



WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

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MINUTES OF THE WPCA MONTHLY MEETING

JULY 2, 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 six members present, therefore there was a quorum.

PRESENT

N. Parente
M. D'Alessio
C. Durante
C. Stowe
K. Plavnicky
D. Ventre

ABSENT

A. Geruntho

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Brian Capozzi WPCA
Rich Bshara
Mayor David Cassetti
Attorney Joseph Coppola
Attorney John Marini (late)



MOTION to accept the minutes from the previous meeting was made by M. D'Alessio and seconded by K. Plavnicky. All were in favor and the motion passed.

R. Bshara presented the proposed budget for the 2014-2015 fiscal year and explained the changes in the line items. Rich was able to decrease the budget by 9.2% and therefore there can be a reduction in the sewer use fees of 9.2%.

The proposed new rate for sewer use for the 2013 list year bill is \$2.80 per 100 cubic feet plus a \$50.00 capital fee.

The proposed new rate for flat rate well users is \$237.00 plus a \$50.00 capital fee.

MOTION to accept new budget made by C. Durante and seconded by M. D'Alessio. All were in favor and the motion passed.

MOTION to approve proposed rates for the Sewer Use fees made by C. Durante and seconded by M. D'Alessio. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Mayor Cassetti introduced Attorney Joseph Coppola and said that he is very qualified to act as the WPCA Attorney. Mr. Coppola presented a proposal for his services and said that he would be willing to enter into an agreement with the WPCA.

Chairman Parente asked if there was anyone from the public who wished to speak and no one answered. He asked twice more and when no one answered, declared the public session closed at 7:20 pm.

Member Stowe asked if the matter concerning PrimeAE could be revisited. He said that the Mayor wants PrimeAE to continue as the WPCA engineers. Member Stowe said that Joseph Maffeo is now a part of PrimeAE and had worked for the City of Ansonia Public Works department for many years. He said that Joe has a wealth of knowledge concerning the WPCA and is a great asset.

Member Plavnicky asked if we need a contract for Prime AE and Chairman Parente said that we already have one.

Member Stowe asked R. Bshara if prior to this Board, PrimeAE had been at every meeting? Mr. Bshara replied in the affirmative. Member Stowe said that Mayor Cassetti thinks PrimeAE should be at every meeting.

Chairman Parente voiced some concerns he has with PrimeAE. He does not think that Prime should be paid portal to portal if they are to attend meetings. He also has some other concerns but said that he had met with Jay Jayanthan of PrimeAE on July 1, 2014 to discuss going forward. Chairman Parente said that he and Jay will be meeting in a few weeks to discuss renegotiating the contract with PrimeAE.

Member Durante said that the Board has made many changes in an effort to save the taxpayers money and also had some concerns about the PrimeAE bills.

Member D'Alessio said that we need PrimeAE for certain things but that Fred D'Amico can handle other needs of the WPCA. Mike said that Fred would not be coming on board as a full time engineer, but he would work on an as needed basis.

Mayor Cassetti said that Fred would not be receiving an additional stipend, but any hours he works for the WPCA would be part of the salary the City pays him.

MOTION to go out of agenda order made by C. Stowe and seconded by C. Durante. All were in favor and the motion passed.

There was discussion about hiring a new attorney for the WPCA. Attorney Joseph Coppola said that he would be willing to work with the WPCA on an as needed basis. Member Stowe wanted to hire Attorney Coppola on a full time basis, but after some discussion it was decided to hire him on an interim basis to handle bankruptcies and any other issues that might arise where an attorney was needed.

Chairman Parente asked if the hiring of a full time attorney could be held off until the next meeting and the board agreed. All bankruptcies will be turned over to Attorney Coppola. In addition, Attorney John Marini stated that Attorney Coppola should write a letter to Attorney John Androski stating that the WPCA wants all of its files returned.

Sewer Administrator's report:

There was no discussion on the report.

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

Superintendent's report:

Brian stated that the State test for certification is next week and there are three plant employees who are taking the test. Jason St. Jacques and John Tomasella are taking the Class 3 test and James Hooker is taking the Class 1 test. The Board wishes all of the men the best of luck. The secretary will send a letter to the men wishing them all great success.

Concerning new hires, Member Durante asked if there is a committee to review the new applicants. Brian said that at this time there is no committee but one can be put together when the time comes for interviews. Since the three WPCA workers are taking the State test, interviews will be put off until the results of the tests are in. If interviews are necessary after that time, a hiring committee will be formed to go through the applications.

Member Ventre asked if DEEP regularly inspects the plant, and Brian replied that they inspect every other year.

The WPCA received a bill from Public Works which included overtime pay. Chairman Parente questioned the bill because there is an agreement in place that the WPCA will only be billed straight time. According to the superintendent of Public Works he forgot about the agreement but agreed to rebill at straight time only.

There is a problem with trees along the property line where WPCA property abuts State Property. Bean pods are falling from the trees and clogging the draft tubes in the clarifier. Brian

met with a representative from the CT. Office of Rails and he said that the WPCA needs to take care of the trees on our side of the fence as the trees do not pose a safety or track issue. In order for the trees to be cut on the other side of the fence a flagman will be needed in case a train passes by. The WPCA would also have to get permission from the State to cut down their trees. Brian will get several quotes to have the trees trimmed.

A developer would like to put two houses in on Silver Hill Rd. but would like to have the houses hooked up to septic systems due geography and cost. Brian will contact Valley Health to see if septic tanks would be allowed.

MOTION to accept the Superintendent’s report made by C. Durante and seconded by K. Plavnicky. All were in favor and the motion passed.

R. Bshara went over the expenditures report, which needs to be approved by the Board. The transfer requests are as follows:

ACCOUNT #	T/F	DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
1-108-0999-21-410-0000	T	Wages overtime	\$800.00
1-108-0999-21-424-0000	T	Utilities/Electricity	\$24,000.00
1-108-0999-21-437-0000	T	Sludge removal	\$40,000.00
1-108-0999-21-437-0000	T	Repairs/equipment	\$75,000.00
1-108-0999-21-860-0001	T	Reimburse Pub. Wrks	\$1,200.00
1-108-0999-21-860-0003	F	Contingency	\$141,000.00

MOTION to accept transfers recommended by R. BShara from the 2013-2014 budget made by C. Durante and seconded by M. D’Alessio. All were in favor and the motion passed.

MOTION to transfer \$250K from 2013-2014 budget to the Capital Improvement fund at ION Bank made by M. D’Alessio and seconded by K. Plavnicky. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Chairman Parente gave a synopsis of a meeting held between the Ansonia and Derby WPCAs regarding the Interconnect. There were also representatives of PrimeAE present. Issues regarding the Interconnect were presented and discussed. Another meeting will take place at the Waste Water Treatment Plant, N. Division St. at 9:00am July 22, 2014. At that time Stella Murasin from the DEEP will be in attendance in addition to the Derby and Ansonia WPCA representatives.

MOTION to adjourn made by C. Stowe and seconded by C. Durante. All were in favor and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 9:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ellen Turschmann". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Ellen Turschmann/Secretary

As the song says "See you in September."