



WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

The City of Ansonia
253 Main Street
Ansonia, Connecticut 06401
(203) 736-5908

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MINUTES OF THE WPCA MONTHLY MEETING

November 5, 2014

7:00PM

ANSONIA CITY HALL

253 MAIN ST.

The meeting opened at 7:01PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. The chairman asked for the roll to be called. There were four members present, therefore there was a quorum.

PRESENT	ABSENT
N. Parente	C. Durante
C. Stowe	D. Ventre
K. Plavnicky	M. D'Alessio
A. Geruntho	

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Rita St. Jacques WPCA

Brian Capozzi WPCA

Alderwoman Joan Radin

MOTION to accept the minutes from the previous meeting was made by A. Geruntho and seconded by C. Stowe. All were in favor and the motion passed.

The Chairman asked if there was anyone from the public who wished to speak and there was no answer. The Chairman asked twice more if there was anyone who wished to speak and again there was no answer. The public session was closed at 7:05 P.M.



MOTION to approve minutes from the last meeting made by A. Geruntho and seconded by C. Stowe. All were in favor and the motion passed.

The Chairman explained that there was an issue with Chris Tymniak concerning a meeting Nunzio had with Chris prior to last month's meeting. Chris said that he was misquoted by Nunzio and he had actually recommended verbiage be put into the laborer's position at the plant stating that a Class 1 license would be required. Chris did not recommend that the position be eliminated.

Sewer Administrator's report (copy on file in Town and City Clerk's office)

An FOI request has been made looking for information concerning the \$50.00 capital fee included on the Usage Bill. A phone call was placed to the Freedom of Information Commission in Hartford to see if there is a statute of limitations and the answer is that information can be destroyed following State Record Retention Guidelines. Since the information is 14 years old, there is little information left to provide.

It would also be cost prohibitive for the requestor if the information is found because there is a \$.50/page charge for each copy. There were between 2 and 4 thousand pages generated for the project so a substantial payment would have to be made before any copies would be produced.

Chairman Parente had worked on the project and said if there are any technical questions he would be available to meet with the requestor. If there are any financial questions the requestor can come to the WPCA office to review the records available.

There was a question on a Prime AE bill. After some investigation it was found that the bill was for reimbursables from the State for the Route 8 Project.

MOTION to pay the PRIME AE bill made by C. Stowe and seconded by A. Geruntho. All were in favor and the motion passed.

The sewer administrator provided information on collections by Marshal A. Davies and Marshal R. Krueger. C. Stowe questioned why R. St. Jacques was using multiple Marshalls. Rita explained that she was told by the finance department to use multiple Marshalls.

A letter will be sent to Comptroller W. Nimons requesting information as to why the WPCA was told to use multiple Marshalls with no dialogue beforehand.

Nunzio said that about 6 months ago when Rita was told to use multiple Marshalls he contacted Marshalls from Waterbury to see if they would be interested in collecting delinquent bills for the WPCA. The thought was that there would be no conflict of interest due to personal relationships.

MOTION to have a letter sent to Mr. Nimons made by C. Stowe and seconded by K. Plavnicky. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Rita explained that she has been using Marshall Krueger off and on for many years but has not been reporting his collections because there was not much to report. This month there was a substantial amount collected so she decided to report that.

MOTION to accept the Sewer Administrator's report made by C. Stowe and seconded by A. Geruntho. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Tim Walsh of 14 Joseph Dr. in Oxford is building a new home at 144 Silver Hill Rd. He is asking for permission from the WPCA to not hook into the existing sewer system and use a septic system instead.

C. Stowe suggested that Mr. Walsh do test holes and have the Valley Health District sign off on the septic system. If there is not 18 inches of dirt over the ledge, Mr. Walsh cannot have a septic system.

B. Capozzi had taken a ride down the driveway and he concurred that there is a lot of rocks but without a shovel and doing some digging he cannot say for sure that there is a lot of ledge.

