



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

MAY 6, 2015

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 seven members present, therefore there was a quorum.

PRESENT

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

ABSENT

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Rita St. Jacques WPCA
Brian Capozzi WPCA
Rich Bshara
Attorney John Marini

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.



MOTION to accept the minutes of the previous meeting made by M. D'Alessio and seconded by C. Stowe. All were in favor and the motion passed.

The chairman asked three times if anyone from the public wished to speak. No one answered and the public session closed at 7:05PM.

MOTION to deviate from agenda and go into executive session made by C. Durante and seconded by K. Plavnicky. All were in favor and the motion passed. In addition to all of the members, the Secretary, R. St. Jacques, R. Bshara and B. Capozzi were present at the session in which Attorney Marini spoke about pending litigation.

MOTION to go out of executive session made by C. Durante and seconded by A. Geruntho. All were in favor and the motion passed. The executive session ended at 7:30PM.

MOTION to go back to regular session made by A. Geruntho and seconded by D. Ventre. All were in favor and the motion passed.

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

- 1) Reminder letters going out to property owners with septic systems to have their systems cleaned and send us a copy of the bill.
- 2) Reminder notices were mailed this week for the 2nd half of the usage bills. Delinquent/lien notices will be sent out in July.
- 3) Liens will be placed on the 2013 list year project bills on Friday May 8th. After that a billing transmittal will be sent to the billing company to pull the files for the 2014 list year project bills which will be due June 1st. The bills are expected to be mailed on Friday May 29th.
- 4) The new project bills are due June 1st and become delinquent July 2nd when interest begins to accrue.
- 7) A copy of a Seymour bill was provided which shows that there is a minimum amount due for bills with minimum usage. Rita suggested that this might be something the members might consider because there are a number of people who go to Florida in the winter and since that is the usage quarter we bill on, they are paying for very minimal usage if they are paying at all. This means that they are using the sewer system for three quarters of the year for free.

C. Stowe questioned how a minimum rate would be set and Rita explained that it would be done when the rate is set. There was a lot of discussion concerning whether to institute a minimum charge. C. Stowe asked what the other local towns are doing and Rita said that in addition to Seymour, Derby also has a set rate in addition to usage charges.

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

Receive and pay all bills:

Chairman Parente questioned whether the Cumberland Farms bill had been paid and Rita said that she has heard nothing from Prime concerning Cumberland Farms.

B. Capozzi said that he had received a bill from Pepe Construction for paving on Coe Lane in the amount of \$2,850. Brian has to get more information from Pepe concerning the dimensions of how many square feet were paved in order to know the price per square foot before the bill is paid.

Attorney Marini was asked the status of the health insurance for the WPCA employee who retired. Attorney Marini said that whatever the former employee is eligible for under the union contract is what he will receive. The employee is going to attend a meeting on Monday May 11, 2015 with Attorney Marini and Ms. Morales of Personnel and at that time the amount that the employee has to pay for insurance will be set. Rich said that there needs to be a resolution because at this point the City is paying everything for the health insurance. Attorney Marini said that Rich should know by Tuesday and if the employee does not pay for the health insurance it will be cancelled.

Superintendent's Report (copy on file in office of Town and City Clerk)

Brian requested that money be transferred into the gas line item because the Gas Company thought that one of the gas meters was shut down and did not bill us from October 2013 through December 2014. They have sent us an adjusted bill of \$7, 200.00. The Chairman said that the money for the 2013-2014 budget has been spent and there was no money set aside to pay this bill so the Gas Company is going to have to adjust their bill so that it is lower.

The Bart Station pump is in and working. The station was cleaned out and a new degreasing floater was put in. The work was performed by Brian and the mechanic (Jason). Brian said that the transducer had just gone that day and it was fixed but there needs to be a spare on hand which will cost approximately \$1,200.

The UV system is up and working and is producing good kill counts.

Brian received a quote from Crowley Ford for \$28,896 for a new truck. Crowley is the same rep that the police station uses. He had also received quotes from Scranton (\$42,000) and Park City (\$31,000). Nunzio requested that Brian get a quote for a Nissan and Toyota and C. Durante asked Brian to get a quote for a Dodge.

Several companies have given quotes for the cement work that needs to be done at the plant. The most important work to be done at this time is to fix the crumbling stairs that lead to the sludge holding building. The stairs are very dangerous and need to be fixed asap. The quotes so far are Jason Roberts (\$36,000), Teodosio & Sons (\$16,000) and Pepe Construction (\$8,000). Brian is still waiting for a quote from Edo Construction.

