

# **MINUTES**

## **REGULAR MEETING**

### **WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY**

**MAY 5, 2016**

**PRESENT:**

**Director, Guy Russo**  
**Chief Engineer, Joseph Fazzino**  
**Chairman, Dale Aldieri**  
**Vice Chairman, Scott Bishel**  
**Councilmatic Representative, Eugene Nocera**  
**Commissioner, Jack Pieper**  
**Commissioner, Emanuel DiMauro**  
**Commissioner, John Giuliano (7:10pm)**

**I. Open Meeting (started at 7:00pm)**

Chairman Aldieri opened the meeting to the public. No one was present from the public and the public portion of the meeting was closed.

**II. Reports, Minutes and Correspondence**

**1. Minutes of Regular Meeting of March 3, 2016**

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Bishel and seconded by Councilmatic Representative Nocera to approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting of March 3, 2016. Motion was approved unanimously.

**2. Letter from Mattabassett District-Middletown Sludge Disposal Fee**

This was for informational purposes only.

**3. Letter from Mattabassett-2016/2017 Wastewater Use Fee**

This was for informational purposes only.

4. Memo re: Meter Testing Fees

Director Russo indicated that Connecticut Water Company was no longer doing meter testing for free and will start charging our department. Director Russo stated to the WPCA that there needs to be some kind of an ordinance put together stating that if a homeowner requests that the meter be checked that they have to assume the responsibility of the charge. If the Water and Sewer Department is responsible on our end to have the meter tested and there is a problem with it then the department's expense will cover this. Director Russo stated that the WPCA will need to revisit this issue again but for now Director Russo will put in effect a purchase order with Connecticut Water.

5. Memo-Sewer Fee Increase FY 15/16

Director Russo stated that the sewer rate increase was never inputted into the computer system as of July 1<sup>st</sup> so the department has been operating on the old sewer rate. The computer system will pro-rate the semi-annual bills so four months of the first billing in the fall is based on the new rate and the two on the old rate. Director Russo further stated that we caught this for the next semi-annual and lost four months of income on semi-annuals and seven months on the monthly bills. Director Russo indicated that when he did the analysis since more water was sold last year and took everything in on the additional sales the department would have lost \$308,000. The department bills based on the consumption or flow that the department would normally bill on in the average year the department lost \$169,000. Neither number is good news but on the budget that Director Russo is basing all the rate increases on for Mattabasset was \$169,000.

III. Transfers/Fund Updates

1. Monthly Fund Balance Reports-March & April

These monthly fund balance reports were for informational purposes only.

Director Russo indicated that the final proposed budget has no changes and the rate increase is listed as 18.87% from the rate that was listed a year ago. There will be two rate increases half as of May and the other in the fall.

IV. Old Business

1. Durham Water - Update

Director Russo indicated that there is not much to update on the Durham Project except the filing of the diversion permit that will take place next week and a check is being cut for the DEEP application. Director Russo stated that he and Chief Engineer Fazzino have a week from May 6<sup>th</sup> with AECOM, EPA, and the Town of Durham for all to go over the final plans. There were some further discussions on this issue.

Chairman Aldieri noted at 7:10pm that Commissioner Giuliano entered the meeting.

2. Mattabassett - Update

Director Russo stated that NeRemsco is testing the last pipe segment going to the Mattabassett District. We are trying to get this project finished since our department will have permanent finance funding that is going to be in place as of July 31<sup>st</sup>, this funding is called IFO (Interim Finance Obligation). Director Russo indicated that all bills need to be in but NeRemsco is having trouble with the paving sub-contractor to come in and finish but Director Russo explained to them about the subject on liquidating damages and that the City is losing 20% on our half on some of the costs so they need to move on this quickly. There were some further discussions on this matter.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Bishel and seconded by Councilmatic Representative Nocera to recess the regular scheduled WPCA meeting at 7:15pm in order to open the Rate Hearing meeting. Motion was approved unanimously.

Chairman Aldieri at 7:17pm that the WPCA will come back from recess and continue under "Old Business" of the regular scheduled WPCA meeting.

3. Kleen Energy

Director Russo stated that the department sent Kleen Energy a copy of the appraisal that was done by Federal Appraisal for the City in response to a proposal that they have made. Director Russo indicated that he has not heard back from Kleen Energy yet.

4. Middle Street Extension with the Town of Berlin – Update

Chief Engineer Fazzino indicated that DeRita Construction has been off the job and that there are issues with potholes that Public Works has concerns. DeRita is currently patching up and maintaining the temporary pavement. Chief Engineer Fazzino indicated that the work was supposed to start back up last week but due to several issues it had to remain shut down since DeRita did not have people available. Also our department requested to move back the date to start work after Mother's Day weekend. Chief Engineer Fazzino then indicated that DeRita will start their work this coming Monday. There were some further discussions on this matter and what work on the pipe exactly DeRita still had to complete. Chief Engineer then stated about final pavement needing to be done and a change order needs to be put into place to cover the additional area discussed with Public Works.

**5. Land Swap-Eversource – Update**

Director Russo indicated that Eversource has done their appraisal and they will be owing our department money based on their appraisal and Director Russo stated that was fine if that is the way it works. Director Russo did state that he had conversation with Roger Palmer, who indicated that there was an offer on Eversource's old site on Randolph Road and the owner asked for a Phase I and II Environmental ahead of the sale but Eversource refused to do it. There were some further discussions on this matter. Director Russo is looking next for an environmental assessment on our site.

**V. New Business**

**1. Final Sewer Budget FY 16/17**

Director Russo indicated that the Sewer Budget was already approved since it was based on sewer rate that was already approved.

**VI. Staff Reports**

Chief Engineer Fazzino went over his March Staff Report in greater details and the staff report was for informational purposes only.

Deputy Director Young staff reports for February and March were for informational purposes only. Deputy Director Russo also gave a brief synopsis of his reports.

**VII. Adjournment**

There being no further business, a motion was made by Vice Chairman Bishel and seconded by Commissioner Giuliano to adjourn the meeting. Motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:35p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Guy P. Russo  
Guy P. Russo  
Director of Water and Sewer Department/  
Acting Secretary for the W.P.C.A.