



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

DECEMBER 3, 2014

7:00PM

ANSONIA CITY HALL

253 MAIN ST.

The meeting opened at 7:00PM with the Pledge of Allegiance. The chairman asked for the roll to be called. There were five members present, therefore there was a quorum.

PRESENT

N. Parente

C. Stowe

K. Plavnicky

A. Geruntho

M. D'Alessio

ABSENT

C. Durante

D. Ventre

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Rita St. Jacques WPCA

Brian Capozzi WPCA

Alderwoman Joan Radin

Frank Michaud MAWC

John Accavallo MAWC

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

The Chairman asked if there was anyone from the public who wished to speak.



Alderwoman Joan Radin spoke and asked the Board if they would send a letter to the Board of Alderman stating that they are against the anaerobic digester being proposed for Ansonia and to list the reasons why. There was an article published by Mike Lamaico in a newspaper that stated the reasons why the anaerobic digester would not be good for the City of Ansonia. The article also stated that a digester might go to Bridgeport. If a digester goes to Bridgeport 40 people would be employed, whereas, if the digester is placed in Ansonia, 5 people would be employed to run it.

Alderwoman Radin also asked that the letter say that the digester would be a hardship for the city of Ansonia and if the City is still in talks with the City of Derby to interconnect, there may not be enough land or capacity to allow the interconnect to go forward.

Mr. Randy Carroll of 40 Fourth St. Unit 10 concurred with Alderwoman Radin that a letter should be sent to the Board of Alderman by the Board stating that the Board does not support the anaerobic digester.

Superintendent Capozzi said that the Plant would be able to handle the discharge but that the concentration would be a problem. The discharge is too toxic and would need to be brought to a level comparable to toilet water. Since the discharge is too "sludgy" it would cause an additional outlay for Alum which would cost around \$300K. In addition, there may be a need for more personnel which would add another \$40K to the budget.

Brian's report, which was presented at last month's Board of Alderman meeting went to Chairman Phil Tripp and all of the members of the Board of Alderman. Rita will attach a copy of the report to her letter to the Board.

Alderman Stowe stated that at this time based on the information Superintendent Capozzi has been given, the digester would probably use the whole plot of land and thus would not allow Derby to interconnect.

MOTION to send a letter to the Board of Alderman advising them that based on the information available today the WPCA Board does not recommend going with the anaerobic digester made by C. Stowe and seconded by M. D'Alessio. All were in favor and the motion passed.

The Chairman asked again if there was anyone else who wished to speak and Mr. Tim Walsh of 14 Joseph Dr. in Oxford spoke re property located at 144 Silver Hill Rd. At the November 5, 2014 WPCA meeting Mr. Walsh had requested a waiver allowing him to put in a septic system at his home which is under construction at Silver Hill Rd. in lieu of hooking into the sewer system. At that meeting the Board asked for a copy of the septic system layout and to have the health department sign off on the system. Mr. Walsh provided the Board with a copy of the septic system map and said that the health department had signed off on the system. Mr. Walsh agreed to have a copy of the map made and provided to the WPCA.

The Chairman asked twice more if there was anyone who wished to speak and there was no answer. The public session was closed at 7:11 P.M.

MOTION to deviate from agenda made by C. Stowe and seconded by A. Geruntho. All were in favor and the motion passed.

John Accavallo from MAWC reported on the WPCA portion of the annual audit. He said that the WPCA had a clean report which is the highest rating it can get.

The WPCA has a strong cash position which has increased about \$500k over last year. In addition, the accounts payable has decreased. He also said that the debt ratio is very strong and the \$700k total revenues are consistent with last year.

Salary expenses are up but utilities are down.

Mr. Accavallo stated that this year's audit was cleaner than in other years. There were significantly less adjustments which had to be made on the overall budget compared to previous years.

John said that there were no reportable problems but that there are a few areas of improvement:

- (1) Cross training
- (2) Preparation of a policy and procedures manual.

Chairman Parente asked Mr. Accavallo if this was the first time he had appeared before the Board and if this was the first time an audit read out had been provided. John stipulated that it was.

