# TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

#### Minutes of Meeting of October 29, 2014

Members Present: Paul Anderson, Chuck Riggott, Dave Tyler and Kirk Montstream

Members Absent: Tom Davis

Others Present: Chief Operator Ed Alibozek, WPCA Attorney Vincent Purnhagen, Consulting

Engineer Paul Dombrowski, State Marshal Jim Barton, Board of Finance Member

Kathy Pippin and Recording Secretary Laura Michael

# **Time and Place**

Paul Anderson, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the WPCA Admin Building, 192 South Water St, East Windsor, CT

## I. Added Agenda Items

No items were added.

# II. Acceptance of Minutes of September 24, 2014 and October 20, 2014

**Motion:** To accept the corrected minutes of September 24, 2014.

Riggott/Montstream

Discussion: Mr. Anderson explained that the statement, "a meter will need to be installed in the reclamation system" is not true; you don't need to meter the reclamation system.

The water is recycled therefore less water will be used.

In favor: Riggott and Montstream

Abstained: Tyler

Passed

**Motion:** To accept the minutes of October 20, 2014.

Tyler/Montstream

In favor: Tyler and Montstream

Abstained: Riggott

Passed

# III. Communications

There were no communications.

#### **IV. Visitors**

# Jim Barton, Collection Update

Mr. Barton was present to update the Board on collection status. He has been collecting tax warrants for sewer use fees for quite a few years. The prior Superintendent and Office Manager would issue the warrants with the understanding that he would not be too aggressive; he agrees with this. If he works with the people, the fees will get paid. If he is too aggressive, they don't pay. Mr. Barton is concerned with the growing number of warrants. He was issued 22 new warrants in September. Of the 22, 8 have been returned paid in full, and 13 are pending. Of the 13 pending, 6 are making payments and others have made promises. Mr. Barton also has 19 ongoing warrants in some stage of payment or promise of payment. He explained that a lot of the people can't pay; they don't have the money and he believes it. Mr. Barton really tries not to return the warrants unsatisfied. He doesn't want the Board to pursue foreclosure. Mr. Barton has to chase these delinquent accounts for a long time. They get close to being paid and then a new fee is added. If he is continually ignored, he tries to locate bank accounts but generally doesn't find any. Mr. Anderson understands that when Mr. Barton returns a warrant that it isn't going anywhere. Mr. Barton explained that when he makes a demand for payment of January 2015 installment in September 2014, people aren't buying it. They feel the January installment is not

due and they have to pay his marshal fee also. This doesn't give them an incentive to pay. The sewer bill is last on the priority list and the fee has gotten higher. The fee has gone up in the past two years; there are delinquent interest, fees and the 15% marshal fee.

# Attorney Purnhagen arrived at 7:15 p.m. and remained until adjournment

Mr. Barton explained that he has 19 warrants in an ongoing process and 13 getting into the process. He doesn't know when this will get overwhelming. The list may grow too big if this trend continues. Mr. Anderson agreed it may get to be too much. Mr. Montstream asked Mr. Barton what his title was. Mr. Barton replied State Marshal. Attorney Purnhagen asked if they were reneging on their promises. Mr. Barton replied yes. Mr. Barton explained that something always goes wrong; they can't pay because the furnace broke or the tenants didn't pay their rent. He explains to them that they need to do better. Mr. Anderson asked if the volume was the problem. Mr. Barton said that it could become a problem. Attorney Purnhagen stated that he would take whatever is returned. He has been getting calls for pay offs for the accounts he has in collection. Lenders are calling and accounts are being settled prior to ownership transfer. Mr. Anderson explained to Attorney Purnhagen that Mr. Barton had brought up that the January 2015 is included in the warrants issued in September and the rate payers don't want to pay. Attorney Purnhagen explained that an allowance is made to pay in two installments only if you pay in July. Mr. Alibozek explained that the warrants don't go out until the accounts are 3 installments behind; that's 18 months. Mr. Anderson reported that the Tax Collector is having trouble with collections this year also. Attorney Purnhagen feels the warrants should include the January installment. Mr. Barton agreed that it is legally due. Attorney Purnhagen explained that the bill is not a surprise and if it was paid, it would not be an issue. Attorney Purnhagen suggested they pay under protest and come to the Board for a refund. Mr. Barton thanked the Board and left the meeting at this time.

#### V. <u>Public Participation</u>

Kathy Pippin, Woolam Rd, told the Board they are doing a great job and she is pleased to come to the meetings. The Board thanked Mrs. Pippin for attending.

