

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

January 8, 2015

PRESENT:

Director, Guy Russo

Chief Engineer, Joseph Fazzino

Assistant Chief Engineer, Christopher Holden

Chairman, Dale Aldieri

Councilmatic Representative, David Bauer

Councilmatic Representative, Hope Kasper

Commissioner John Giuliano

Commissioner Emanuel DiMauro

Commissioner Jack Pieper

I. Open Meeting (started at 7:03pm)

1. Public Hearing

Director Russo wanted to inform everyone that Deputy Director Young will be out due to a planned surgery for his ankle and will be out a few weeks.

Chairman Aldieri opened the public portion of the meeting and asked if there were anyone from the public present to be heard. Since no one from the public was present to be heard, Chairman Aldieri closed the public portion of the meeting.

II. Reports, Minutes and Correspondence

1. Minutes of Regular Meeting of December 4, 2014

A motion was made by Councilmatic Representative Kasper and seconded by Commissioner Guliano to approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting of December 4, 2014.

Councilmatic Representative Bauer wanted to make an adjustment/request to the minutes of December 4th on page 4 under Safe Home Securities Section that he thought that the president of the company showed up and was not noted in the minutes so he would like to place him in the minutes and the president's name of Safe Home Securities is David Roman.

An amended motion was made by Councilmatic Representative Bauer and seconded by Commissioner DiMauro to change and insert where it says Safe Home Securites spoke, insert a comma and state “represented by its President David Roman, to discuss the basics of why they were looking to relocate, etc. Motion was approved unanimously. Commissioner Giuliano and Chairman Aldieri both abstained from this motion since they both were not present. Two abstentions.

Director Russo wanted to add to the Agenda Item 9-11 Alsop Avenue as Item 3 under the New Business Section. A motion was made by Councilmatic Represented Kasper and seconded by Commissioner DiMauro to add under New Business Section as Number 3 Alsop Avenue Appeal. Motion was approved uninmously. One abstention from Commissioner Giuliano.

III. Transfers/Fund Updates

1. Monthly Fund Balance Report-December 2014

Director Russo indicated that there was no monthly fund balance report to be handed out for December 2014 since Assistant Finance Director Oliver-Perry, was on vacation this week. The WPCA questioned why no one in the Finance Department could not supply us with the report.

2. Transfer Funds-Water CNR

A motion was made by Councilmatic Representative Bauer and seconded by Councilmatic Representative Kasper to forward the Water CNR Transfer to the Common Council per the WPCA’s approval. Motion was approved unanimously.

IV. Old Business

1. Durham Water Update

Director Russo indicated that there was nothing new to report but Director Russo did state that he and Councilman Bauer went to the Public Session meeting for Durham Water the week before Christmas. The meeting was well attended and Director Russo indicated how he couldn’t understand how some people wanted to keep a contaminated well. Director Russo indicated that he thought EPA, DEEP and the Health Department did a nice job speaking during this meeting. Councilman Bauer gave his thoughts and opinions on the contaminated wells and then he also commended the Director for keeping up on this project about delivering water to our current customers.

Commissioner Giuliano indicated that he read that the project was 90% designed and asked what the date would be for finishing up the project and Director Russo indicated when EPA and State can fund it so they are getting final commitments from homeowners right now as to who is in and who is out and the extent of the water main extension that is going to go out for bid sometime this calendar year for funding and next fall to bid on it. There were some further discussions on this matter.

2. Mattabassett Update

Director Russo indicated that he started talking about the pipework since there was a pipe failure. Remsco is bringing in an expert witness that will be in next week from Madison- Wisconsin School of Engineering and the gentleman that is coming has a PHD in Structural and Mechanical Engineering. This gentleman deals with pipe fractures and he will perform a visual analysis on the pipe and depending on what this gentleman sees he may or may not take back the sections for destructive testing and he will also bring back resin samples as a host of different chemical testing we may want to perform on the pipe. Director Russo's opinion is that he does not feel that this will work he thinks the problem lies with the construction of the pipe and he stated that it looks like a rock or something else could of came loose and ripped into the pipe causing the damage so he doesn't think it is a pipe problem it is more of an installation problem. There were some further discussions on this matter.