Chairman Parente asked if the Board can have an annual readout of the audit on a going forward basis. This would ensure that the Board gets the information and if there is something that needs to be fixed it can be taken care of before it becomes an issue. John said that he would be happy to provide the Board with an annual readout.

The cost for the audit was \$4,873 and there is an additional bill for \$800 which was for meetings attended by Frank Michaud with the previous Board and former WPCA attorney John Androski. A letter of engagement was prepared between Frank and the previous Board, however, even though it was approved, it never went anywhere. Frank had been contacted by the previous board and Attorney Androski several times to discuss the agreement. Frank had made a presentation to the previous Board but eventually the Board was dismantled and nothing ever came of the agreement.

MOTION to accept the audit and the presentation made by C. Stowe and seconded by K. Plavnicky. All were in favor and the motion passed.

MOTION to accept and pay the bills for the audit and the \$800 bill for Mr. Michaud made by C. Stowe and seconded by M. D'Alessio. All were in favor and the motion passed.

MOTION to go back to original agenda made by A. Geruntho and seconded by M. D'Alessio. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Sewer Administrator's report (A copy is on file in the Town and City Clerk's Office)

Chairman Parente asked if there would be enough postage in the account for the rest of the year. Rita said there is a good possibility that there will not be because there are more mailings to be done. There is a post card mailing at the end of January to remind ratepayers about the second half of the usage bill due in March. There are also delinquent notices for usage and

delinquent/lien notices for the project. Rita explained to the Board that unlike other departments the WPCA reimburses the Town and City Clerk for postage on our mailings because she does not think that it is fair for that office to have our postage come out of their budget.

Board member Stowe asked where the Public Works Reimbursement line item stands now and Brian explained that at the end of the fiscal year DPW submits a bill to the WPCA to reimburse their people for overtime used in conjunction with a WWPT problem. K. Plavnicky will contact the Public Work's Secretary to see how much overtime has been accrued so far by DPW on behalf of WWTP. Brian has back-up reports which show the dates and hours worked.

MOTION to accept the Sewer Administrator's report made by A. Geruntho and seconded by M. D'Alessio. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Chairman Parente said that he went to the DPW meeting Nov. 6, 2014 to discuss the bill for the covers and frames ordered when the State paved the roadway. At that meeting Superintendent Novack said that he would forward information to the WPCA concerning the problem with the manhole frames and covers. He never followed up on the information. On December 2, 2014 Superintendent Capozzi called Mr. Novak and asked for the information and was referred to the DOT. Brian received the information on Dec. 3, 2014 from the DOT.

There was much discussion on the bill that was received from Public Works and not from the State concerning the manhole covers and frames. No one from the WPCA was notified that there was a problem with the covers and frames. According to Brian he was told after the fact that the covers and frames had to be replaced. Chairman Parente asked if the damage was done during the milling process and Brian said he was told that the damage had occurred prior to the milling process. Chairman Parente asked who inspected covers and frames and C. Stowe said that he didn't know.

Member D'Alessio agreed that the process to get the covers and frames fixed was not done correctly, but said that the bill needed to be paid. On a going forward basis the notification process has to improve.

Chairman Parente stated that this is the last concession to be made with Public Works when they do not carry their end of the load.

MOTION to pay for paving project frames and covers made by C. Stowe and seconded by K. Plavnicky. A roll-call vote was taken and the votes were: K. Plavnicky (Y), M. D'Alessio (Y), A. Geruntho (Y), C. Stowe (Y), N. Parente (N). The motion passed 4 to 1.

MOTION to send a letter to WPCA vendors stating that the only authorized individual to order on behalf of the WPCA is Superintendent Brian Capozzi made by A. Geruntho and seconded by C. Stowe. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Chairman Parente asked how much the bill is and Brian thought that it was between \$12 and \$13 hundred dollars but he will call Campbell Foundry on 12-4-14 to be sure. In addition, Brian will contact other foundries for prices. As a follow up Brian provided the Secretary with the following information: There were 9 rings and 2 covers needed for the paving project at a cost of \$1,118.00.

