

# AVON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

December 16, 2010

## I. CALL TO ORDER

The Avon Water Pollution Control Authority was called to order at 5:34 pm by Michael Farrell, Acting Chairman.

Present: Michael Farrell  
Thomas Armstrong  
Eric Johansen  
Lawrence Baril, Town Engineer

Absent: William Eschert  
James Miller

## II. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING – November 18, 2010

MOTION: Mr. Armstrong motioned for approval of the November 18, 2010 minutes, as submitted and amended by Mr. Armstrong. The motion, seconded by Mr. Farrell, received unanimous approval.

## III. COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE – None

## IV. NEW BUSINESS - NONE

## V. OLD BUSINESS

2010 – 9 Haynes Road Update – Discuss the Town of Avon survey mailed to Haynes Road area residents, potential easements and The Avon Water Company

Ms. Essex provided a summary of the survey results noting that many residents are interested in next steps and 17 are in favor of the Haynes Road area sewer project. The results were based on 24 responses. The survey was mailed to 83 residents. Mr. Baril commented that some residents provided sketches in response to survey question # 1 inquiring whether the resident is aware of the location and configuration of their septic system. Many responses indicated they had plumbing fixtures on a lower elevation which will need special attention. Mr. Farrell inquired about the possibility of going towards the West Avon (Meadowbrook) direction. Out of the two residents to gain easements, one is in favor and, one is adamantly opposed. Mr. Baril explained the process to the resident who is opposed and offered alternatives to gain easement and mentioned there would not be any extra costs imposed to the resident. Mr. Armstrong inquired about the approximate cost savings depending upon which route was used. Mr. Baril replied a possible route would be to go up to and east on Scoville, which would add 400 feet at a minimum of \$100/per foot, would be \$40,000

to \$50,000 cost savings. Alternate routes were discussed and the cost saving measures saved depending upon which route was best. Mr. Baril also mentioned a potential for condemnation, which based on his discussions with Mr. Tom Daukas is not an exceptionally expensive measure. Mr. Baril noted, that according to Mr. Daukas, there is high groundwater in the Scoville Road area. Mr. Baril noted the next steps should be an informational session as residents have been calling the Engineering office inquiring about the status of the project. Mr. Armstrong noted the Scoville residents should receive the survey also. Mr. Farrell agreed that the surveys should be sent out as soon as possible. Mr. Armstrong noted there are a number of people who have already received an upgrade to their system and wondered if there's a clustered problem area and raised the possibility that the people who are opposed to the sewer project are residents who just completed an upgrade. Mr. Armstrong inquired about what options the residents would have if the sewer project did not proceed and inquired if the residents had the capacity to extend their leach field systems. Mr. Baril responded he would need to contact Farmington Valley Health District to gather the information. Mr. Armstrong noted that the action item is too labor intensive for where the Town is in relation to the project. Mr. Farrell inquired about the legality concerns of entering into a contract with Mr. William Ferrigno without conducting the bidding process and enter into a direct agreement. Mr. Baril responded that since it's a project that is not one to bid upon, it is acceptable to enter into an agreement with Mr. Ferrigno. Mr. Baril summarized the financial terms provided by Mr. Ferrigno, which included the approximate number of residents that Mr. Ferrigno needed to commit for the project, the financing terms and the expectation of receiving payback from those residents who did not connect. He continued to say that if Mr. Ferrigno did not receive the required number of commitments from residents, the Town would help Mr. Ferrigno coordinate acquiring them (by hosting joint meetings and assisting with correspondence) but it would be Mr. Ferrigno's responsibility to gather the commitments. Mr. Baril explained that if a resident outside the original commitment, wishes to connect to the sewer line, the resident would incur the following fees: developer payback, the \$2,500 connection fee and the sewer permit fee. The members discussed the schedule for the following meeting regarding scheduling the Murtha Cullina presentation and the need to hold an informational meeting regarding the Haynes Road sewer project. It was noted the Haynes Road sewer project will be held on Thursday, January 13 at 7 pm as a Haynes Road public informational meeting. The session with Murtha Cullina is to be held at a later date.

2009 – 12 Deepwood Drive Update –

Assessment review: Interest rate, proposed assessments, timetable for assessments.

Mr. Baril handed out a financial document regarding the preliminary costs/share for Deepwood Drive Sewer Assessments. The figures were broken out for Phase 1 and Phase 11, with total costs of \$527,068.34. The number of homes to be assessed for standard gravity connections is 40 while there are an estimated 4 rear lots with pumped systems and a 15% reduction. The base assessment is \$12,144.43 with \$10,322.77 for rear / pumped lots. Before the project began, the original range given to residents at the informational meeting was \$8,000 - \$12,000. The recent figures indicate a higher than anticipated figure, which Mr. Baril suggested the Commission consider not charging the residents. There were two change orders, one on each phase of the project for problems encountered while doing the project, which were given to the contractor to correct. The two change orders were \$3,000 for Phase 1 and \$650 for Phase II, both to correct storm drainage problems. There is also a \$5,316.38 charge relating to procuring the two easements required to connect to existing sewers. Mr. Baril provided alternate solutions to avoid the extra cost for residents. He suggested changing the Phase 1 change order for storm drainage problems, legal easements and change order for storm drainage, which make a total reduction of \$8,966.38 which lowers the assessments to \$11,937.83 for a base assessment and \$10,147.16 for a rear / pumped lot assessment. Mr. Baril explained the 15% reduction for homes requiring a pump system is allowed as homeowners need to purchase, install, and maintain additional equipment. Mr. Johansen inquired about the reason why the costs were higher than expected. Mr. Baril explained that the primary reason the range is higher than expected is the poor condition of the road. Contractors are paid based on the square footage for pavement repair. The amount of pavement patch was much wider than expected, which increased the construction costs. Deepwood Drive is currently a patched

road which is planned to be resurfaced in the summer, 2011. Mr. Johansen mentioned that residents may not believe the cost of repaving the road is one they should be held responsible for. The interest rate derived for the Deepwood Drive project is 3 ¼%, based on discussions with the Town's Finance Director and its financial consultant. Mr. Armstrong suggested the Commission maintain on a consistent, rational basis a standard process to follow for future projects. Mr. Johansen mentioned OSHA provides strict guidelines regarding how wide a trench should be based on its depth. Mr. Baril mentioned he would calculate standard trench width vs. what the Town paid and will email the findings to the Commission. Mr. Baril noted there's a pavement management program in Town which identifies each road segment in town and indicates the Ride Surface Rating (RSR) for each segment. The system assists with prioritizing and budgeting to bring roads to a minimum RSR. It was discussed that to arrive at the reduced cost for residents is to potentially remove the excess pavement costs from the project costs for the Deepwood Drive project. Mr. Johansen suggested to Mr. Baril, when conducting the trench figures, create a proposed trench limit which could be used for future projects.

VI PLANNING & ZONING MATTERS – None

VII COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF - None

VIII COMMUNICATION FROM MEMBERS –

2010 – 16 Discuss the reappointment of Michael J. Farrell, AWPCA Chairman, to a three-year term.

The appointment of Michael J. Farrell will be placed on the Town Council's agenda for their January 6, 2011 meeting.

IX OTHER BUSINESS – None

X ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Farrell motioned to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:20 pm. The motion, seconded by Mr. Armstrong, received unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Essex, Clerk