

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

September 1, 2016

PRESENT:

Director, Guy Russo
Deputy Director, Robert Young
Assistant Chief Engineer, Brian Robillard
Chairman, Dale Aldieri
Vice Chairman, Scott Bishel
Councilmatic Representative, Eugene Nocera
Commissioner, Jack Pieper
Commissioner, John Giuliano
Commissioner, Emanuel DiMauro

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

Director Russo made a request to add an item to the agenda under Item III Transfers/Fund Update. The item is a document labeled "South Main Street Memo and Transfer" from Chief Engineer Fazzino. Director Russo stated that the memo summarizes the costs of the South Main Street Pump Station and discusses the removal and disposal of contaminated soils and groundwater.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Bishel and seconded by Commissioner Giuliano to add the item requested by Director Russo to the agenda. Motion was approved unanimously.

Chairman Aldieri opened the meeting to the public. Since no one was present from the public, the public portion of the meeting was closed.

II. Reports, Minutes and Correspondence

1. Minutes of Regular Meeting of July 21, 2016

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Bishel and seconded by Commissioner Giuliano to approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting of July 21, 2016. Motion was approved unanimously. Chairman Aldieri abstained since he was not present for the July 21, 2016 WPCA meeting.

2. **Letter to Arthur G. Simonian, Mattabassett District re: Sludge Deliveries**

This letter was for informational purposes only.

3. **Letter to March Gaylord, Middletown Board of Ed**

This letter was for informational purposes only.

4. **Letter from Mattabassett District dated 7/29/16 re: Sludge Deliveries**

This letter was for informational purposes only.

5. **Letter from Mattabassett District dated 8/24/16 re: Sludge Deliveries**

This letter was for informational purposes only.

III. Transfers/Fund Updates

1. **Monthly Fund Balance Reports-August**

The monthly fund balance reports were for informational purposes only.

2. **South Main Street Memo and Transfer**

Assistant Chief Engineer Robillard distributed a memo from Chief Engineer Fazzino regarding the South Main Street Pump Station. The memo summarized the construction costs from Connecticut Tank Removal, Inc. (CTL) and requested a fund transfer to pay the CTL invoices. A significant portion of the costs were associated with the removal and disposal of contaminated soil and groundwater. The contamination was from the gas station adjacent to the pump station. The Department will work to recover these costs from Getty, the former owner of the gas station property. There were some further discussions on this project.

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Bishel and seconded by Commissioner Giuliano to approve the transfer of \$180,594.26 from the General Sewer Improvement Fund Balance to Item No.: 2060-70700-79703-0000-00000-0000-000. Motion was approved unanimously.

IV. Old Business

1. **Durham Water - Update**

Director Russo indicated that numerous letters were sent to residents in the Watch Hill area informing them of the need for individual booster pumps at each house. The EPA sent out a recent letter regarding the common driveway to the proposed tank site. The Department will be responsible for maintaining the driveway to ensure access to the tank at all times. The EPA anticipates bidding this project over the winter. Director Russo noted that the Department still has to get a sale of excess water permit for this project. Director Russo will ask Durham to move the permit process forward. Director Russo stated that Durham requested a written explanation as to why the draft contract includes a 10% premium for Durham. Director Russo further stated that it may be more straight forward to adopt a new ordinance which would include an out of town water rate. The new rate would not exceed 10% more than our regular rate. This suggestion was given to Director Russo by a VP at CT Water. Director Russo indicated, that the construction of the storage tank would be the second part of the project. This will be discussed at another time. There were some further discussions on this matter.

2. **Mattabassett - Update**

Director Russo stated that the department is finishing up work with Remsco and is starting to see the beginning of possible claims from the pipe project. The Department is waiting for Mattabassett to send a final change order and a final bill. Director Russo further stated that the project can't close until these items are received. The City is paying additional interest on the borrowed money until the project can be closed out. Director Russo indicated that he is going to give Mattabassett another month before sending a letter in October regarding project close out. This letter will go through Attorney Brig and start preparing our counterclaim that Mattabassett has not been diligent in processing the change order and final bill. This has caused the City to incur additional costs associated with financing the project.

Director Russo then stated that the low bid for the pump station was \$26.2 million, which was \$300,000 over Maguire's estimate but under Director Russo's estimate of \$28 million. Director Russo further stated that there were two other bids that were around \$28 million. There were some further discussions on this matter.

Director Russo indicated that the Mattabassett Building Committee met on Tuesday night. A presentation was given by Steven Landry from CDR Maguire on the low bidder, Walsh Construction. The presentation indicated that Walsh was qualified to complete the work and a great contractor. There was also further discussions on this matter, as well.

3. **Kleen Energy**

Director Russo will likely go to the Common Council in October to discuss removing the Department from our obligation with Kleen Energy to operate the plant. Director Russo will endorse this action since the current agreement no longer benefits the Department.

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

Director Russo stated that the last 700 feet of piping along Middle Street is nearly complete. The main will be tested, chlorinated and put into service shortly. Director Russo stated that Chief Engineer Fazzino will eventually speak to the WPCA about the future pump station and metering station between Middletown and Berlin. Director Russo further indicated that the department will soon be able to sell water to the Town of Berlin. Director Russo also stated that he sits on the Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUCC) which is tasked with determining the best way to serve water customers in Connecticut. This new interconnection will eventually be incorporated into the next Water Supply Plan. The timing of this project will coincide with the efforts of the WUCC and the Water Supply Plan revisions.

5. Land Swap-Eversource – Update

Director Russo stated that this item can now be removed from the agenda permanently. No further action will be taken place.

V. New Business

1. Solar Power Agreement

Director Russo indicated that there will be a meeting next Wednesday with the City Attorney's Office, Kleen Energy Task Force, Director Russo and Conservation of Planning and Development regarding the solar power agreement. Director Russo indicated that the concept of the contract was endorsed but has to be formally acted upon by the Common Council. If the WPCA is in agreement, Director Russo will present it to the Common Council. Director Russo was asked who drafted the agreement. He indicated that Greenskies originally drafted the agreement but it was then revised by the Kleen Energy Task Force. There were some further discussions on this matter.

VI. Staff Reports

Deputy Director Young briefly went over his staff report for July that was given to the WPCA. The staff report was for informational purposes only. Deputy Director Young noted some of the scheduling issues the Department had with CT DOT during the recent repaving of Washington Street.

Assistant Chief Engineer Robillard distributed Chief Engineer Fazzino's July staff report to the WPCA. The staff report was for informational purposes only.

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business, a motion was made by Commissioner Giuliano and seconded by Vice Chairman Bishel to adjourn the meeting. Motion was approved. The meeting adjourned at 7:48p.m.

Respectfully submitted: 

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