

**WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING TOWN HALL
MEETING ROOM B
WEDNESDAY, JULY 13, 2011**

PRESENT: William Brennan, Al Stauderman, James Newton, Rich Tomasetti, Andy McNee,

ABSENT: Eric Fanwick

OTHERS: Tom Thurkettle, (Director of DPW), Mike Ahern, (Field Engineer, DPW), Sandy Dennies, (CFO), Pete Lucia, Joseph Perugini (Weston & Sampon), Larry Kleutsch (Mutual Housing Association of Southwestern Connecticut, Inc.), James Evans (architect for Wilton Commons), Jonathan Bowman (Cohen and Wolf), Chris Kerin (Kerin & Fazio, LLC)

Call to Order

Mr. Brennan called the meeting to order at 5:20 PM.

Approval of June 8, 2011 Meeting Minutes

A Motion was made seconded and carried to approve the Minutes of June 8, 2011 as corrected.

Wilton Commons Presentation for Sewer Connection

Chairman Brennan gave the Members of the Authority a brief update on Wilton Commons before Mr. Thurkettle introduced Joe Perugini, Project Engineer from Weston & Sampson the site civil engineer designers.

Mr. Perugini showed the plans for the sewer connection for a senior housing project located at 21 Station Road. He explained that this is the current proposal and they have looked into a future phase for the design taking into consideration both phases. There are plans for 71 bedrooms, (51 for the current phase and another 20 for the future phase). Additionally, they have taken into consideration 6 employees and an amount of potential infiltration for a total of 1,176 gallons per day. There will be a cafeteria in the rear which means they have to design an oil/grease separator in accordance with the local ordinance which complies with DEP regulations.

The members looked over the plans and Chairman Brennan asked Mr. Thurkettle if he had reviewed the plans and whether or not there were any issues. Mr. Thurkettle replied that they had reviewed the plans and there weren't any issues.

Mr. McNee inquired how they had arrived at their flow-per-day calculation and Mr. Perugini replied that they do a calculation based on the DEP's amount of 150 gallons per person per day adding that they include employees and accommodate potential for infiltration and peak flow as well.

Chairman Brennan asked if this would meet the new rules and regulations requirements and was told that it would.

Chairman Brennan made a Motion to approve the sewer connection for Wilton Commons as submitted, Mr. Newton seconded the Motion and it was approved unanimously.

Discussion of Appraisal/Benefits

Ms. Dennies said that she had invited Mr. Bowman of Cohen and Wolf and Mr. Kerin an appraiser with Kerin & Fazio, LLC to inform the WPCA members of the State laws and WPCA rules and regulations with respect to sewer appraisal fees. The main topic of the discussion dealt with how the Town of Wilton recovers its costs for sewers. Chairman Brennan said that they had drafted a letter to CCM to get information on how other towns and communities handle this situation. They hoped to hear back from them soon.

A discussion ensued. Ms. Dennies said that she would like the WPCA to grant permission to retain the services of Mr. Kerin, to do the appraisals of 40 and 60 Danbury Road and the Miller Driscoll project, as well as Mr. Bowman's legal services. She asked Mr. Kerin and Mr. Bowman to provide her with estimates of their fees. After Ms. Dennies has received the estimates she will ask the Authority to appropriate the necessary funds.

Debt Service for Norwalk's Treatment Plant and It's Impact on the WPCA Annual User Fees

Ms. Dennies asked Mr. Lucia to review the numbers for the Norwalk Treatment Plant. Mr. Lucia passed out documents including a spread sheet of a Norwalk WPCA financial planning model. Mr. Lucia explained that the Norwalk WPCA is improving their treatment plant and next year the principle and interest payable to Norwalk will increase. He added that there were suppose to be two major improvements, Phase I and Phase II. Phase I is the clean water phase, which is being completed and will be billed next year. Wilton's share will add \$17.31 to the current user fees. Phase II has been put on hold indefinitely. Mr. Newton asked if the \$17.31 could come out of the \$7MM assessment fund and was told by Ms. Dennies that it could, however, she stressed that this fund will be needed for other upcoming projects as well as any potential emergencies.

She went on to say that she would like the Authority to consider increasing the user fees so that there can be a repair and replacement account initiated. In the event that there are any problems with the sewer lines, there will be an account to manage it, particularly since the sewer pipes are 35 years old.

Mr. Tomasetti asked if they were going to do a big project and needed capital, how would the capital be raised? Ms. Dennies replied that it would come out of the assessment fund and if there weren't funds available to pay for it, the Town would have to bond. Chairman Brennan suggested getting educational letters out to the users informing them of the improvements being made by Norwalk's new treatment plant, so that they will understand the reasons for any future increases in the user fees.

Mr. Tomasetti said that he felt they need to know what their long term capital improvement projects are going to be. Ms. Dennies said that she would like to take the next month to research what other towns are doing with repair and replacement. Chairman Brennan agreed that this was a good idea. He went on to say that they need to consider a way to evaluate the integrity of the Wilton sewer system and perhaps they need to hire a consulting firm to do such an evaluation.

Investment of Assessment Funds

Ms. Dennies said that currently the Sewer Assessment Funds are at Webster Bank earning .45% interest. The rates on CDs for 1 year are at .9% and 2 year CDs are 1.24%. They could probably earn a rate of 1.35% interest if they were invested for 2-3 years, but would feel comfortable going out for 2 years with \$3MM with the approval of the WPCA.

Chairman Brennan said that he would like to see a sheet with the various options and that perhaps this information should be run by the Investment Committee to get a more professional opinion. He suggested that this topic be brought to the attention of the Investment Committee at their next meeting on July 21, 2011.

Other Business

Mr. Ahern said that he wanted everyone to know that the DPW, in keeping with the Interlocal Agreement, have been signing up people with grease traps, as new projects get referred to them or as they respond to their mailing. A letter will be going out to all the restaurants and industrial waste dischargers in the coming week to sign them up and assess the \$250 registration. After that activates they will be monitoring the appropriate locations.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7 PM.

Respectively submitted,

Mariana Corrado
Recording Secretary