

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
APRIL 1, 2009

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance @ 7:18 PM. The meeting began late because the Police Commissioners that meet before us in the Erlingheuser Room ran late. Chairman Madigosky asked the secretary to call the roll, with six members present the chairman declared a quorum

PRESENT: H. Madigosky
S. Jordanides
G. Merlone
C. LaRovera
H. Boladz
S. Epifano

ABSENT: K. Blake

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Attorney John Androski
Joe Maffeo
Ashawatha Narayana :UIC
Warren Baethge : UIC
Steve Seigal : CDM
Jim Ryan : CDM
Maureen Bennett: Sewer Administrator

Chairman Madigosky asked for a motion to accept the minutes from the previous meeting. Spero wanted it clarified that there was not a meeting last month (March) and we were accepting the minutes from February.

MOTION was made by Gary Merlone and was seconded by Carl LaRovera to accept the minutes from the February 4,2009 if they are found to be true and accurate. All the members were in favor of the motion.

Member Spero Jordanides asked who cancelled the meeting last month and why it was cancelled. Chairman Madigosky told him he made the decision because of the forecasted inclement weather that was predicted. The WPCA has people that attend the meetings that travel quite a distance to get to the meetings and he thought it was in their best interest for safety reasons to cancel the meeting.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Steve Blume: Pres. of the Bd. of Aldermen:

Mr. Blume said he wanted to talk to the commission about Ansonia going GREEN. He asked the members if there was a way to treat the sludge that is produced from the treatment plant. Chairman Madigosky said he thinks that it is something for the WPCA to look into.

Spero asked :“what process is used to dry the sludge” There was discussion about the plant and if there is any way that this process can be incorporated into the construction plans that already completed.

Steve Seigal told the members that we would need anaerobic digesters for the process and right now the design isn't set up for that. He said “not to say that it can't be done, but there will be money involved in the redesigning of it”. A study can certainly be done to find out all the details.

Steve Seigal reminded the members that C.H. Nickerson already has a signed contract for the plant. Steve Blume mentioned that he hoped we might be able to address this now while things are still in the early stages of the construction. Steve Seigal told the members that Stamford is spending somewhere along the lines of 40 million dollars to fund the project and they already had the dryer that is used to dry the sludge. He also mentioned that it isn't going to be cheap to get the additional tanks that are necessary for the process. Howard and Steve Blume agreed that we would save an enormous amount of money on the weekly removal of sludge and monthly utility costs.

Howard told Steve Blume and the members that Stamford has been doing this process and he has been interested in it. They are handling this process like it is a pilot project. He asked Steve Blume if he would like to go visit the plant and see what they have going on there. Steve told him he would like to go and see the plant and how it operates.

Steve Blume said he is pretty sure there is money out there to fund this. Spero agreed and thought the state should fund it. Steve Blume explained to the members that there are “cells” and these cells apparently create a large amount of heat and they think the plant is a place that the heat from the cells can be used. There really isn't anywhere else in the City Of Ansonia that could use the heat that these “cells” produce.

Howard talked about the drying of the sludge and how it is compressed into pellets that are similar to the pellets that are used for Pellet Stoves”.

Steve Blume said he thought this would really be a good thing for the City Of Ansonia to be able to move ahead toward the GREEN MOVEMENT. He has been in touch with the members of the board that the Mayor has appointed to the EID Committee (Energy Improvement District). The people involved said there is money out there to help these projects along. It will make the City Of Ansonia look good and also be good for the city to be one of the first in the area to institute and use these “cells” as a way to produce, use and conserve energy.

Spero said he would like to ask Ashawatha if he has any input or information about this process. A motion was not made to ask Ashawatha: UIC to look into this process.

Steve Blume would like Gary Hale who is very involved in this process/ project to help the WPCA move in the GREEN direction for the betterment of the environment, city, Long Island Sound and the new treatment plant.

Attorney Androski agreed with them that there will more than likely be money available from the federal government to help out with this kind of project since being / thinking green will help us out. This should be a homerun for the City Of Ansonia.

All the members were pleased with the discussion and want to move ahead quickly to gather as much information as possible if this does become a reality and the WPCA along with CDM needs to move forward with the implementation of the plan.

Chairman Madigosky thanked Steve Blume for coming to the meeting and sharing all the information he had with the members.

