schedule

Mr. Bshara stated he received e-mails from Marcy, Derby WPCA. She advised him that Jack Walsh will soon be Derby's WPCA Chairman. She said that there will be a meeting with Ansonia after the Christmas Holiday in January 2017 to discuss the Agreement and Fee Schedule.

### Resignation

Letter received from William Nimons resigning from WPCA. Copy on file in the Town Clerk's office.

### Campaign Flyer

Mr. Plavnicky discussed the recent Campaign Flyer received from the State Representative regarding Ansonia and Derby regionalizing the sewers. He asked if anyone came before the WPCA to discuss this. He asked why this was in the Flyer if they never came to WPCA.

Mr. Durante stated that Derby is under order to fix their Plant.

Chairman Parente said no one from Derby approached Ansonia WPCA about interconnect. Derby's Mayor was receptive but nothing was received in writing. He said there were a few meetings with the engineers from Ansonia and Derby but nothing was put forward. He said there is a \$70,000 grant to work together on this. He said recently Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments received 1.3 million dollar grant to study interconnect with Ansonia, Derby, Seymour, Beacon Falls and Naugatuck.

There was discussion on the grant to study the best matches for interconnect. DEEP wishes to reduce waste water plants in Connecticut. The \$1.3 million dollars is for these five towns to see which are the best partners to interconnect.

There was discussion on the Flyer. Ms. St. Jacques brought to the commissions attention and wanted it on record that the Interconnect issue was brought up at a Board of Alderman meeting by Sheila O'Malley. Because of that Representative Linda Gentile stepped up to the plate to help get funding for VCOG to do the study for regionalization throughout the valley, which included the Interconnect for Ansonia and Derby. The commissioners discussed the feasibility of the interconnect and that at this time it will not work.

## **Old Business**

### Payment of Bills

None

## **Unfinished Business**

Chairman Parente said that WPCA still has to meet with the City of Ansonia regarding the liens not purchased by Caz Creek. He said the WPCA has to have a plan.

Ms. St. Jacques said that Corporation Counsel Marini is working on something with them to purchase the rest of the liens.

Mr. Bshara said they are still in discussion with Caz Creek on what they will pay for these liens. He said he is in the discussions with the Tax Department and will keep WPCA informed.

## **Superintendent's Report (copy on file in the Town Clerk's office)**

Supt. Brian Capozzi was present.

Supt. Capozzi reviewed his report with the Commissioners. He said the Sunset station alarm went in on 10/15/16 with a hung up float, Jason St. Jacques fixed it. On 10/18/16 the Sunset Station alarm went in again and Jason St. Jacques jumped the float to the alarm float and replaced the bad one the next day. On 11/1/16, West Brooks Station went down and Jason St. Jacques came in to repair it.

Supt. Capozzi said there was an average of 7 sludge trucks a week. They did 10 FOG inspections in October. He discussed the establishments that he inspected. There is a report on the FOG inspections that Supt. Capozzi submitted which was discussed by the Commissioners. A copy of this FOG report is on file in the Town Clerk's office.

Supt. Capozzi said there are about nine restaurants and day care institutions inspected one time a year and some WPCA inspects two times a year. They have paperwork that they fill out for WPCA.

There was discussion on the Nolan Field Concession Stand. Supt. Capozzi said it is connected to a dry well. He said they received a variance. Chairman Parente asked when Supt. Capozzi will have visited everyone on the list for compliance. Supt. Capozzi said January 2017. Mr. Plavnicky asked about Eddy's Bake Shop and if they have complied. Supt. Capozzi said they have 90 days to do it and then they will be fined \$10 a day for another 90 days.

Supt. Capozzi said that the pump went down at West Brook station and it needed to be replaced. He said he and Jason St. Jacques replaced the pump on 11/2/16. Bill Jarvis did some of the wiring on it. This new pump works with air pressure to turn it on and off. Jason St. Jacques had a great idea to wire the alarm float to turn the pump should the airline lose its prime. Supt.

Capozzi said they will be doing the same thing to the Silver Hill Station that uses the same air pressure switch. He said they are looking at whether they can rebuild that pump. If that pump cannot be repaired he will order another new one so that there is one on hand for emergency.

Chairman Parente said he thought the two Silver Hill pumps would be eliminated and be gravity fed.

Supt. Capozzi said it would be too costly to do that.

Chairman Parente said the City Engineer estimated about \$30,000 to \$40,000 to gravity feed the pump stations but someone came in with \$167,000 not including the ledge, 600 feet and 3 1/2' to 4' deep. It is all ledge in that area.

Supt. Capozzi said if any more houses are built up there they will strain the pump station. They will need WPCA approval or they will have to go to a septic system.

There was discussion on phasing in the conversion to gravity from Silver Hill down through to Reichelt Terrace. The majority of the cost from Silver Hill into Reichelt Terrace would be the rough gaps in the land in there. They would have to fill everything in and then put the pipe in. The pitch is so steep it requires manholes every few feet. At this time it is not being considered.

