

The Special Meeting of the Water Pollution Control Authority was called to order by Chairman Michael DeAngelis at 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 24, 2009 in Room 104 of Shelton City Hall, 54 Hill Street, Shelton, CT 06484.

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

Commissioner Steve Morse  
Commissioner Edwin Hellauer  
Commissioner Michael DeAngelis

Absent were: Commissioner Todd Dowty  
Commissioner Bronislaw Piotrowski  
Commissioner Regis Dognin - Excused  
Commissioner Richard Jager  
Commissioner Anthony Presutto

Also attending were: Thomas Sym, Sewer Administrator  
George Pendleton - Maguire Group

## **1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

## **2. ORDINANCE #217 SEWER BENEFIT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS - REVIEW**

Mr. Sym distributed his one page draft of Ordinance #217. He said everything is going to be proportionate share to each property abutting the sewer line within a residential zone. I did not consider getting into commercial or industrial because we have not been putting in any of those lines in for a few years. If that should come up in the future, we can do something with that then also. But, I do not foresee us putting any of those lines in.

Commissioner Morse said those would probably come with the developers.

Mr. Sym agreed. Anything that is being put in now is by development. I gave a copy of this to Attorney Ray Sous today and he will look it over. He thought our previous ordinance was based on State Statutes and I told him it was not. We changed it years ago; it used to be just linear footage and square footage and that was how you were assessed. With Peter Spang and Alan Tyma, we changed it to reflect the four different categories - so the assessments came a little more equally. If someone had a 300 foot frontage and 200 feet back, I hit big and if someone had one building lot and someone else had a regular building lot, the assessments were way out of proportion so we made into four categories so you broke it up a little bit more and that helped. But, that still does not work. This is the easier way to do it.

Commissioner DeAngelis said so this is your revision, but Ray still has to review it?

Mr. Sym said that is correct. I don't know what else we can add to this.

Mr. Sym continued that it is included in that deferred ordinance regarding the sewer main where if you put it in, like Meadow Street interceptor and you are doing one phase at a time, then you will have to break this out and if operating on our own budget, we put in a portion of the sewershed area and get some money back and then put in another one, but meanwhile split the cost of the main because other projects will be tying into that main so they will have to pay a portion of that. I think that is covered in the Deferred Assessment Ordinance so I don't think we have to get into that either.

There was discussion that the Ordinance would be called Ordinance #217 MPG (the MPG stands for past Chairman, Matthew P. Gallo).

The consensus is that the agreement is pending Attorney Ray Sous' review.

Section 9.04 has been reduced to sub-grade residential building. That is all that is needed.

The old Section 9.07 -*Assessable Units* - we are not using units and we are not using property values.

Section 9.05 *Subject to reasonable allowances by the Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA).*

Mr. Sym said this would be if someone added an additional lot - this covers everything. The method is now one paragraph.

Commissioner Hellauer said this covers all.

Commissioner DeAngelis said it opens a huge interpretation on our part.

Commissioner Hellauer said that is what you should have.

## ORDINANCE #217MPG PROVIDING FOR SEWER BENEFIT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

Be It Ordained By The Board of Aldermen  
City of Shelton, Connecticut

### 9. SEWER BENEFIT ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

- .1 Costs to be Recovered: Benefit assessments to be levied on the lands and buildings, and the owners thereof, subject thereto within each Sewer District will be determined on the basis of recovering:
  - a. The total costs incidental to the design and construction of the lateral sewers and the total costs of the design and construction of sub-street service connections thereto such Sewer District;
  - b. Such portions of all costs incidental to the design and construction of the appurtenant sewerage facilities serving such Sewer District as the Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA) shall determine;
- .1 Lands, Buildings and Owners Subject to Benefit Assessments; the lands and buildings, and the owners thereof, subject to benefit within each Sewer District shall be all of the lands and buildings situated within such Sewer District, the owners thereof;
- .2 METHOD;

In a residential zone the proportionate share of each property owner abutting the sewer shall be determined by dividing the total cost of the lateral sewers and the total cost of sub street surface connections divided by the number of residential properties benefited by the project.
- .3 Sub-Grade Residential Buildings: When the invert grade of the sewer serving an existing one-family residence is at an elevation such that the principal living level of the residence cannot be served by a gravity flow connection, the benefit assessment to be levied on the piece or parcel of land upon which the residence is situated, on the residence and other buildings thereon and the owner or owners thereof, determined in accordance with sub-section 9.03 (c) above will be reduced in the amount of \$2,500.

