

Minutes of the W.P.C.C. Meeting  
October 12, 2016

The regular meeting of the West Haven Water Pollution Control Commission was held on Wednesday, October 13, 2016. In attendance were Commissioners Brian Reichert, George Monahan, Michael Blagmon, William Canning, Michael Betz, and Peter Bontaumo. Also attending were Abdul Quadir and Attorney Mark Bergamo and plant Superintendent Jack Crosby.

Chairman Reichert opened the public session at 6:53 P.M. and asked for anyone from the public wishing to speak. After a second call Mr. Edward Messina of 433 Blohm Street spoke about his appeal for sewer use correction. He told that he bought the house during the fiscal year and during closing he paid all sewer fees owed at the time. He is being asked to pay additional use charge and because he has a multi-family house which was billed for one unit. He believes this additional charge shall be billed to previous owner. Chairman Reichert asked anyone from the public wishing to speak, a UNH student stated that he is here to observe the meeting proceedings on behalf of his class.

Public Session closed at 7 P.M. and the regular meeting opened. George Monahan made a motion to approve September meeting minutes, seconded by Bill Canning. Motion was approved with Michael Betz abstaining.

George Monahan and Bill Canning advised the commission about their research into Assistant Superintendent position. They contacted 3 plants and everyone has a position of Assistant Superintendent or equivalent. The plants were Stratford, Meriden, and Wallingford. They felt pay scale being proposed is too low. George Monahan wants to table the position to give more time for new Superintendent Jack Crosby to evaluate staffing. Mike Betz discussed budget issues, job descriptions, process of new job creation. He stated that Commission votes for new positions which goes to Mayor and if Mayor approves it then goes to City Council which has final authority to approve or reject.

Abdul Quadir presented sewer charge corrections tabled at the September meeting.

George Monahan made motion to grant one year credit to applicant at 11 Wharton Street and 80 Knox Street. Michael Blagmon seconded. All voted yes and motion carried.

George Monahan made motion to deny appeals for 183 Washington Ave and 431 Blohm Street owners who purchased the homes during the fiscal year and did not want to pay sewer use for corrected user charge. Bill Canning seconded and all voted yes. Motion carried.

Housing Authority appeal was discussed by Attorney Mark Bergamo. He discussed the issue being complex because of State Statutes dealing with low income housing. He stated that the housing authority is only obligated to pay ten percent of net income of low income housing after deducting utilities as PILOT money both for taxes and sewer use. He indicated that he is in discussions with Housing Authority attorney to draft a new cooperative agreement which will be presented to the Commission. This agreement will have to be approved by the City Council. He asked to table the appeal for another sixty days.

Mark Bergamo also discussed the appeal process and said that the parties need to be notified about the meeting so that if they choose to be present, they can attend.

Discussion has to be forwarded to the appellant in writing.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Bill Canning presented a proposal for M.F.C. to do audit of the plant regarding its performance and manpower needs. Stratford just completed its audit. Costs will be around \$50,000. Commission wants to explore grant opportunities for this through City's Grant Writer.

Abdul Quadir presented sewer user charge appeals from Promise Land Ministries at 240 Burwell Road. He stated that someone was stealing its water and R.W.A. has corrected its water use. User charge should be corrected from fifteen units to one unit. Bill Canning made motion to correct user charge to one unit, Michael Betz seconded and all voted yes. Motion carried.

George Monahan stated that anytime someone is visiting the plant, Commission should be notified so it's aware of it and some members may want to be present. He mentioned about recent visits by E.P.A. and D.E.E.P.. Abdul Quadir stated that this visit was not for W.P.C.F. but Coastal Resiliency Projects and he just showed them the project site through the plant site.

George Monahan made a motion to adjourn, Bill Canning seconded and motion approved by all. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.