



WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
Town Of Prospect, Connecticut

UNAPPROVED
MEETING MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2020

Members Present: Christopher Wester, Louis Booth, and John Guevin, Chris Whiby

Members Absent: Carl Montagano

Chairman Wester called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

The meeting was held virtually via phone conference and was recorded.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Motion by C. Whiby to approve the meeting minutes from September 22, 2020, seconded by J. Guevin, Discussion followed some minor typos were noted and corrected. **Unanimous, Motion Carries.**

Administrators Report: The Administrator did not have a formal report to review. She stated all of the issues to be reviewed are going to be highlighted throughout the agenda.

2020 Meeting Schedule: The proposed meeting schedule for 2021 was reviewed. The Administrator states there are four scheduled meeting dates that were picked in a more selective manner to coincide more strategically with important times of the year for the WPCA. The reasons were discussed in more detail and included highlights such as the review of semi annual water sampling reports, as well as setting the sewer use rate. **Motion by L. Booth** to accept by the meeting schedule for 2021 as presented, **seconded by C. Whiby, Unanimous, Motion Carries.**

Sewer Use Billing Update: C. Wester states there has been a lot of activity that happened over the last month specifically with the Aria bill. The original invoice received from the City of Waterbury indicated a large increase of flow for the Aria facility. Upon receipt of his bill the owner called Chairman Wester, legal counsel, and Anne Marie Burr (Town of Prospect Tax Collector). After numerous discussion with the Aria owner, the bill was paid on time and in full. After the fact it was discovered that the City of Waterbury made a clerical error in their computation of the reporting of the flows obtained from the system. The actual final flow was in line with the activity seen over the years from that facility. The City of Waterbury admitted their mistake and sent a revised invoice. The Town of Prospect had not yet paid the original Waterbury invoice, therefore a refund was issued to Aria for their overpayment. Although the issue has been resolved Chairman Wester states there is still a concern that the City of Waterbury on one or two occasions observed flows from that station that were not representative of domestic sewage. Samples of these flows were taken and it was confirmed that they were not indicative of normal sewage. Moving forward we will be keeping an eye on the character of the wastewater. Waterbury has since done some further testing and everything seems to be back to normal.

Meter Facility Update: Paul Santoro has completed the installation of the software required for The City of Waterbury to receive flow data from the Prospect meter stations automatically. P. Santoro is currently looking for payment for the service. The Administrator reports that she is working with the Mayor's office to remit his payment as soon as possible.

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Montagano, Carl
TOWN CLERK

Although the software has been installed and more data will be available to us Chairman Wester states the WPCA is still in a quandary since there is not a manned WPCA facility that can maintain a good connection to dial out and keep all meter data stored in our own system. We will continue to rely on Waterbury's collection of the data and utilize their good word upon which their bill is based. It is too difficult for the WPCA to maintain a computer system that can do that. However, if we had alternate numbers that we collected and recorded we would've caught Waterbury's mistake with the Aria bill. C. Whiby questions if there is a specific contact that we deal with at the city. Chairman Wester states yes, there are three main people who act as liaisons between Waterbury and the Town of Prospect. The first is Jim Bertherthson, who is an employee of Jacobs, which is the contract operator for all things waste water for the City of Waterbury. Chairman Wester states the Waterbury system is no longer run with city employees. He adds we have also always dealt very well with the second person, Denis Cuevas, the city superintendent of the waste water facility, and the third person, Maurice Fortier who is in charge of being in the system pump stations and manages collection issues. C. Whiby questions if correspondence is provided when they read the meters on a monthly or quarterly basis? Chairman Wester states that no they do not send us updates, however receiving quarterly data would be helpful. He adds that we are going to start the process of updating the Waterbury/Prospect Intermunicipal Sewer Agreement (IMSA), and this is something that could be included in the updated agreement. Chairman Wester states he has a copy of the proposed agreement that he will send out to all members to be reviewed.

Permit Applications: There were no applications to be received.

Toll Brothers: There was no formal update to review however, J. Guevin states there have been issues with people flushing things they shouldn't and clogging up the system, requiring service to unjam the pumps. Discussion also followed regarding power outage issues and the potential installation of back up generators. Chairman Wester states he does not believe the facility meets the state size requirement to have installed standby generators upon construction. He adds it would be beneficial for residents to know that although they have the luxury of having city water when the power goes out the sewer service will not be operational. Although water is coming in its not going out, which can result in a spill or sewer overflow if usage is not limited. Both the Toll Brothers Association and the WPCA would be required to report an overflow event to the DEP, which could carry some large penalties. So he advised J. Guevin to inform the residents that when the power goes out to stop using water as best as they can.

Approve WPCA Clerk for Reimbursement: Motion by J. Guevin to approve reimbursement for WPCA clerk, seconded by C. Whiby, Unanimous. Motion carries.

Adjournment: Motion by L. Booth to adjourn the meeting at 6:43 p.m., seconded by C. Whiby, Unanimous. Motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher Wester

Christopher Wester
Chairman