

**WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
SPECIAL MEETING
TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM B
THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 2011**

PRESENT: William Brennan, Al Stauderman, Eric Fanwick

ABSENT: Andy McNee, Richard Tomasetti

OTHERS: Sandy Dennies, (CFO), Tom Thurkettle, (Director of DPW), Mike Ahern, (Field Engineer, DPW), Peter Lucia, (Manager, Integrated Systems)

Call to Order

Chairman Brennan called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Investment of Sewer Assessment Funds

Ms. Dennies said that with respect to investing some of the \$7.8 MM in the WPCA assessment fund there are strict guidelines by State Statute as to how these monies can be invested. She handed out copies of the Connecticut State Statutes explaining what municipalities can and can't invest in. She added that with the Town's undesignated fund balance, they are working with Janney Montgomery Scott, LLC an investment firm that handles a number of municipalities in Fairfield County and handed out a proposed sample portfolio for the WPCA based on an investment of \$3MM, (which would be invested in Agencies and Mortgage Backed Securities).

Ms. Dennies said that with the Town's undesignated fund balance they are earning, through Janney, between 1% and 3% on their investment. Currently the WPCA funds are earning .23% at Webster Bank. She said that at the suggestion of the WPCA she had gone to the Investment Committee to get their opinion of investing the WPCA Assessment Funds and they were in favor of investing a portion of the funds with Janney.

She asked if the Members would make a recommendation for Ms. Dennies to invest \$3MM of the WPCA Assessment Funds for about 3 years. They would receive monthly interest and principle during that time, but if they ever needed the full amount back they would get it minus some of the interest. A discussion ensued about whether to invest more than \$3MM and Ms. Dennies said that she would be comfortable investing \$3MM, Chairman Brennan concurred. Ms. Dennies handed out a Resolution for the WPCA Members that would authorize Ms. Dennies (or Mr. McArdle and Mr. Brennan in her absence), to invest the Assessment Funds on behalf of the WPCA. It is basically the same resolution that the Board of Selectman approved for the investment of the Town's undesignated fund balance.

Mr. Stauderman made a MOTION to authorize the sum of \$3MM to be invested in the Janney Water Pollution Control Portfolio Fund and that Sandra Dennies, Richard McArdle and William Brennan be authorized to serve as trustees of that sum, overseeing transactions per the Resolution, that was provided to the Members of the WPCA. Mr. Fanwick seconded the Motion and it carried unanimously.

Status of Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) Program Registration.

Mr. Ahern gave an update on the FOG program saying a letter went out August 8th to Restaurants and Food Service Establishments and a separate letter was sent to Industrial Dischargers. Chairman Brennan asked if there had been any response and Mr. Ahern said that there had and they had received some feedback with checks and that most people understood the compliance issue. He said that some of the people had put in the grease traps, but not sent in their checks and others had sent in checks, but not complied with the grease traps. He said that so far they had 10 establishments that had responded in one way or another out of about 50.

There are six Industrial Dischargers. They have received the letter and will be registered and tested as well. Chairman Brennan added that this topic will be on every month's agenda going forward until they are in full compliance.

Miller Driscoll School Project

Chairman Brennan said that he has a meeting scheduled with Chairman of the Board of Education, Gil Bray and Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Gary Richards to review the Miller Driscoll School Project.

Chairman Brennan said that he was reviewing the files from a study that was done in 2008 for a repaired septic system for Miller Driscoll vs. a sewer system for the school that had been prepared by Stearns and Wheler. At that time, the septic upgrade was going to cost \$2.350 MM vs a sewer hookup that would cost \$1.25 MM. He said that Dewberry's report estimates the sewer cost at \$1.6 MM. He has asked Mr. Thurkettle to take a look at the report from Stearns and Wheler and look at Dewberry's report and find out why there is such a big difference in the cost. Mr. Stauderman asked how the sewer fees would be assessed i.e. homeowners vs. the school. Chairman Brennan said that they would get legal advice on this and that different towns handle this differently. He said that Mr. Lucia and Ms. Dennies had done some research on this. Mr. Lucia handed out a document showing the response to Wilton's request on how different towns calculate sewer assessments. The response was from Darien, Newtown, Ridgefield, Bridgeport, and Bethel.

Mr. Thurkettle said that he would like approval from the WPCA to solicit three proposals to put in 500 feet of sewer from River Road to Horseshoe Drive. In anticipation of putting gas mains in that area he would like to get the sewer line in first.

Chairman Brennan made a MOTION to authorize DPW to put out bids to find out what the cost would be to put in 500 feet of sewer from River Road to Horseshoe Drive in accordance with the Town's sewer specifications. The MOTION was seconded by Mr. Stauderman and carried unanimously.

Chairman Brennan said on the subject of gas mains they are working on various ways to run the gas lines down River Road and working with Yankee Gas on a viable plan.

Communication Plans – Letter Being Prepared to Users Regarding Norwalk Treatment Plant Capital Improvement Plan

Chairman Brennan said that he's going to be drafting a letter to the sewer users informing them of the Norwalk Treatment Plant Capital Improvement Plans. His intent is to let them know that due to the capital improvements that are being made by Norwalk, the user fees will probably go up. His goal is to have the draft completed in September and he will send the draft to the Members so that they can review it prior to the next meeting. He will also have Ken Berhard review it.

Other Business

Ms. Dennies said that she would like the WPCA to appropriate \$50,000 from the Sewer Operating Fund to pay for the cost of legal fees and appraisal fees for the properties on Wolfpit Road, the properties at 40, 60 and 116 Danbury Road.

Mr. Fanwick made a MOTION to appropriate \$50,000 to pay for the appraisal and legal fees for the properties at 40, 60 and 116 Danbury Road and the Wolfpit Road properties. The MOTION was seconded by Mr. Stauderman and carried unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned.

Respectively submitted,

Mariana Corrado
Recording Secretary