Chairman Madigosky asked three times if there was anyone else from the public to address the commission. There was no one present, he declared the Public Session closed.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1) There was a communication from Joe Miller: Comptroller in response to Maureen Bennett's request that he put in writing what he is actually requesting from the WPCA. He (Joe Miller) would like to set up a Special Meeting to discuss the money in the Bank of America. This account is named "WPCA" and has been a stagnant account for years. Spero Jordanides asked what the Special Meeting is supposed to be about and who was authorized to call the Special Meeting. Spero was told that Mr. Miller has asked to have a Special Meeting to discuss the money in the Bank of America account and how it should be dispersed.

Spero also asked who authorized anyone to go to Hartford on behalf of the WPCA. He said the board makes the decisions not just one person and that what seems to be happening with the WPCA all the time. The members are not informed of everything that goes on. He wanted to know why the members weren't told about the meeting in Hartford.

Attorney Androski told Spero that the Mayor thought it was a good idea to attend the meeting in Hartford to ask on behalf of the City Of Ansonia / WPCA to be put on the list to get money from the stimulus package. There is no harm in asking and / or begging to be on the receiving end of some federal money.

2) There was a late communication from the Mayor's office regarding (American Home & Property Services) and it's representative Mike Boguslawski, Sr.

The Mayor's office has prepared a draft letter for the members to review and give their opinion on. The members all felt if the mayor wants to send a letter of response and feels the city be involved it is certainly alright with them.

There were other informational items that are attached to the minutes for anyone to review.

MOTION was made by Henry Boladz and was seconded by Gary Merlone to accept all the communications and place them on file. All were in favor of the motion.

Sewer Administrator's Report:

Maureen told the members that she attended the meeting in Hartford on March 25th, 2009 on her own time. She didn't say she worked for the WPCA or was there on their behalf. She was there as a resident asking for help with a project in her home town that was in fact a distressed community. She was able to present statistics to them about the unemployment in Ansonia and other vital information that showed we are in need of money to help the City Of Ansonia out with a project of such magnitude like the Sewage Treatment Plant rehab that we are undertaking now.

Maureen also mentioned that she was requesting reimbursement for two items she has paid for out of her own pocket.

Spero asked why she did that and who authorized her to do it. She responded by telling him if she had not paid for the post office box by July 10th they would put a lock on the box and therefore no payments would be received. The items she mailed needed to be sent off to complete the application for funding for the 554 Project.

Howard Madigosky told him & the members that sometimes you just need to take care of things then and there and deal with others things down the road.

Maureen explained that the finance dept. does not usually pay bills on Purchase orders in the month of July because they are in the process of closing the previous fiscal year.

Maureen suggested that this year the commission pay for the post office box in May this way it will cause this kind of a problem again.

Spero asked if we had money to pay for these items/ bills and he was told “yes” it’s just because of the fiscal year for the city closes out and no transactions are done until all the books are closed.

Maureen also told the members there is basically an incomplete financial report this month because of the “alleged computer virus” everyone was worried about , therefore she did not run the first of the month reports.

MOTION was made by Gary Merlone and was seconded by Henry Boladz to accept Maureen’s report. All were in favor of the motion.

The Chairman asked Steve Seigal to give the members an update on the 554 Project. Steve reintroduced Jim Ryan to the members. Jim gave a brief verbal update and presented a Progress Report to each member for their perusal. The report “Monthly Report” was stock full of information and very detailed. Included in the report was a copy of the 1st- 2nd and 3rd Change Orders. Please note that in Change order #2 where there are parentheses () that means that is a credit / savings to the WPCA.

Jim told the members in a couple weeks the contaminated soil will be completely disposed of. They have also finished the relocation of the existing large diameter sewer. In all things look good and are moving forward.

Spero Jordanides asked if there were any cost increases?

Steve told him that there were but the they shouldn’t create a problem because the WPCA put in a 5% contingency for cost overruns / change orders. Steve also said that he doesn’t anticipate there being any more than a 2% use of the contingency money. That seems to be the average for any over runs and seems to be consistent.

Spero asked Jim Ryan if they had run in to any unanticipated problems. Jim told him he was happy to say there were not. Jim also told him if any problems come up it’s usually when they start doing the big / deep digging that they may run into some glitches.

Spero also asked if they had run into any ground water / springs.

Jim told him there were some Artisian Springs in the area they have come across but they haven’t caused any problems.

Steve Seigal told the members that the contractor needs authorization for the proposed change orders. CDM has reviewed them and they feel the WPCA should give the authorization.

