

The Regular Meeting of the Water Pollution Control Authority was called to order by Chairman Michael DeAngelis at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 09, 2008 in Room 305 of Shelton City Hall, 54 Hill Street, Shelton, CT 06484.

The following Commissioners were in attendance to constitute a *quorum*:

Michael DeAngelis
Steve Morse
Richard Jager
Anthony Presutto
Bronislaw Piotrowski
Regis Dognin
Todd Dowty

Also attending were: Thomas Sym, Sewer Administrator
Ed Comboni - Treatment Plant
Jeffrey Shortell - Treatment Plant

Absent was: Edwin Hellauer

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

2. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was none.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 12, 2008

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Presutto and seconded by Commissioner Dowty to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 12, 2008 as submitted. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

4. COMMUNICATIONS

A. Nitrogen Invoice

Commissioner Morse said he thinks we should direct the Finance Department to pay this nitrogen charge out of our next year's money and to tell the auditors, that we, the WPCA, are directing this. If the auditors see this date, they will force the Finance Department to take the funds out of this year's budget (2008).

Mr. Sym said where it says the subject on the invoice they go by the March 18th billing and last years credit program. It is due 7/31/2008. It depends when the auditors may take it out.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Morse and seconded by Commissioner Dowty that the WPCA directs the Finance Department to pay the Nitrogen Credit Exchange Program to the State of Connecticut, Clean Water Fund, the amount billed of \$299,613 (purchase of credits) after July 1, 2008 but by July 31, 2008 and monies are to come out of the 2008-2009 Budget and further, the Finance department is to advise the auditors of this activity, so that the auditors take the monies from the 2008-2009 budget. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Lane Street Assessment Notice

Mr. Sym said this is due April 1st. I was talking to the Tax Collector about the interest rates which I brought up at the Public Hearing. We have been using the 4.7% and the water main assessments rate is 3.5% so we should use the same number possibly. We should make it 3.5% and save these people a few dollars.

Commissioner Morse said he thinks whatever the current rate is - that is what we should use.

Commissioner DeAngelis said we should not do it willy-nilly right now. Has the Finance Department always given the seniors no interest rate?

Mr. Sym said this has nothing to do with that - this is lowering the interest rate from 4.7% to 3.5% as the water main assessments are using this interest rate on the unpaid balance and I think we should use the same.

C. Public Hearing Assessment Information (Spoke Drive/Rocky Rest Rd)

Mr. Sym said this is from the public hearing we had earlier this evening. Again, I would like to change the interest rate from 4.7% to 3.5%, the same as the water main assessments.

Mr. Sym said we can vote on this interest rate next month after we get the Minutes back next month.

D. Budget Worksheet

Commissioner Morse said the personnel expenses over time is over budget and needs watching.

The Professional Services are over budget.

The Legal/Steno account is over budget.

Mr. Sym said this has an error - the \$4,000 cannot be right. Someone put something through in the wrong account.

Commissioner Morse will ask accounting what is in this number.

The sludge dumping is below budget.

The Municipal water is going up (we will talk about this later), as is the electric.

E. Superintendent's Report

Mr. Comboni read his report into the record:

Mr. Comboni said we have the proper probes now. We have to use echo catalyst to solve the grease so the chemicals are up. It works very well.

Mr. Asikainen from Maguire Group said the nitrification needs enough oxygen to satisfy the nitrification but you don't want too much oxygen at the end of the cycle.

Mr. Asikainen said 7.7 for winter is a good number - but if you have a high flow, the pounds of nitrogen go up and there was high flow - February was a high rain flow for the last 100 years. Nitrates are down but the pounds are consistent. Eleven and twelve are a little higher than you would like.

Mr. Asikainen said regarding the inventory of water - and asked Mr. Sym to get a list of items used in the potable water and to go item-by-item and the volume used and go pump by pump.

Commissioner DeAngelis said that now all four SBR's are up and running and on-line what would you think you will be this summer?

Mr. Comboni said we went to three SBR's and then with the high flow, we went to four with the heavy rains. The effluent quality is good.

Commissioner Morse said the number 128 is the break-even point for credit - that is our target number. We are at 315 (?).

Mr. Farmer said you are at the mercy of Mother Nature and you have to do the best you can.

Mr. Comboni said the State wanted us to use 3 SBR's but now we are back to 4 SBR tanks.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. Public Hearing 08-09 User Charge Rate

Mr. Sym said he would recommend a public hearing for the 2008-2009 User Charge Rate for 6:30 next month - just prior to the regular meeting. This would be May 14, 2008 at 6:3 p.m. If we are going to raise the rate, we have to have a public hearing.

There was discussion of possibly setting the new rate to \$187 that same night.

Commissioner Morse said we have to approve the budget first for next year and then we can set the rate.

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| <p>Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Morse and seconded by Commissioner Piotrowski to approve Commissioner Morse's Budget handout of this evening showing total expenses of \$2,319,268 and to forward this approved budget to the Finance Department. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.</p> |
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******* insert the 5a 2 pg budget handout**

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Morse and seconded by Commissioner Dowty to hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, May 14, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. (before the regularly scheduled meeting) to establish the 2008-2009 Sewer Usage Charge Rate. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Presutto said he wants to get a copy of all invoices and will review them personally. I want to see what they bought.

