

**AVON WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY**  
**November 14, 2013**  
**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  
Tom Armstrong  
Chris Roy  
Terry Ryan  
Lawrence Baril, Town Engineer

Absent: Michael Farrell

**II. MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING – October 10, 2013**

**MOTION:** Mr. Johansen made a motion for approval of the October 10, 2013 minutes. The motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, received unanimous approval.

**III. COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE - None**

**IV NEW BUSINESS –**

**2013 – 12** Clean Water Fund (CWF) Resolution to authorize Brandon Robertson to file the application and execute the agreement for CWF funding and Incumbency Certificate

Mr. Baril provided an overview of the process required in order to apply for funding from the Clean Water Fund to conduct the Inflow and Infiltration Study (I & I) for the Town of Avon. A resolution is required in order to submit the application and to process the Incumbency Certificate.

**RESOLUTION** Mr. Johansen made a motion to resolve to authorize Brandon Robertson to file the application and execute the agreement for Clean Water Funding and Incumbency Certificate. The motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, received unanimous approval.

Mr. Baril clarified Mr. Armstrong's question that a resolution is required should the Town request the money. Mr. Baril noted it's not a guarantee the Town of Avon will receive the money but time is of the essence for the Town to appear on the list to be considered for funding.

**V. OLD BUSINESS**

**2012 – 10 Sewer Extension for Avonside -** Mr. Baril provided an update on his discussion with Avon Old Farms School (AOFS) to gauge their interest level to connect to the proposed extension. AOFS mentioned they are not interested in participating in the proposed sewer extension. He noted there are currently four affected parcels. One parcel contacted the Engineering Department stating they are against the proposed project. Mr. Baril replied to Mr. Johansen's question that AOFS is not required to connect as the school is on Old Farms Road, not Avonside. Mr. Armstrong noted he drove by the area on Avonside. He noticed tight sites, lots of elevation. He mentioned the spring time would be a good

time to check the area for problems. He said the residents would be missing the boat if The Town didn't make the connections available at the time the street is re-paved. Mr. Baril noted the residents would have to pay more if the project is done after the street is paved. Mr. Johansen suggested to Mr. Baril that a letter should be sent to the proposed four affected parcels offering a deadline to respond if they are interested in connecting and also noted the Town should not force the connection if they are not interested. Mr. Ryan agreed that the onus is on the residents. Mr. Armstrong suggested the letter should include cost information showing the magnitude of difference. Mr. Baril agreed a letter can be sent and will include cost information such as paving costs. Mr. Johansen noted it makes a difference to a buyer knowing a home has sewer available. Mr. Armstrong suggested an option of delaying the paving of the street. Mr. Baril noted the street's condition is not as bad as many of the streets in Town. Mr. Johansen stressed the importance of sending the letters but it would be hard to go forward if they don't show an interest. Mr. Baril confirmed that Farmington Valley Health District only conducts visits if there is a complaint and does not partake in backyard surveys. Mr. Ryan mentioned that if only one couple comes forward and states they are not in favor of the project, and there's no one in favor of the project, Mr. Ryan cannot consciously move forward on a project as that would be illogical. Mr. Armstrong noted this is a different project than the recent Haynes Road sewer project considering there were a large amount of septic failures.

**2013 – 5 Easement Access Management Report** – Tabled for the next meeting.

**2013 – 7 Assessment Conveyance** – Mr. Armstrong noted he made edits to the correspondence that The Town of Avon sends out to homeowners regarding sewer assessments. He will send out a draft version to the AWPCA for comments before sending to Mr. Andrew Lord for his review. The agenda item should be included for the next month's AWPCA's agenda.

**2013 – 3 Route 44 Pump Station Improvements** – Mr. Baril noted this pump station needs to have new pumps based on its age and given the frequent clogging issues, including rocks the size of baseballs and rags which can compromise the pumping functionality. There are two pumps at the station that alternate. Pump 2 is more worn than Pump 1. A recent weekend afternoon, an alarm was triggered because Pump 1 blew a seal and was flooding the dry well. Town of Avon personnel shut down Pump 1 and went to Pump 2. Mr. Baril noted the two pumps will be replaced with submersible pumps and can be used with the retro-fit at a later date. Mr. Baril received a quote of approximately \$19,000 from what has been recommended to be the best manufacture on this type of equipment. Two quotes have been received for the installation services, and we are reviewing them. Mr. Baril noted there is money available in a prior account that was created for Rt. 44 safety improvements. The account was created but the money has not been used since it was determined that the station should be rehabilitated to consider safety and functionality improvements as a whole. The pump replacements will cost between \$30,000 and \$40,000. The balance of the account is approximately \$60,000. Therefore, a supplemental appropriation to Town Council is not required. The pumps should arrive within a week. Pump 1 is not working but Pump 2 is operating. The pump installation procedure was discussed. Alternative options were investigated such as rebuilding both pumps or to replace the pumps with the same model that is there now. The recommendation is to retro-fit the station with submersible pumps that can handle the current and future loads, and can be used in the station as part of the rehabilitation project. A CIP request has again been submitted to rehabilitate the station with these pumps on a rail system. Mr. Baril noted the other pump stations are already equipped with rails. Mr. Ryan stressed his position the money is in fund 5 and the project should move forward. It is wrong to have a pump station with the highest capacity and the worst operating.