Spero asked Steve Seigal and Jim Ryan if the cost for the project will be more than originally proposed. They both told him again that these cost over runs are normal and not going to run be a problem. There are going to be change orders on any project this big “it’s a normal thing”.

MOTION was made by Henry Boladz and was seconded by Spero Jordanides to authorize CDM to prepare the change orders to have them executed / signed by the Mayor. All were in favor of the motion.

MOTION was made by Carl LaRovera and was seconded by Gary Merlone to accept Steve Seigal's update on the 554 Project. All were in favor of the motion.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Warren Baethge presented the report to the members:

- 1) Applications for Sewer Connections/ Permits: no activity
- 2) Sewer Back-ups: there was 1 for the month on Elm St. it was taken care of by P.W. Dept. and it was caused by paper. He also reported that he followed up on Spero's request to investigate sewer back-ups through out the city and how many there were. He discovered the amount of back-ups were less than last year as Joe Maffeo reported at the last meeting. The members were pleased with that information.
- 3) Meadow View Estates: UIC sent the letter of Conceptual Approval as they were requested to at the last meeting.

MOTION was made by Gary Merlone and was seconded by Carl LaRovera to accept the Engineer's Report as presented. All were in favor of the motion.

MOTION was made by Gary Merlone and was seconded by Carl LaRovera to pay all bills if they found to be true, accurate and the WPCA has the funds to pay them. All were in favor of the motion.

- 1) Reimbursement for Maureen Bennett: \$72.00 Post Office Box & \$20.75 Fed Ex
- 2) Attorney Androski: Regular monthly business: \$687.00
- 3) Attorney Androski 554 Project \$2,899.50

MOTION to go into Executive Session was made by Gary Merlone and was seconded by Henry Boladz. To discuss the items listed on the agenda for Executive Session. All were in favor of the motion. 8:25 PM

Maureen Bennett and Rita St. Jacques were asked to stay for the Executive Session. Maureen Bennett left the Executive Session at 8:45 PM and Ashawatha Narayana & Warren Baethge both of UIC were asked to come into the Erlingheuser Room to participate in the last part of the Session.

MOTION was made by Gary Merlone and was seconded by Henry Boladz to return to regular portion of the meeting and come out of Executive Session. All were in favor of the motion. 9:50 PM

MOTION was made by Henry Boladz and was seconded by Spero Jordanides to hire GHGRC, Inc. at a cost of \$100.00 per hour for no more than ten hours per month/ not to exceed \$1,000.00 per month. For the purpose of obtaining funds from Washington DC and other sources in order to reduce the burden that the rate payers will have to pay in Ansonia's efforts to comply with the Federal Clean Water Act. All were in favor of the motion.

The members wanted it on record that the WPCA supports the Clean Water Act (Long Island Sound) and renewable energy.

MOTION was made by Henry Boladz and was seconded by Vito Epifano to review the job description for the "Class Four Operator" that needs to be hired to run/ oversee the Sewage Treatment Plant when it is completed. The Mayor will also review the job

description to see if he has anything he wants to add / input. All were in favor of the motion.

Member Spero Jordanides asked that the members be notified when there is a meeting to review the job description in case any of them want to attend the meeting.

MOTION was made by Gary Merlone and was seconded by Henry Boladz to authorize Maureen Bennett(Sewer Administrator) to transfer funds from one salary line item to another so Attorney Androski can be paid, as there was a problem with the original Budget and there was no money put in his salary line item. All were in favor of the motion.

MOTION was made by Gary Merlone and was seconded by Henry Boladz to authorize Spero Jordanides go to talk to the mayor on behalf of the WPCA to discuss the lack of his signature on the contract (Amendment #1) between the WPCA / City Of Ansonia and UIC / Ashawatha Narayana in order to pay Ashawatha for services rendered. This contract needed to have the Mayor's signature according to the minutes of the WPCA Meeting January 30, 2008. The contract was signed & witnessed by the acting chairman Gary Merlone in the absence of Howard Madigosky and was witnessed by members of the Authority. The contract was supposed to be brought / presented to the mayor for his signature by Ashawatha Narayana and for some reason this never happened. All were in favor of the motion.

MOTION was made by Mr. Epifano (Vito) and was seconded by Gary Merlone to adjourn . All were in favor of the motion.

The meeting ended @ 10:00 PM

Respectfully submitted:

Rita St.Jacques: Secretary WPCA
April 2, 2009