Based on the just approved Budget, the increase of the User Fees will be from \$173 to \$187 a year for each dwelling unit.

Mr. Sym said if we get more units we can get it down to \$185.

Commissioner DeAngelis said he wants to just go with our budget numbers.

Mr. Asikainen said you may have costs for foam suppressants - DEP wants you to put in a foam suppressant chemical pump. They said to get 20% funding and they don't want to see any foam. DEP will push for this foam suppressant and if you do not do it now, they will give you a consent decree.

There was discussion of effluent OG spillway.

New steel plates may reduce the foaming. When it hits the bottom, that is what causes the foaming.

There was discussion of the plate knife location.

Tape 1 Side B 7:45 p.m.

Mr. Asikainen said the suppresser was put in the budget for future work and DEP will make you do it and give Nickerson the go-ahead.

Mr. Farmer said the plates won't go in until June.

The chemicals are in Change Order #16 and it is at DEP for their approval.

B. Maguire Group Status Report

Mr. Kevin Farmer said he has been working with Maguire Group since 2002 and working with Shelton and hired by Maguire Group to work on this Treatment Plant and as it is essentially complete, there is not much work for me at Maguire, so I am going to a different firm at the end of the month. Mr. Farmer thanked all for their help and assistance, etc. Mr. George Pendleton will be taking over from here.

Mr. Pendleton has an update to 5B status report. Last month the punch list was 178 items and today there are 148 items left.

Nickerson was on site last week.

Training was conducted over the last two weeks.

The Cutler-Hammer breaker test has not been resolved yet. They want to be assured they get paid. It is not under warranty.

Commissioner DeAngelis does not want to pay Cutler Hammer until it is resolved as to whose fault it is. If it is not our fault - but they want us to pay. I want an independent contractor to look at it.

Mr. Asikainen said they are asking to get paid to get a new breaker and get it on-line as soon as possible. It is now out of warranty. It could have been a UI surge or lightening

strike. They acted promptly and are asking to get paid to get the plant on-line as well as for the breaker.

Mr. Pendleton said Barry said there is no evidence

Commissioner DeAngelis said we have to pay \$12K and if we find out it is not our fault and it is their fault, how do we get our money back from Cutler-Hammer?

Commissioner Piotrowski asked about the insurance route/claim?

Commissioner DeAngelis asked how do we report it as an insurance claim?

Mr. Sym said how do you put it in as an insurance claim - as what? This is a piece of equipment that has a life use of twenty years and it went in one year - are we insured for that? I don't know.

Commissioner Morse said he thinks the City is self-insured.

Commissioner Morse asked Mr. Farmer if he shared in the generator trace?

Mr. Farmer said he forwarded that to Barry P.

Commissioner Dowty said this needs to be investigated.

Mr. Asikainen said the \$174K additional fees we requested, went before the Board of Aldermen Finance Committee and to the full Board of Aldermen and to the Mayor. Our fees were cut \$25K for work to be done in the future. So, we are budgeting our hours for fees available to us from the City. Some work is "out of scope" as we were part of the consent decree. We will do critical work but we have to budget our hours for the fees we have available to us.

Mr. Farmer said the Mayor asked us to give a cash flow projection each month with the \$25K cut. We may have to stop work some weeks like when the new month starts.

George Pendleton said we did not charge for the majority of the work we did on the consent decree work.

George Pendleton said the outfall permit was finalized and signed by Jeff Shortell today. We will hand deliver to DEP tomorrow for their approval.

Commissioner Piotrowski questioned the chain link fence along the left hand side of the plant. Will that stay like that? It is a mess.

Mr. Sym said it is not on the list.

Change Order #16 was approved and signed here and DEP has it now.

George Pendleton said the foaming is a condition of approval to install chemicals and the steel plates.

George Pendleton - **Water Consumption** quantity. We would like the past six-months of water bills. The timing of the water bill is important. The bills go to the treatment plant. So, if someone will get the bills and forward them to me then we can identify if there is an issue.

It is the Plant water versus the commercial water. November 2007 was high as you were running off of the City/Commercial water not the plant water yet.

Mr. Asikainen said we may be able to recycle water at some point.

Commissioner Morse will get the water bills.

Mr. Asikainen read the water meter the first of each month and we need to compare it to your water bill. The November 2007 water usage was due to start up costs.

Avalon Shelton 1 - Avalonbay/Armstrong Road

Mr. Asikainen said this application was approved a year ago. Maguire Group gave them comments and reviewed the final site plan document and they covered the items we discussed. (This was previously approved).

Aquarian (the water company) needs to be requested to mark their water line in accordance with "Call Before You Dig" guidelines. We need separation distance.

Mr. Sym said he would like added that the force main to be put under the road not in the shoulder and should coordinate this with the City.

Mr. Asikainen will add this item and update his report for next month. This should be on the agenda for next month.

