



## WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

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

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*Elizabeth S. Lynch*  
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ANSONIA, CONNECTICUT

### MINUTES OF THE WPCA MONTHLY MEETING

September 2, 2015

7:00PM

ANSONIA CITY HALL

253 MAIN ST.

The meeting opened at 7:08 PM 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. Durante
C. Stowe	M. D'Alessio
K. Plavnicky	D. Ventre
A. Geruntho	

#### ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Rita St. Jacques WPCA

Brian Capozzi WPCA

Rich Bshara

Alderwomen Joan Radin

Attorney Keith Murray

Attorney J. Marini (late)

S. O'Malley (late)

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 C. Durante and seconded by C. Stowe. All were in favor and the motion passed.



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

Executive session began at 7:10 PM and was attended by the Commission, Rita St. Jacques, WPCA, Brian Capozzi, WPCA, Rich Bshara, WPCA/Finance and Ellen Turschmann, WPCA.

MOTION to go back to regular session made by C. Durante and A. Geruntho. All were in favor and the motion passed. Executive session ended at 7:25 PM.

The chairman asked if there was anyone from the public who wished to speak. Ms. Lisa Benfanti of 19-21 William St. said that she has been charged for a 4 family house since 2011 and she only has a 2 family. Ms. Benfanti presented a field card from 2007 which showed that the house was a 2 family.

The chairman showed Ms. Benfanti a property listing report from 2015 that shows the house is a 3 family. Ms. Benfanti said that the house is now a 3 family.

The chairman asked if Ms. Benfanti receives federal money and she said that she receives it for one apartment.

C. Stowe asked if she had put "2 family" on her check when she paid the bill and she said "no."

Mr. Joseph Branch of 56 Locke St. spoke and said that 19-21 is one location. It's a 2 family house and he wants to know what the problem is. The chairman asked Mr. Branch if he had a question and Mr. Branch replied he did not.

The chairman said that there is some investigation that needs to be done. Ms. Benfanti should have complained about the problem in 2011 when the residence could have been inspected and the number of apartments could have been verified. At this point there is no way to verify.

Ms. Benfanti said that she is owed \$540 for 2011 and 2012. Also in 2012 she was billed \$306.20 and \$98.80 and any interest that she paid associated with those charges. The chairman said that the discussion is tabled until next month and that Ms. Benfanti is invited to attend next month's meeting (October 7, 2015)

The Chairman asked again if there was anyone from the public who wished to speak and no one answered. The Chairman asked twice more if there was anyone from the public who wished to speak and upon receiving no answer, the public session was closed at 7:40 P.M.

MOTION to go into executive session made by K. Plavnicky and seconded by D. Ventre. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Executive session began at 7:41 PM and was attended by the Commission, Rita St. Jacques, WPCA, Brian Capozzi, WPCA, Rich Bshara, WPCA/Finance and Ellen Turschmann, WPCA.

MOTION to go back to regular session made by C. Durante and seconded by K. Plavnicky. All were in favor and the motion passed. Executive session ended at 8:05 PM

MOTION for the approval to allow Attorney Keith Murray to pursue an agreement for past due bills for property known as 94 Howard Ave. LLC, 21-25-27 Beaver St. LLC and any other

property owned by the above made by C. Durante and seconded by K. Plavnicky. All were in favor and the motion passed.

MOTION to go back on agenda made by C. Durante and seconded by A. Geruntho. All were in favor and the motion passed.

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

147 Jewett St. – the house is going to be demolished by the City due to its condition. Last year there was a huge leak which no one knew about because the owner was in a nursing home. When the sewer use bill was originated it was for more than \$6K. Rita suggested that she average the bill from the 2 years before and send a new bill. It would be about \$95. Rita was given the ok to issue the bill.

360 Main St. was originally a restaurant and retail but there was a fire and now there is no longer a restaurant. Mr. Smarelli would like his Project bill reconfigured to 2 retail which is what the building is now. Rita was given permission to reissue the project bill.

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

The chairman explained that money had been collected from American Brass which should not have been taken and the money has to be returned. A meeting had been held with American Brass, Attorney Marini, Sheila O'Malley and the chairman and an agreement was made which was not passed along to the State Marshal. Consequently collection efforts were made which should not have been. The money will be returned.