The concrete work done by the Nickerson Company is a shame. The building is only five years old and concrete is crumbling. When Brian contacted Nickerson he was told that there was only a one year warranty.

Chairman Parente told Brian to have whoever gets the concrete work come before the commission and explain what they are going to do.

Chairman Parente told Brian that he wants to know when everything that is broken will be fixed. On a going forward basis he wants to know immediately when something breaks.

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

Rich Bshara Report

Rich would like permission to open a new flow through checking account so that all WPCA batches will be deposited into the new account and then transferred into the correct usage or project account. This is being done to simplify the audit process for the Finance Department. By depositing all of the money into the one account there is better control over where the money is being directed. New batch reports and batch forms will be filled out and sent to the Finance Department. A signature card was signed by the WPCA signees and will be sent to the bank to establish the account. Rich would like the WPCA office synced with the Finance Department by June 30th.

Chairman Parente asked how Finance will know what money goes where and Rich explained that the information will be on the Batch Form that the office will fill out.

Rita asked Rich if he had spoken to Attorney Fasi who was the bonding attorney and Rich has not. Rita's concern is that Attorney Fasi has said from the beginning that the monies for both accounts cannot be co-mingled. Rita would like an opinion from Attorney Fasi about whether this new flow through account would be ok.

MOTION to approve Rich's request for a new depository account to work from each day made by M. D'Alessio and seconded by C. Durante. All were in favor and the motion passed.

The data from Derby usage has come in and been processed and sent back so that Derby can do their July billing for Derby residents that flow into Ansonia.

The RWA data has been sent to QDS to see how much we are able to bill. When Rich gets that number back it will be used to set the new usage rate for September.

Rich is trying to develop a grid which shows how much money has been taken in, how much has been spent and where all of the accounts stand.

Cash is being checked and posted each day.

The contract between the Derby WPCA and Ansonia is being checked to be sure the contract is being adhered to.

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

MOTION to adjourn for 5 minutes made by K. Plavnicky and seconded by A. Geruntho. All were in favor and the motion passed. The break began at 8:55PM.

MOTION to go back into session made by C. Durante and seconded by K. Plavnicky. All were in favor and the motion passed. The session restarted at 9:00PM.

MOTION to contact Keith Murray concerning possible future litigation made by C. Stowe and seconded by C. Durante. All were in favor and the motion passed.

MOTION to move \$268,213 to the contingency fund as per the list attached made by C. Stowe and seconded by M. D'Alessio. All were in favor and the motion passed. A copy of the list is on file in the office of the Town and City Clerk.

MOTION to wait for quote from Jason Roberts on the cement work and if the quote is reasonable Nunzio and Brian will make the decision whether to go with them made by C. Stowe and seconded by C. Durante. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Nunzio will call Nickerson one more time to see if they will come out concerning the shoddy cement work done by them at the plant.

On May 5, 2015 the contract between Prime and the WPCA ended.

MOTION to not renew the Prime contract made by M. D'Alessio and seconded by C. Stowe. All were in favor and the motion passed. The Secretary will send a letter to Prime advising them that the WPCA will not be extending the contract.

There was discussion about the pipe on vacant property owned by Mr. Massimo Andretta on Main St. and whether a 6" pipe is required. Mr. Andretta is proposing to build a restaurant on that property. There is an existing pipe which has not been used for many, many years and no one knows what the pipe is for or what condition the pipe is in. It is also unknown where the pipe flows to – it could be a storm drain. The discussion was tabled since Mr. Andretta will have to provide information to P&Z and there may be a need for the WPCA to become involved at that time.

K. Plavnicky brought up the subject of the meeting not being recorded and R. St. Jacques said that all meetings of other commissions and boards are not recorded and it is up to the discretion of the secretary whether to record. She reminded the board that Attorney Marini said that it is not a law that the meeting be recorded.

Later in the meeting K. Plavnicky revisited the subject of the recording of the meeting and said that he would like the meetings recorded. The Chairman reminded him that the reason the meetings are not being recorded is that he asked the Secretary to move to the opposite end of the table because she was "crowding" him. There is not a plug at the opposite end of the table which is easily reached and that is why the meetings are not being taped. Mr. Plavnicky threw an extension cord to the Secretary and told her to use that. The Secretary agreed to bring the recorder to the next meeting and plug it in near Mr. Plavnicky so that it will be his responsibility to change the tapes as needed.

Respectfully submitted.

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

Ellen Turschmann/Secretary