Commissioner Jager said he is concerned that the pipe is plastic and not steel and being private.

Tape 2 Side A 8:33 p.m

C. Recommended Relief Sewer Contractor

Trumbull Construction Company was the low bidder for this project for a bid amount of \$372,244.40.

Maguire Group recommends awarding this project to Trumbull Construction Company.

Mr. Pendleton said we need to rebid the West Canal Street as soon as you can and you already approved our contract for that and it is on the Board of Aldermen's agenda for tomorrow night. This is the work around Chromium Process. The lining is a separate bid.

There were ten bidders on the relief sewer.

The bid overlay or the manhole rehab was a separate bid and Trumbull was the low bidder at \$25,025. This is for the permanent pavement overlay (curb to curb mill and overlay). This is from Wharf and West Canal intersection down to the treatment plant driveways.

Mr. Sym said it would be good if they could grade the road as well.

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| <p><i>Motion:</i> A motion was made by Commissioner Dowty and seconded by Commissioner Piotrowski to accept the recommendation of Maguire Group to award Trumbull Construction Company the Riverdale Avenue Relief Sewer Project in the amount of \$372,224.40 (the low bidder) and for the permanent pavement overlay (curb to curb paving) for \$25,025 to Trumbull Construction Company as well. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.</p> |
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D. Amendment to DTC Contract

Mr. Sym said DTC did extra work and tweaked Dewberry’s drawings. This has to go to the Board of Aldermen.

The original contract amount was \$190,924 and they want to revise it to \$199,825 for processing UI rebate program which the city benefited in an amount exceeding \$47,000, commissioning start-up of equipment, negotiated change orders and credits to bring project to completion at the original contract amount, successfully negotiated to zero, a change order submitted in the amount of \$27,000 for additional paving and coordinated with the contractor to redesign all four (4) pump stations and the new force main connection.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Morse and seconded by Commissioner Piotrowski to approve the additional amount of \$8901 to DTC for expended additional funds. Original amount of \$190,924 to \$199,825. . All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously. Monies to come from the Referendum account and to forward to the Board of Aldermen for their approval.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. Bills Rendered

1. Maguire Group.....\$ 1950.00

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Dognin seconded by Commissioner Presutto to approve payment to Maguire Group in the amount \$1950 dated March 27, 2008 for Riverdale Avenue Relief Sewer services. All were in favor. Motion carried. Monies to come from the Wastewater Collection Systems Fund/Referendum Fund.

2. Maguire Group.....\$ 399.00

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Dognin seconded by Commissioner Presutto to approve payment to Maguire Group in the amount of \$ 399.00 dated March 28, 2008 for Sewer Inventory and Site Plan Reviews. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously. Monies to come from the Revolving Sewer Fund.

3. Maguire Group.....\$ 18,945.10

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Dognin seconded by Commissioner Jager to approve payment to Maguire Group in the amount \$18,945.10 dated April 04, 2008 for Contract Administration and resident inspection and O7M Manual. This is part of the out-of-scope work. All were in favor with the exception of Commissioner DeAngelis who opposed due to the Breaker issue. Motion carried. Monies to come from the Wastewater Collection Systems Fund/Referendum Fund.

4. DTC.....\$6,911.27
(Diversified Technology Consultants)

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Presutto and seconded by Commissioner Morse to authorize payment to DTC the Pump Station Engineering Consultants for \$6,911.27 from December 23, 2007 to January 19, 2008. All were in favor with the exception of Commissioner DeAngelis who opposed due to the Breaker issue. Motion carried. Monies to come from the Wastewater Collection Systems Fund/Referendum Fund.

If the amendment to the contract gets approved, then this bill to DTC goes through.

C. Sewer Administrator’s Report

Mr. Sym said he wants to talk to the Finance Director and change the interest rate from 4.7% to 3.5% like the water assessments.

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Dognin and seconded by Commissioner Piotrowski to use 3.5% interest rate for the sewer assessments – as that is what the water main assessment rate is – instead of the 4.7% rate. This would be effective with the Lane Street and Spoke Drive assessments. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner DeAngelis asked what is the status on the reply to the effluent permit violation?

Mr. Sym indicated that we replied and he gave a copy of the reply to Commissioner DeAngelis and the Commissioners. He will put it on next month's agenda.

Commissioner DeAngelis asked what is the status of the fire marshal asking to moving the fire hydrant behind the fence at the plant?

Mr. Sym said it is done.

Commissioner Morse said the Huntington watershed area - were the manhole inspections done?

George Pendleton said they were done and testing and smoke testing has been done. On April 28th we are doing more work.

Commissioner Piotrowski asked about the wall next to Brennan - when will that be done?

Mr. Sym said at Brennan's mercy as he is doing it for nothing.

7. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The Financial Statement was reviewed.

8. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to conduct this evening,

Motion: A motion was made by Commissioner Dowty and seconded by Commissioner Dognin to adjourn. All were in favor. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Hooper

Clerk 2 Tapes on file with the City/Town Clerk