MOTION to refund the second pull from the bank for the former American Brass property made by C. Durante and seconded by A. Geruntho. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Receive and pay all bills - there were no bills to be paid.

Superintendent's report – (Copy is on file in the Town and City Clerk's office)

2 new primary sludge pump air valves were ordered. One was installed and one is a spare. Total cost was \$1,200.

Electricians have been called to wire the new power panel at Jackson St.

Skimming controllers for primary tanks 1 and 2 are not working. They are being pulled and taken for an estimate for repair.

Hotchkiss, North Fourth and Sunset stations were cleaned out with the vac truck.

A WPCA employee passed the CT. Grade 3 waste water test.

A new transducer was ordered for the thickened sludge holding tank. The cost was \$575.00. The transducer was installed by the WPCA but Arron Associates had to come to reprogram the box.

Both generators at Bart and Coe Stations had their preventive maintenance done. The company has recommended changing the belts, hoses and coolant. The total cost for both is \$987.72.

A service agreement has been signed with Hach for the dissolved oxygen meters and the nitrogen meters. The service contract for the ammonia meters was not renewed which saved \$4,400 plus money saved on reagents not being used.

A new dissolved oxygen probe for oxidation was ordered for ditch #2. The cost is \$2,000. The install is being done by the WPCA but a call may be needed for programming.

A check for \$88,605. Was received for nitrogen credits for 2014, up approximately \$10,000 from the previous year.

Public works has received a bill for a service call Serv Pro provided for a back up to a home at 218 Pershing Dr. Public works is questioning whether they are supposed to pay the bill.

Public Works wants the WPCA to pay for root killer for 15 streets. The chairman said that if Public Works would like to attend the next meeting and present a formal request it will be entertained at that time.

There were two men checking out the WPCA generators on Sept. 2 and they were asked what they were doing. They said that they are preparing to build the transfer station at public works and the plans include hooking into the WPCA generators. When the generators went down and the WPCA received a bill for \$76,000, public works was asked to pay half and also half of the \$5,000 yearly maintenance fee. Public works refused to pay for anything and were told at that time that they would not be allowed to hook the transfer station into the WPCA generators. The Chairman is to meet with Prime next week to discuss the plans.

Brian was told that if anyone is on WPCA property and tries to do work they are to be asked to leave. If they refuse, the police are to be called.

The secretary is to send a letter to D. Novak of the Public Works department stating that because Public Works refused to help pay for the generator when it went down and to pay half of the maintenance fee yearly, public works will not be allowed to hook into the WPCA generator. A copy will be sent to the Mayor.

A letter is to be sent to D. Novak inviting him to attend the October 7, 2015 meeting to discuss the root killer issue.

October 8, 2015 is Brian's anniversary and according to his contract he is due for a raise. The secretary was asked to include an executive session to discuss at the next meeting.

MOTION to approve Brian's report made by C. Durante and seconded by C. Stowe. All were in favor and the motion passed.

The chairman questioned whether a response was received from the Mayor concerning Oak La. A response has not been received at this time. The secretary was asked to send another letter to the Mayor requesting a response.

The chairman said that Mr. Riccardi of Mott St. had gotten two bills and questioned why. Rita said it was all taken care of.

The chairman told Rita to discuss the results of the litigation with the State Marshal and to pull back the warrants on the properties.

Financial report

ION bank sent its annual letter stating that the WPCA's money is protected at a greater amount than the FDIC.

Collections are ahead of last year.

The computers at the plant have been fixed.

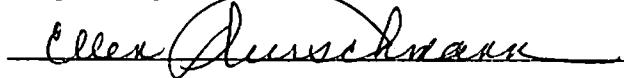
The chairman questioned whether the \$88K from the nitrogen credits should be used to pay down the 311 Project and Rich replied that money had already been included in the budget. The chairman said that at least some of the money should be used to pay down the debt. He asked Rich to contact the State to see if there is a prepayment penalty.

The chairman asked Rich if it is written anywhere that the WPCA has to use the same auditing company as the City. Rich said that he did not believe so but that it would probably be more expensive to have a different company. Rich is to check with other auditing companies about doing the WPCA audit.

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 made by M. D'Alessio and seconded by D. Ventre. All were in favor and the motion passed. The meeting ended at 9:05PM.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Ellen Turschmann

WPCA secretary