WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM B PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING WEDNESDAY, JUNE 8, 2016

PRESENT:

Lynne Vanderslice, Eric Fanwick, Bill Follett; Andrea Preston.

ABSENT:

Rick Tomasetti, David Taylor

OTHERS:

Anne Kelly-Lenz, Pete Lucia, Tom Thurkettle, Mike Ahern

PUBLIC HEARING

Ms. Vanderslice called the Public Hearing to order at 5:03 p.m. Inasmuch as no one from the public was in attendance, Eric Fanwick moved to have Public Hearing closed; Bill Follett seconded and motion carried unanimously. The Public Hearing closed at 5:03 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

Call to Order

Ms. Vanderslice called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:04 PM.

Approval of Minutes

Ms. Vanderslice asked if all had an opportunity to review the minutes of both the Regular Meeting of April 13, 2016 and the Special Meeting of May 18, 2016. As there were no corrections, Eric Fanwick made a motion to approve both sets of minutes as written; Andrea Preston seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Establish User Charges and Budget for FY17

Ms. Vanderslice asked if there were any comments. As there none, Eric Fanwick moved to accept the budget as proposed, with a user charge of \$214 per unit. Bill Follett seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Sewer Capital Assessments – River Ridge Estates

Lynne advised that she had spoken with Town Counsel regarding the question last month as to whether we could charge the HOA the assessment and then they decide how to deal with it. The answer from Town Counsel is no, we cannot – it's not legal. They don't pay the assessment; therefore they cannot receive the credit. All the Authority members present were satisfied with this information.

Tom showed the Authority a map of River Road, and explained that a portion of the sewer we're actually giving them credit for installing is the portion that is in the right-of-way in River Road. All sewer from the manhole up to a specified area on the map was pro-rated by the builder with whatever method he used, of which Tom did not know.

Lynne noted in speaking with David Lisowski, the Town Assessor, he told her that he does his assessment based upon the sales price of the house or each unit. Tom also reminded the Authority that there were two parts to the assessment: land value and house value, and in this case to be aware that each condominium has one user unit.

After more discussion about the method to assess condominium units, Eric Fanwick made a motion to give credit based on the value of the home, proportionately. Andrea Preston disagreed, saying that would be going against past precedent. Bill Follett agreed with Andrea, referencing a situation 20 years ago. Ms. Vanderslice stated she agreed with Eric's comments, which would mean a tie vote. She was uncertain as Chair if she could break the tie. Mr. Fanwick requested this be tabled until the next month's meeting, to which Ms. Vanderslice agreed so that all members of the Authority could be present. Eric also asked Lynne if she could ask Town Counsel about this and thereafter withdrew his motion.

FOG Program Update – Mike Ahern

Sampling and testing will begin shortly after the start of the new fiscal year. Mike said there are a few late payers, and asked if he needed permission from the Authority to get help from Town Counsel with sending letters. Lynne suggested he have the Tax Collector help in this effort. In a subsequent discussion, Lynne indicated that she would discuss this with Town Counsel.

Mike also told the Authority that the sewer meters were recently calibrated and that the flow levels were higher in the meter pit than normal. This was caused by a partial clog in the channel below the meters, which was cleared, and the flow level returned to normal. This clog was likely related to cleaning at the upstream pump station the week before. Mike indicated that we will monitor the meter pit after upstream work is done in the future, because elevated readings result in the town being charged more by Norwalk. Mike also stated these high readings are not a frequent occurrence.

Capital Assessment Benefit Analysis - Breitling

This agenda item is tabled until the next meeting. Tom informed all that this is still being reviewed, with Mike adding any assessment was still in draft form.

Other Business

None. There being no further business, motion to adjourn made by Mr. Fanwick, seconded by Ms. Preston, and carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:20 PM.

Kris Fager Recording Secretary (taken from audio recording)