Next, Director Russo spoke about the pump station and how we had another pre-bid with DEP and the bid date is January 27, 2015. The date was pushed back because of the Metropolitan District had a large project and they had the same contractors present.

Third, Director Russo stated that the department had a problem with a couple of design issues in which is the crossing over of Sumner's Creek and the design of the back order area so the Mattabassett Commission authorized Director Russo to get an easement from Mr. Marino, which would be temporary so we can get to the back of his property and perform the work. Then Director Russo stated there were some permit issues on Dekoven Drive but Director Russo will no more at the next Mattabassett meeting on the following Wednesday.

Lastly, Director Russo is working on the budgets and he is waiting for Brian Armet an answer on this year's assessment from Mattabassett. Director Russo indicated that it looks like our City is contributing 1.5million dollars out of Fund Balance toward rates. Director Russo, however, did state that Sewer ended in the black last year. He will hopefully have a report to show the WPCA before submitting it to the Mayor at the next scheduled WPCA meeting. There were some further discussions on this matter.

3. Kleen Energy-Update

Director Russo stated that the department is still waiting to meet with Kleen Energy about testing of the rates and an offer to operate the facility. Director Russo thinks they haven't responded because the department gave them just under a \$1million dollar budget. Director Russo indicated that this budget was presented to them but they have been silent.

Chief Engineer Fazzino then stated that after our department took over operations, there were two pump failures one after the other and Chief Engineer Fazzino looked into it further and used the on-call contractor, Lane Christianson, who does redevelopment of our wells, and when the pumps were pulled it was discovered that the couplings on the shaft, which is 50-foot long, were not getting any water and after additional investigation a gentleman from Kleen Energy and

then talking to the people from Pierless Pump we found out there was a bad batch of the couplings. Chief Engineer Fazzino is looking into this being covered under a warranty. Replacements parts will be included in the budget. There were some further discussions on this matter.

4. **Middle Street Sewer & Water Extension-Agreement**

Director Russo would like to have the WPCA to approve the scope of work from Cardinal Engineering regarding the Middle Street Sewer and Water Extension and the first piece of the agreement would be the conceptual design that he would present to Berlin to show what our department is thinking of as a plan and we can involve our Legal Department to draft an agreement between the two towns and release Cardinal Engineering to prepare the design for this project.

Director Russo stated that Finance and Government wants him to report back to them once the WPCA wants to move forward with this agreement and then Finance and Government will notify Planning and Conservation to see if they have any developments in the near future to give is a time-frame when they can help us out. There were some further discussions on this matter.

A motion was made by Commissioner Giuliano and seconded by Councilmatic Representative Bauer that the WPCA approved to have the Director move forward with Cardinal Engineering's Contract in regards to the Middle Street Sewer and Water Extension project. Motion was approved unanimously.

V. **New Business**

1. **98 Highland Ave., Barrows-Good Will Adjustment**

Due to a high unexplained bill for water and sewer the WPCA decided to approve a Good Will Adjustment for 98 Highland Avenue and Director Russo will work with staff on the adjustment amount.

2. **506 Huntington Hill Ave., Hewitt-Good Will Adjustment**

Due to a high unexplained consumption bill for water and sewer the WPCA decided to approve a Good Will Adjustment for 506 Huntington Hill Avenue and Director Russo will work with staff, as well, on the adjustment amount.

3. **Alsop Avenue-Foreclosure Property**

Director Russo indicated that he knows the owner and that he wanted to make a recommendation to help him out of his situation but at this time the property has delinquent debt and all foreclosure properties you purchase become a liability. The fact that this is a foreclosure property, Director Russo does not agree with forgiving the sewer disposal charge or decreasing the amount of Mr. Eddinger's prior bills and will reiterate this

information to a letter back to Mr. Eddinger telling him that his case was presented to the WPCA and unfortunately the department cannot approve his request at this time.

VI. Staff Reports

Deputy Director Young staff report for November was presented in the WPCA's packet for review since he is out of the office on sick leave. This report was for informational purposes only.

Then Chief Engineer Fazzino went into a brief discussion about his July staff report, which lists the projects that are currently on-going. There were some further discussions. This report was for informational purposes only.

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Giuliano and seconded by Councilmatic Representative Bauer to adjourn the meeting. Motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 8:10p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



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