

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM B
REGULAR MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2013

PRESENT: William Brennan, Al Stauderman, Andy McNee, Rich Tomasetti, Don Grunewald

ABSENT: Eric Fanwick,

OTHERS: Tom Thurkettle, Director DPW; Sandy Dennies, CFO; Mike Ahern, Field Engineer; Peter Lucia, Manager, Integrated Systems; Edward Schenkel, Gregory & Adams

Regular Meeting

1. Call to Order

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

2. Approve Minutes to Meeting of January 9, 2013.

Mr. Stauderman made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes for the January 9, 2013 Meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.

3. Norwalk Sewer Treatment Plant Capital Plans and Obligations – Hal Alvord, Director of Public Works, City of Norwalk

Mr. Alvord gave the Members an overview of the problems the Norwalk Wastewater Plant encountered during hurricane Sandy. He said that they had to shut the plant down in anticipation of it being flooded. He added that fortunately, because the storm took a southerly turn towards New Jersey, they were able to turn the power back on - so they were only out of service for two hours. Mr. Alvord said that they have completed the upgrade of their system; a 37 million dollar head works facility, which is state of the art. He added that he would like the Members to see it and would arrange for a tour. He said that they had started the design of Phase II, the second phase of a three-phase upgrade. The purpose of Phase II is to change from the existing biological process to membrane technology. They completed about 60% of the design and they were in discussion with the DEEP about how grant funds (under the Clean Water Act) should be allocated. He further explained that to do what DEEP is requiring would be very costly as it's not the latest technology and would mean a large increase in rates. Since they have not been able to reach an agreement, the project has been put on hold for Phases II & III. Phase II would cost about \$80 million and Phase III – the final disinfection; replacing chlorination/de chlorination, with ultraviolet rays – would cost \$20 million.

Mr. Alvord did say that they had some damage from hurricane Sandy to a siphon chamber near the Maritime Aquarium. He feels that FEMA will cover 75% of the costs to

repair it and that the capital costs will be small. But a very small percentage will be passed on to the Wilton users.

The Members of the Authority thanked Mr. Alvord for coming to the meeting and updating them and indicated they would visit the wastewater treatment plant next month as part of the monthly meeting agenda.

4. Wolfpit Road Sewer Project Update

Mr. Thurkettle said that the contractor is doing an excellent job on this project and they have had very few complaints. He passed out handouts to the members showing updated costs for the sewer extension (on file) through March 1, 2013 and explained where there had been some unexpected additional costs, as well as savings. He and Mr. Ahern also passed out a diagram illustrating where the original plan had the sewer line and the redesigned plan, moving it as far away from the school as possible, allowing for the possible expansion of the building, a larger parking lot and a road giving access to the building from the back for security and safety purposes.

Mr. McNee asked what the additional cost will be for this change and Mr. Brennan said that it could be as high as \$118,000 but Mr. Thurkettle is trying to negotiate that number down.

Mr. Ahern said that they are 81% done and on target for sewer completion.

5. School Sisters of Notre Dame

Mr. Brennan said that he and Chris Kerin had met with Sister Kathleen of the School Sisters of Notre Dame recently, as she had questions about the assessment. Mr. Kerin explained to her how they arrive with an assessment. Mr. Brennan said that Sister Kathleen indicated that the Sisters want to go through with the sewer. The next step will be to get the attorneys involved to draft an agreement. Sister Kathleen mentioned that they are looking at a construction cost of \$307,000, which Mr. Thurkettle felt was not too far off.

6. FOG Program Update

Mr. Ahern said that they had reached a plateau and the numbers were the same from the last time; 91% are registered and 70% are compliant. They are seeing some turnover with some of the businesses in Town, so he is hoping that they will get the numbers up in a passive way.

Mr. Brennan asked what kind of push back they are getting from the establishments that haven't registered. Mr. Ahern replied that it's financial. When Mr. Brennan asked what sort of pressure the State would place on those establishments that are not in compliance, Mr. Ahern replied that the DEEP doesn't take an active role in this and there are no fines from them but they will support any action by the Town. Mr. Brennan asked Mr. Ahern to review the fines that are stipulated in the Regulations at the next WPCA meeting.

7. Other Business

Mr. Stauderman said that his term serving on the WPCA had expired and that he won't be attending any further meetings. Mr. Brennan thanked Mr. Stauderman very much for his service.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 6:00

Respectfully Submitted,

Mariana Corrado
Recording Secretary