

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM B
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8, 2014

PRESENT: William Brennan, Rich Tomasetti, Eric Fanwick, Kristen Begor, Eric Ostenberg

OTHERS: Sandy Dennies, CFO; Tom Thurkettle, Director of Public Works;
Mike Ahern, Field Engineer; Pete Lucia, Manager Integrated Systems;
Barbara Schellenberg, Cohen & Wolf; Shane Goodridge, Cohen & Wolf;
Mrs. Siegal, Chris Perry, Nancy Wiese

1. Call to Order

Chairman Brennan called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

2. Approve the Minutes for the November 13, 2013 Regular Meeting

Mr. Fanwick made a motion to approve the Minutes of the November 13, 2013 Meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.

House Keeping Items

Mr. Brennan told the Members of the Authority that the Town appreciates all the work that the volunteers serving on Boards, Commissions and Committees do for the Town and their contributions are invaluable. He added that it is very important that everyone elected or appointed to boards and commissions be sworn in by the Town Clerk if they haven't already done so. He handed out the Code of Ethics booklet and asked that the Members of the Authority sign and return the last page to the Town Clerk acknowledging that they have read it.

3. Requests for relief to hook-up to Wolfpit Road Sewer line

Mrs. Siegel of 4 Wolfpit Lane addressed the members of the authority. She said that she and her family had moved to Wilton recently and bought a house that was built in 2003. She said that hooking up to the sewer line would present a financial hardship to them and asked if the Authority would grant her relief from hooking up to the sewer line. Mr. Brennan made a motion to grant relief to Mr. and Mrs. Siegel with the understanding, (per the WPCA Regulations), that should their septic system fail they would have to hook up immediately to the sewer line. In the event that their home was sold to another owner, the new owners would be required to hook up or come before the WPCA and request relief from hooking up. Mr. Tomasetti said that he didn't see any reason for denying the request.

A brief discussion ensued. Mr. Brennan made a motion to grant relief to Mr. and Mrs. Siegel as requested in their email to the WPCA. The motion was seconded and carried.

Request from Mrs. Joy Otis – 158 Wolfpit Road for relief from sewer hook-up. Mr. Brennan read a letter that was written from Mrs. Otis who is bedridden and in ill health and therefore was unable to attend the meeting. She said that there aren't any issues to her septic system and hooking up would present a financial hardship. Mr. Brennan made a motion to accept the request by Mrs. Otis to relieve her of hooking up to the sewer line. [With the restrictions as outlined in the WPCA Regulations]. The motion was seconded and carried.

4. Request for delayed hook-up to Wolfpit Road Sewer line due to frozen ground –

Mrs. Wiese and Mr. Perry of 6 and 4 Roxbury Lane have requested that they be granted a delay to hook up to the Wolfpit Road sewer because the ground is frozen and the contractor is unable to excavate within the allotted timeframe.

A discussion ensued surrounding other residents who had not connected and it was decided that they should be reminded that they must connect or contact the WPCA indicating why they haven't connected. They would be told that some residents had asked to delay the hook-up because of frozen ground and had been granted an extension until June 15, 2014, but they need to contact the WPCA and let them know their intentions. A motion was made by Mr. Brennan to grant a delayed hook-up to the Wieses' and Perrys' with the understanding that by June 15, 2014 the work would be done. Also, a letter is to be drafted to the other residents, requesting they explain their plans to hook-up and indicating that they may have until June 15, 2014, as an extension, but must make a formal request in writing to the Authority stating their plans. The motion was seconded and carried.

5. Discussion of Amendments to the WPCA Rules and Regulations

Barbara Schellenberg, Cohen & Wolf addressed the Members regarding suggested amendments to the WPCA Rules and Regulations. Referring to Section 2, she explained that it refers to any property owner that gets an extension, but must hook-up immediately if and when his or her septic system fails. Also, if there is a sale or transfer of property that extension doesn't transfer with the property. The new owner would have to come in and seek a new extension and show a personal hardship. The WPCA would use their discretion in determining whether or not the new property owner should be granted any relief. This is to make it clear that just because one property owner receives relief the next one doesn't automatically receive it. In addition she said that the "extension" under Section 2 refers to the connection and not the benefit assessment, which still has to be paid pursuant to Section 9. This is the proposed amendment to Section 2. She said that they added language to the "Certificate of Notice" so that it would be on the land records and when someone new purchased property, they would then be able to see what was in Section 2 and Section 9.

The proposed amendment to section 9 is to clarify that the assessment applies whether or not you hook-up to the sewer line. New language was added about if and when the

Town of Wilton is required to pay new connection charges to Norwalk, in which case the calculated fee that is in Section 9, would have to increase to reflect the new rates. The last proposed amendment is to let people know what the “special benefit analysis” is and that comes directly from the State Statute. The Statute says that the assessment cannot be greater than the special benefit to the property. [Referring to the property before and after the sewer].

A discussion ensued as to whether or not to change the language in these amendments and it was decided to leave it as proposed.

Mr. Brennan made a motion to schedule a Public Hearing at the next WPCA meeting on February 12, 2014 prior to the WPCA voting on the amended changes to the Regulations. The motion was seconded and carried.

6. The FOG Program

Mr. Ahern explained the Fats Oils and Grease Program to the new members. He said that to date 91% of the regulated facilities have renewed with the Program which means that they pay \$250 a year and 93% are compliant which means they have put in the approved grease trap. There are still three facilities that haven't put in the grease traps, but have paid the fee and they have been reminded to pay with letters and warnings. He added that the State will support the Town with a letter to those facilities.

Jonathan Bowman of Cohen and Wolf is in the process of writing a letter to those who are non-compliant. Cohen and Wolf will have the letter for the non-compliant establishments ready for the Authority to review at the next meeting.

7. Other Business

Ms. Dennies said that Arnold Grant, an appraiser who specializes in special benefit analysis, will be attending the next WPCA to give a special benefit analysis on the Miller Driscoll School. One has already been done by Chris Kerin and the WPCA felt it was important to have another one done to see how they compare.

Mr. Therkettle said that the pumps for the pumping station will be installed in February.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Mariana Corrado
Recording Secretary