Mr. Johansen stated a meeting with Mr. Robertson is needed to avoid any further delays in future project requests. This meeting with Mr. Robertson would provide feedback on how municipal funding operates. Members of the Commission were appointed to make those maintenance decisions.

Mr. Roy commented about his experience from being in the Route 44 Pump Station, which is 35 feet down into a hole and the improvements should be done as soon as possible. He has unclogged the pumps many times and it is a time bomb waiting for another chance to happen.

Mr. Johansen stressed a meeting with the Town Manager regarding how funds are distributed is a good idea.

Mr. Armstrong suggested a formal authorization is made to contract with the contractor to acquire pumps for the Rt. 44 Pump Station and to use the money from the existing account.

Mr. Ryan suggested a meeting should occur between Mr. Robertson, Mr. Zacchio and Mr. Lord. He wants to know his time as a volunteer is going in the right direction. Mr. Johansen agreed with Mr. Armstrong that a formal authorization is a good idea. Mr. Armstrong recommended that Mr. Ryan make the motion.

**MOTION** Mr. Ryan made a motion for Larry Baril, Town Engineer, to purchase said pumps for the Rt. 44 Station and to take the money out of the appropriate fund to authorize full purchase of replacement pumps and the accoutrements that are needed with urgency and expediently. The motion, seconded by Mr. Roy, received unanimous approval.

Mr. Ryan inquired who is responsible for removing the snow at the Town's pump stations and suggested hiring a private contractor is a potential solution for snow removal.

Mr. Baril responded to Mr. Armstrong's question that there is a book that has contact names and access information for the SCADA system in case of emergencies. Mr. Baril noted that there is not a formal agreement with surrounding towns for emergency response but there is an informal agreement with the three local towns, should the Engineering Department call for assistance, these towns would respond right away. There are generators for all pump stations. Mr. Armstrong suggested that Larry Baril meet with surrounding towns that the Town discharges into in order to solicit solutions and maybe issues. Mr. Roy and Mr. Baril noted it's a good idea.

**VI PLANNING & ZONING MATTERS** – Mr. Baril noted no new developments since last meeting.

**VII COMMUNICATION FROM STAFF** – Mr. Baril provided information on the anticipated application to the Clean Water Fund (CWF) for an I & I Study. There is an RFQ process and 55% funding could come from the Clean Water Fund and 45% funding would come from the Town. Mr. Baril mentioned he has spoken to Fuss and O'Neill regarding their offer to attend the December 2013 meeting to discuss the proposed I & I Study. Mr. Baril hopes to have additional information for the December meeting. Mr. Baril also noted there is a meter which will be installed at the Crocus Meter Sewer Shed, which is part of Farmington Woods. The effluent that flows to the Town of Farmington is currently not metered.

**VIII COMMUNICATION FROM MEMBERS** – Mr. Armstrong inquired about the time needed to have a contract for the I&I study if a full consultant selection process is to be followed. Mr. Baril stated there's a lengthy process for an RFQ which entails advertising, reviewing responses, selecting the consultant, deriving scope, negotiating fee, and coordinating with DEEP. A spring 2014 contract start is not a possibility if that process is to be followed. Another option is to extend Fuss & O'Neill's facilities planning contract to include the I&I study. This would make a Spring 2014 project start possible. Mr. Johansen inquired about the number of Qualifications submittals the Town could expect to receive. Mr. Baril noted it's uncertain how many responses to expect but he would not be surprised if the Town received 15 to 20 responses.

Mr. Johansen noted the potential snow removal issue and there needs to be a commitment from Public Works where they agree to remove the snow. Mr. Baril noted he submitted a request through the operating budget for a plow on the Superintendent of Sanitary Sewer Collection's truck. Until a formal decision has been made, hiring a contractor in an emergency situation is an alternative.

**IX OTHER BUSINESS – None**

**X ADJOURNMENT -**

**MOTION:** Mr. Johansen motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 p.m. The motion, seconded by Mr. Ryan, received unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted,  
Suzanne Essex, Clerk