Chairman Parente said that in order to give permission two things are needed: (1) evidence that there is a hardship which Mr. Walsh's engineer can help him with; (2) proof that he will be approved by the Valley Health District for the septic system.

Mr. Walsh said that he will be at the next meeting with the required information.

MOTION to accept the meeting schedule for the 2015 WPCA meetings made by A. Geruntho and seconded by C. Stowe. All were in favor and the motion passed.

C. Stowe welcomed Attorney James Sheehy and said that he would like to have an idea of whether Attorney Sheehy would represent the WPCA on an as needed basis. Chairman Parente said the scope could encompass anything and preferred that the attorney representing the WPCA not do any other work for the City so there is no conflict of interest. It is possible that in the future the Attorney might have to bring suit against another Ansonia attorney and Chairman Parente asked if that would be a problem. Attorney Sheehy said that it would not. A possible conflict might occur between the WPCA and the Ansonia Housing Authority for which Attorney Sheehy is the General Counsel. However, the problem has been sent to the Federal Housing Authority in Boston so there should not be a conflict and this is a one-time problem.

R. St. Jacques asked if Attorney Sheehy would be able to take over all of the bankruptcy filings. The office is having a problem with monies owed being discharged in bankruptcy. It was the understanding that WPCA monies cannot be discharged.

Attorney Sheehy will draft a letter of engagement with rates and terms and submit it at the December meeting.

The grant writer has all of the information needed to procure money for the cameras to be located at the plant. Chairman Parente asked how Sheila is going to write the grant and in what denomination since there were three bids. Brian was not sure.

Brian said that the trucks to remove sludge have gone from an average of 12-15 trucks a week to an average of 7 trucks per week. Chairman Parente said that M. Boanno has done a great job with lowering the amount of sludge and should be congratulated. This is quite a cost savings.

A former employee was offered the Class 3 position and declined it. Two of the existing WPCA employees will be taking the test in January and Brian asked the State if the position could be

kept open until the results of the test are in so that it would be possible to promote from within. The State would like the job reposted again but agreed to keep the position open.

Brian would like to start interviewing applicants for the Class 1 job, using applicants from the previous posting.

The State repaved Rt. 334 and the manhole covers need to be raised and replaced. A bill was sent to the WPCA for new manhole covers and this was how Brian found out that work had been done. The Chairman questioned why the WPCA is responsible for the bill when there was no notification of the work. When Brian questioned the Public Works Superintendent he replied that the next time he would ask beforehand. Brian is to call Campbell Foundry and let them know that there is a question concerning the responsibility for the bill but the bill will be paid.

C. Stowe had a conversation with the Public Works Superintendent concerning the maintenance contract for the generator. Doug said that he didn't think he should have to pay for half of the maintenance contract. The WPCA paid 65K this year for the generator to be fixed and the plan is to hook up the new transfer station being built at the City complex. If there is an emergency and the generator is needed for the transfer station, it is felt that having Public Works pay for half of the maintenance contract is not too much to ask.

A discussion was held about the anaerobic digester although no action was taken.

MOTION to accept the Superintendent's report made by C. Stowe and seconded by A. Geruntho. All were in favor and the motion passed.

MOTION to table the executive session for B. Capozzi's wage consideration until the full commission is present made by K. Plavnicky and seconded by C. Stowe. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Chairman Parente said that he and Brian had gone to Homa Pump and were very impressed. They had a large inventory on hand and were willing to do all that they could should an emergency arise.

Chairman Parente also said that he spoke with Sindhu from PRIME AE concerning the Cumberland Farms bill. Sindhu is going to be the point of contact for PRIME and she and Nunzio will talk about the bill.

MOTION to adjourn made by C. Stowe and seconded by A. Geruntho. All were in favor and the motion passed. The meeting ended at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ellen Turschmann", is written over a horizontal line.

Ellen Turschmann

Secretary