There was discussion on the repair of the pumps at Sheasby, Silver Hill and West Brook pump stations and the need to maintain a spare pump for emergency use.

Supt. Capozzi discussed the quote to repair the generator water pump leak. He said the cost is \$5,300. He said they did maintenance a few weeks ago. The cost for repair to the generator is still the same as last year. WPCA has a contract with them.

Chairman Parente said to send Public Works Dept. a letter and ask them if they are willing to pay half the cost of the repair to the generator water pump.

Discussion on the importance of repairing the water pump on the generator continued. If the generator is running for a few days and it goes down it will flood the town. The water pump leak has to be repaired.

Supt. Capozzi discussed the soda ash pumps that need to be repaired. He said one was removed and Jason took it apart. He said they need a rebuild kit and a bearing for that pump and Jason will do the rebuild. The soda ash caked up inside the pumps. (Supt. Capozzi showed the commissioners a sample of the soda ash that was removed from the pumps) Once the pump is fully repaired they will remove the second pump and Jason will do the rebuild again. To help solve this problem from happening again, Jason is installing a valve to drain the pump when one is not in use.

Chairman Parente discussed the negative number in the fuel line item. He said Supt. Capozzi purchased 876 gallons of fuel to top off the generator.

Mr. Bshara said maybe City of Ansonia can pay for the fuel bill and WPCA can pay for the maintenance on the generator. The generator runs the Public Works Dept. plant also. He said there is money in the fuel line and maybe PWD can pay for the fuel and WPCA pay for the \$5300.

#### Earthcore

Supt. Capozzi Earthcore is moving along. A lot of the lights have been replaced. The electricians are in there working on the electric lines. Earthcore wants to come to WPCA meeting next month to give another presentation.

Chairman Parente said he would rather they wait until the first project is complete. The first project is scheduled for completion by 12/1/16.

There was discussion on another delivery system for the Soda Ash.

**Mr. Plavnicky made a motion to accept Supt. Capozzi's report as presented. Mr. Durante seconded. All in favor, so carried.**

#### **Financial Report**

Mr. Richard Bshara was present.

Mr. Bshara said as part of the review for the certificate of insurance, it was determined that the WPCA was underinsured at the WPCA plant. He said the total insurance on WPCA is not enough to cover everything. He will be working on increasing the values at the Plant.

The commissioners discussed the insurance coverage and replacement cost. The coverage is severely under what it should be and the insurance agent along with the City will be looking at all of the City of Ansonia buildings and insurance coverage. Mr. Bshara said he will be included in these discussions. He said the WPCA will be receiving the bill for the WPCA insurance.

Chairman Parente discussed the insurance coverage that WPCA would need to have everything taken care of in the event of a devastating event.

Mr. Bshara assured the commissioners that he would be involved in the discussions.

Mr. Bshara reviewed the WPCA collection report, the Bank account report and the operating account with the commissioners. He said the 554 and the 311 funds move to the money market accounts and K. DeStefano monitors it. He explained the Expenditure report and the interest line that is negative. He said that is part of the bond payment. The Revenue report was explained. Mr. Bshara said he is in the process of breaking down the payments to their respective line items.

Chairman Parente asked about the 2015-16 left over funds.

Mr. Bshara explained the Trial Balance and the entries that must be made to show appreciation, off-set in the fund balance, etc. He discussed the Proprietary Fund, the Primary Draft sheet for the Balance Sheet Year-End explaining it takes into consideration depreciation, etc. WPCA is a business type activity. He is working on these reports. He said the Audit is in process.

Mr. Durante asked about a paper trail for the Bank accounts.

Mr. Bshara stated that we know what is in the account but we need to break it out. WPCA is a not for profit and we roll surplus to next year to reduce the rates. WPCA is not supposed to have a lot of money in the bank. We calculate the \$9.6 million fund balance into the money we are paying for the projects (554 & 311) after we stop collection from the rate payers. The 311 project we collected five years before so we will stop collection from the rate payers five years before the end of the loan.

**Mr. Geruntho made a motion to accept Mr. Bshara's report as presented. Mr. Plavnicky seconded. All in favor, so carried.**

### **2017 Meeting Schedule**

Mr. Durante made a motion to approve the 2017 Meeting Schedule. Mr. Geruntho seconded. All in favor, so carried.

### **December Meeting**

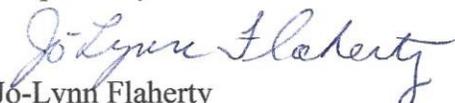
The December Regular meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 7, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Durante thanked Supt. Capozzi for the WPCA shirts presented to the Commission members. He said he is proud to wear this shirt.

### **Adjourn**

Mr. Durante made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Mr. Geruntho seconded. All in favor, the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Jo-Lynn Flaherty  
Secretary