#### VI. Receipt of Applications

Douglas Monson, 345 Scantic Rd

Mr. Alibozek presented the plans to the Board. This property is on the corner of Scantic and Schank Roads. There is a house and a building that is not habitable that will be a workshop. The sewer line will be a lengthy run with clean outs. Mr. Alibozek reported that the Assistant Town Planner, Robin Newton commented that Mr. Monson has done a good job improving the property. Town Engineer Len Norton's memo takes no exceptions to the plans. Mr. Anderson supplied an aerial view of the property.

Motion: To receive the application of Douglas Monson, 345 Scantic Rd, plan titled Douglas M.

Monson, 345 Scantic Rd, East Windsor, CT prepared by JR Russo and Associates, 1 Shoham Rd, East Windsor, CT. Map 003/Block 34/Lot 63 dated September 23, 2014

plan number 2014-058.

Tyler/Riggott

Passed unanimously

### VII. Approval of Applications

**Motion:** To approve the application of Douglas Monson, 345 Scantic Rd, plan titled Douglas M.

Monson, 345 Scantic Rd, East Windsor, CT prepared by JR Russo and Associates, 1 Shoham Rd, East Windsor, CT. Map 003/Block 34/Lot 63 dated September 23, 2014

plan number 2014-058.

Tyler/Riggott

Passed unanimously

#### VIII. <u>Legal</u>

Attorney Purnhagen received three referrals for collection.

#### IX. Unfinished Business

### Work Order Status

Mr. Anderson explained that a meeting was held on October 20<sup>th</sup> and the Board decided to back off on the concept they had been moving forward with. Mr. Dombrowski reported that the work orders are up to date minus the public information session. No work is owed at this time. Mr. Montstream commented that the Board will stay in concert with Mr. Enderle's plans. Mr. Dombrowski explained that Woodard & Curran will help out if help is wanted. Mr. Anderson explained that Woodard & Curran will be used in the future. The work is not going away; there is a change of pace. The services will be used where they fit properly. Mr. Anderson thanked Mr. Dombrowski for attending.

#### North Road Sewer Extension Phase 2

Mr. Alibozek explained that the closing had been delayed. There is a question of whether work can continue on Winkler Rd. Mr. Anderson explained it is valuable to get the pipe in the ground if they can. There is approximately \$100,000 in grant money remaining which would get them about 1000' down Winkler Rd. Mr. Tyler feels they should look for additional funding to sewer Borrup Rd.

#### Required Connections (Ordinance Section 82-1.4)

This is in progress; waiting for the Selectmen to take it to Town meeting.

## Alternates (Ordinance Creating a Sewer Authority 66-21)

Not addressed at this time.

#### Transfers

No transfers were needed.

#### IT Status

Mr. Alibozek reported that it had been a good month. They are completing the repairs from the lightning strike. Mr. Tyler asked if there is any protection for lightning strikes. Mr. Alibozek explained that they are as protected as they could be. The strike came through the Cox Communication line and the phone line. They are fortunate no one was injured and the damage was minor. Mr. Alibozek has a claim in with Cirma. Mr. Tyler suggested looking into lightning rods for on the building.

#### Benefit Assessment Policy

Not addressed at this time.

#### X. New Business

#### Bill Sheet Review

Mr. Anderson explained that the Anthem BC/BS invoice was an anticipated cost for health insurance and the Eaton invoice was for VFD's for planned maintenance. The Rolocut invoice was for the Route 5 pump station.

#### Superintendent's Report

Mr. Alibozek handed out the Superintendent's Report and went over the highlights. He explained it was a good month. He and Mr. Enderle were looking for a way to evaluate employees. They are using a pathway, a plan for improvement. They have completed this with 2 employees and the employees thought it was outstanding. The employees are given a written guideline and they will check back in three months to see how it is going. This is a two way path; the employees can make suggestions to Mr. Enderle and Mr. Alibozek. Mr. Alibozek reported that they are having a good experience with the operators who have come to the plant to job shadow. They are in Mr. Enderle's Management Leadership class. Mr. Anderson asked Mr. Alibozek about the certificate in the meeting packet. Mr. Alibozek explained that he participated in a Master Naturalist Program. This program was offered through the CT DEEP and the CT Forest and Park Association. He attended classes on Saturdays, went on field trips, completed a project and completed 60 hours of volunteer work. Mr. Alibozek has completed level one. It took a lot of time but was a lot of fun.

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# 2015 Meeting Schedule

**Motion:** To adopt the 2015 Meeting Schedule as presented.

Montstream/Riggott Passed unanimously

# XI. Adjournment

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Riggott/Montstream

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Michael Recording Secretary