

AVON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY**September 13, 2012****Selectmen's Chambers 5:30 pm****Town of Avon****I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Avon Water Pollution Control Authority was called to order at 5:30 pm by Mr. Johansen.

Present: Eric Johansen
James Miller
Terry Ryan
Lawrence Baril, Town Engineer

Absent: Michael Farrell
Thomas Armstrong

II. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING – August 9, 2012

MOTION: Mr. Johansen made a motion for approval of the August 9, 2012 minutes.
The motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, received unanimous approval.

III. COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE –

- Dave Whitney of David F. Whitney Consulting Engineers, Avon, Connecticut
- Victor Neumann, Resident, 82 Wright Drive, Avon, Connecticut

Mr. Whitney discussed the preliminary plan of a proposed sewer extension on Wright Drive, approximately 950 feet. Mr. Whitney discussed the plan including the prior sewer work which was completed on parcels located near Wright Drive. Mr. Whitney asked a question on behalf of Mr. Neumann regarding the sewer payback and whether the Engineering Department would entertain the idea of conducting the surveying, engineering and design of the sewer. Mr. Neumann thanked the Board for their time. Mr. Neumann said he and his wife have lived in their home for the past 17 years. Suburban Sanitation replaced one of the junction boxes, which according to Suburban, is a stop-gap measure. Mr. Whitney has met with contractors, Larry Baril and Tim Foster of the Engineering Department and believes it's feasible, from an engineering point of view, to install the sewer. Locating exact manholes and easements are necessary details to make sure a tie-in can be achieved. It would be ideal if there were more neighbors to share the cost. Mr. Neumann expressed his gratitude to Mr. Baril and the Department of Engineering for their time in explaining the sewer extension details. In response to Mr. Neumann's request that the Town provide survey and design, Mr. Baril explained the Fuss and O'Neill facilities plan and noted the area in discussion is not a high-need area. He further indicated that due to that, it is not a high priority area for the Engineering Department. Mr. Johansen inquired about the existing septic system and Mr. Neumann responded there is break-out. Even during the dry, summer months there is effluent on the property. Discussion included sewer construction costs, which is approximately \$90,000 to determine the developer's payback. Mr. Baril explained the developer's payback period, which is typically 10 years as identified within the Sewer Permit Agreement. The payback to Mr. Ferrigno for the Haynes Road sewer project is a 20-year payback period. Certain unique circumstances led the payback period to a 20-year period. Mr. Johansen inquired about the route of the sewer tie-in for nearby parcels – in particular those parcels that are already being considered under a separate agreement. Mr. Baril mentioned such issues as the possibility of amending prior sewer agreements for the nearby parcels would need to be reviewed by an attorney. Mr. Johansen suggested a proposed agreement go before the AWPCA's review considering the unique circumstances to the proposed extension. Mr. Baril mentioned he would contact an attorney relating to options if one wanted to connect to a different sewer element than one that was installed as part of the original Agreement. He will also investigate what the payback amount is in the

existing sewer permit agreement for the completed sewer project in the Wright Drive vicinity. Mr. Miller requested clarification of the construction costs, which Mr. Baril responded the preliminary amount is \$80,000 to \$90,000.

IV NEW BUSINESS

2012 – 7 Approve AWPCA Meeting Dates for 2013

Mr. Johansen made a motion to accept the dates for 2013. The motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, received unanimous approval.

V. OLD BUSINESS

2012 – 6 Sewer Use Fees – Elderly Relief

Mr. Baril introduced Ms. Deborah Fioretti, Collector of Revenue for the Town of Avon, to the meeting. Ms. Fioretti was invited to attend the meeting to provide feedback on how the Revenue Office will be impacted should the elderly relief program go into effect. Ms. Fioretti noted it would entail an additional day or two of labor. All the information would need to be manually entered into the computer. Mr. Baril noted that every year this information needs to be looked at as factors change such as ownership transfers. Out of 3,700 sewer users, there are 147 accounts which could be reviewed for the elderly relief program. Mr. Baril raised questions such as how much the sewer bill should be reduced and what the alternative would be to make up the revenue. Ms. Fioretti responded to Mr. Johansen's question that she does not have a problem with collecting from the elderly. Mr. Baril provided background information relating to the original point from Ms. Flo Stahl who raised concern that all residents pay the same sewer use fee regardless of size of home. Mr. Baril noted that basing a sewer use fee reduction based on the same Town and State tax relief program is a more logical method than previously considered methods. Mr. Ryan raised concerns over the program and provided an example of how one household may not watch as much cable television as the next household but they both pay the same cable bill, regardless of age. Mr. Baril confirmed that the program is based on two factors – age and income levels which need to be met. Mr. Johansen reiterated Ms. Stahl's initial concern that the program should be based on fairness, not necessarily one cannot pay the sewer bill. Mr. Ryan does not understand how it is logically possible without having meters. One could be elderly and have six people living in their home. It doesn't make sense unless there's a meter. Members agreed to table further discussion until all members are present.

2011 – 10 Haynes Road Update

Mr. Baril provided an update. The sewer has been accepted for flow. The whole system was reflashed and revideoed. The shoulder restoration is in progress using much higher quality topsoil and the landscaper is doing a good job. There was a bleed out at one of the lots which means there is water coming out of the ground and running down the road. Catch basins will be installed to solve the groundwater problem. The gas company approached Mr. Baril that they would like to install natural gas mains and lateral stubs on Springbrook. Coordination efforts allowed the pavement schedule to remain on schedule. The punch list is becoming smaller and noted things are coming together. Mr. Baril noted the large amount of time the Engineering Department devoted to the Haynes Road project. Mr. Johansen requested the email from Mr. Farrell regarding the sewer flow acceptance be included in the minutes.

[Copy of email from Mr. Michael Farrell, Chairman of the AWPCA]:

From: wistlr@comcast.net [mailto:wistlr@comcast.net]
Sent: Thursday, August 30, 2012 11:49 PM
To: Suzanne Essex
Cc: bill@sunlightconstruction.com; Brandon Robertson; Jennifer Worsman; Tim Foster; Larry Baril; Eric Johansen; Jim Miller; Terry Ryan; Thomas Armstrong
Subject: Re: Haynes Road Sewer

Everyone involved in this cooperative arrangement has a great deal to be proud of. Bill Ferrigno for having a (bold?) vision and taking the initiative to pursue it, the staff of the Engineering Department for guiding us (the AWPCA) through this unique process and running point so competently (as they always do), and the members of the AWPCA for their diligence and attention to the concerns of the residents at our many public comment meetings. Everyone worked with a common goal, kept an open mind, changed and adapted when necessary, and achieved great improvements for this neighborhood.

In my 9+ years with the AWPCA, this project has brought me the most pride in our many accomplishments, and the respect of the people I work along side of, Bill Ferrigno included. Well done everybody.

M. Farrell

2012 Meadowbrook Pump Station

Mr. Baril noted a contractor has been selected to add a new gable roof and paint the pump station. Material has been ordered and power washing will begin on Monday. The funds will come from the Haynes Road project.

VI PLANNING & ZONING MATTERS – None

VII COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF – None

VIII COMMUNICATION FROM MEMBERS – None

IX OTHER BUSINESS – None

X ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mr. Johansen motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m. The motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, received unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,
 Suzanne Essex, Clerk