.4 Subject to reasonable allowances by the Water Pollution Control Authority (WPCA).

### **3. CONSENT DECREE**

George Pendleton from Maguire Group:

Mr. Pendleton handed out his Estimated Budget sheet.

He revisited the list from the very first meeting on the Consent Decree.

The breakout costs 2008-2009 are already paid for or we are paying for in 2009-2010.

I have tried to assemble all the costs; engineering fee and other estimated costs, like construction costs, or equipment or staffing - those types of things.

Item 1.10 SSES totals - we have paid for most of it or have budgeted for it.

1.11 Phase 2 construction are the results of the SSES we just finished and not necessarily budgeted for that project.

Section 1.14 Staffing Assessment Mr. Pendleton said he is not sure of the salary and fringe benefits of the new Assistant Position. That number may be high.

Everything down from there is Consent Decree related Work.

The big-ticket items are in the current year. We have spent/funded most of the \$2 million; i.e. the relief sewer money is spent/gone.

Column 54 is the projected money spent for 2008/2009.

Column 6 is the projected money spent for 2009-2010.

\$1.3 million is the total of construction projects and is contracted for - Gherlone and the two Green Mountain Projects. The Maguire portion is \$234 in the left column.

Mr. Sym said so right now we have spent \$150K + \$200K + \$800K = \$1150K including change orders for Phase I construction.

Cleaning sewer pipes every year is a recurring cost.

Commissioner DeAngelis said then the projected money spent in 2009/2010 is \$933,799 and that is what Jeff (Shortell) needs to put in his this year's budget?

Mr. Sym said "No - we are not adding recommendations for SSES study - add-ons are not included in the original recommendation for improvements; Maltby, Kneen, Forest Avenue which we did and the two sheets Dewberry design projects."

Mr. Sym said some of this is Bond Referendum Money and not in our budget. For example, 1.11 comes from Bond Referendum money.

Mr. Pendleton said essentially everything is under the Consent Decree.

Commissioner DeAngelis asked if this is part of the Consent Decree, how do we know we don't have to pay for it and it comes from the Referendum account - and who monitors the Referendum account?

Mr. Sym said until such time as we run out of money.

Mr. Sym said the question he has is once you submit this are we bound by it?

Mr. Pendleton said, "yes - so you better review it carefully".

Mr. Sym said there are 256 manholes that may have to come out. We have to gasket/cover almost every manhole all 256 of them as lots are leaking and every manhole in Huntington leaks. We had better change our design.

George Pendleton said 40% of them leak.

Mr. Sym asked if the isolation study found much?

Mr. Pendleton said sixty pipe repairs and twenty leaking lines/laterals the lines were ok. We didn't do any more targeted building inspections.

Mr. Sym asked when does this have to be submitted by?

Mr. Pendleton said July 30, 2010 is the official date - the rehab work has to be completed by the same date. July 30, 2010 is the construction deadline, we need to finish the report and get the bid documents out.

Mr. Pendleton continued that I was hoping to go out to bid this spring and get a contractor out and finish it. We are shooting to get comments back from you guy by March 15th and tweak it and send it to DEP 2 weeks later and in May we can possible go out to bid.

There was sump pump discussion. Going door-to-door and asking to be allowed in to inspect their basement. If someone has a basement that continually leaks and they have a sump pump that runs all the time, then yes. If they have a sump pump that only runs for a day or two after a rain storm, then no.

Commissioner DeAngelis said he thinks everything is fine except for what Tom Sym wants to change.

George Pendleton said we can use Parson's plastic saucer under the manhole cover at \$100 each. It makes a good seal and vents. A rubber gasket seal is \$300-\$400 each.

Mr. Sym asked can we get information on the freeze/thaw problem?

Mr. Sym said he has a concern if there are no vented holes in the manholes and they pop? The only holes are pick holes they are not vented covers.

George Pendleton said he thinks a lot are vented.

Mr. Sym disagreed and said they are pick holes.

Mr. Sym said we have to be sure these covers are acceptable.