At this time the Board entertained the request by Mr. Walsh for the waiver to install a septic system at 144 Silver Hill Rd.

MOTION to waive connection to the sewer system with the caveat that there will only be one home there made by C. Stowe and seconded by A. Geruntho. All were in favor and the motion passed. R. St. Jacques will check with the Town and City Clerk to see how a caveat is put on a deed.

Attorney James Sheehy gave a letter of agreement to R. Bshara to act as the attorney for the WPCA. Nunzio read the letter to the Board and said that a letter should be sent to Attorney Sheehy saying that the Board is satisfied with his resume and hourly rate and would like Attorney Sheehy to represent the WPCA. However, if Attorney Sheehy can consider a reduction in the paralegal fees it would be greatly appreciated.

MOTION to follow suggestion of Chairman and send letter to Attorney Sheehy made by C. Stowe and seconded by A. Geruntho. All were in favor and the motion passed.

City Hall re-signed with Liberty Power and the WPCA was included in the new rate. The contract is good for 3 years and is an increase of 30% over the last contract.

Superintendent Capozzi's report (A copy is filed in the Town and City Clerk's office.)

Brian will pay for the boots for the WWTP personnel out of his budget

MOTION to accept Brian's report made by C. Stowe and seconded by M. D'Alessio. All were in favor and the motion passed.

The Chairman requested a letter be sent to Doug Novak Superintendent of Public Works asking how the co-owned vac truck ended up on Rt. 8 doing a job for the State. A request that Superintendent Capozzi be contacted when the vac truck is requested by another entity is to be included in the letter.

Rich Bshara report:

Rich had a quote from QDS for 2015 for service. There is a slight increase for maintenance over last year.

The internet tech will be finishing the work necessary to perform bank transfers with ION bank on 12-4-14. Work is underway to streamline the transfer process and make it easier to populate the different buckets from batches. The tax dept. is being done now and with the permission of the Board, Rich would like to start working on the WPCA. This way the Finance Dept. will be able to punch in numbers instead of waiting for the bank to do it.

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

MOTION to revisit Superintendent Capozzi's report made by K. Plavnicky and seconded by A. Geruntho. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Member Plavnicky asked Brian to be sure the WPCA plows the entrance and the PWD will throw down salt.

Member Plavnicky also said that the WWTP personnel were asked by PWD if they would like to shovel on overtime for the DPW when there is snow. Only one person said yes. The question was raised as to who would pay for worker's comp should the WWTP employee be hurt while shoveling snow for the PWD. In addition the WWTP employee who agreed to shovel is the acting class 3. Who would pay the fines if the DEEP fines us for not having a class 3? Member Stowe said that DPW would pay for the worker's comp but there was no answer as to who would pay the DEEP fines.

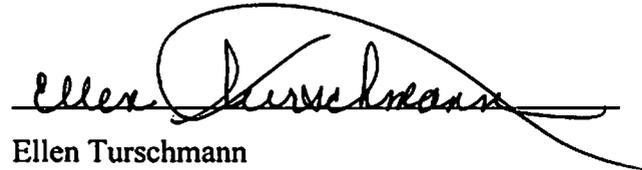
MOTION to go into executive session made by C. Stowe and seconded by M. D'Alessio. All were in favor and the motion passed. All of the members present went into executive session and included B. Capozzi. Executive session began at 9:35PM

MOTION to go back to regular session made by C. Stowe and seconded by M. D'Alessio. All were in favor and the motion passed. Regular session resumed at 9:55PM.

MOTION to give B. Capozzi a 3% performance increase retroactive to October 8, 2014 as discussed in executive session made by C. Stowe and seconded by M. D'Alessio. All were in favor and the motion passed.

MOTION to adjourn made by K. Plavnicky and seconded by A. Geruntho. All were in favor and the motion passed. The meeting ended at 10:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ellen Turschmann", with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Ellen Turschmann

WPCA Secretary