Commissioner DeAngelis said I want to focus on the money aspect and line items.

George Pendleton and Tom Sym will talk some more on this.

Mr. Sym said he just wants to bring to everyone's attention that we don't want to submit this as it is.

Commissioner DeAngelis wants to talk about the projected money spent 2009/2010.

We need to make a decision at the March 11th meeting. Messrs. Sym and Pendleton will meet before that and review it.

Mr. Pendleton said the next big items are:

Section 1.14 \$168K for the staffing position.

Section 1.16.4 \$70K Asset Management and Maintenance Software.

Commissioner Dognin is to update the system into the Asset Management.

\$10K is the annual cleaning.

Tape 1 Side B 5:15 p.m.

Mr. Pendleton said you will have to clean 10% of the pipes every year. You may be able to use your own equipment and not have outside costs so the \$10K can go away.

Commissioner Hellauer said the Highway Department cannot do a regular maintenance program - you may have to hire someone. They will do an emergency but not an ongoing maintenance program.

Commissioner Morse said the preference would be to hire someone rather than get the highway department to do it and we need to put something together so we can bid it out.

Mr. Sym said before you do that you need to hire someone to lift every manhole to be able to access the lines. He does not want Green Mountain to expand their project and do all the manholes. They will charge twice as much.

Mr. Pendleton said you can raise the manholes as you go.

Commissioner Morse said you need to map the system.

Mr. Pendleton said we are going to do that.  
Commissioner DeAngelis said this is very detailed.

Mr. Pendleton said it will change as how you proceed from now on.

Commissioner DeAngelis said he is discouraged only three Commissioners showed up at this meeting. I don't want to stay until 11:00 p.m. on a Wednesday night meeting to discuss some of these things.

He said he is not sure now close this number if going to be on the Consent Decree. He asked George Pendleton to add a "recurring" column.

Mr. Sym asked for \$168K what are you giving me - five guys? (For the assistant).

Mr. Pendleton said I figured salary, pension, benefits, etc. I don't know how to estimate that cost. I don't know what you are going to pay this person.

Commissioner DeAngelis and Mr. Sym said 30%.

Commissioner Morse said it is enough for a budget purpose.

Commissioner DeAngelis said the FOG program has to be added in.

Mr. Sym said that \$200K saved from the nitrogen credits will go to the Chemicals that Jeff Shortell wants/needs. That is what he is proposing.

Mr. Pendleton said they may be able to use less chemicals as they are running the plant very well.

Commissioner Morse said let's put in the budget:

- 1) \$70K for FOG Program police guy
- 2) Take some of our nitrogen credit savings and put that into the Capital Fund.

Commissioner Morse handed Mr. Pendleton his Cash Flow Analysis report.

Commissioner DeAngelis said right now we will work with this \$497,100 - is that right George?

Mr. Pendleton said yes.

Mr. Sym said No. Commissioner Morse just knocked off \$100K for the grease police

So, it should be less than \$497,100.

The Clerk should send the Administrative Assistant the Job Description for Tom's assistant as part of the Consent Decree - the grease police. This was voted on a year or so ago and the Clerk should find the motion from that meeting. We need to get the job description approved. Tom Sym can explain this is part of the consent decree.

We need a new manhole man as well. Mr. Sym said he cannot do this any more.

Commissioner Morse said we need computers and that has to go into the budget.

We need asset management software as part of the Consent Decree and you need computers for that.

Commissioner Morse said if we don't get this new person everything falls by the wayside.

Commissioner DeAngelis asked if we can hire Maguire Group for starters?

Mr. Sym said "No".

Mr. Sym said they cannot expect us to do all of this right away.

Mr. Pendleton said they do.

Mr. Pendleton said you do not have a deadline for the FOG issue/program.

Mr. Sym said we may now with the violations from the Treatment Plant. It may speed things up on the FOG program.

There was discussion of how long things take. We may have to hire a part time person in the interim.

The Clerk will look for the motion from last year approving the hiring of an assistant for Tom Sym and someone will write a letter we need a FOG person as part of the Consent Decree.

The items for next month's agenda should include Ordinance #217 MPG and the Job Description for Tom's assistant.

Insert jpendletons 1 page

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to conduct this evening,

The meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Hooper  
Clerk 1 Tape on file with the City/Town Clerk

