

**TOWN OF EAST WINDSOR
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY**

Minutes of Meeting of July 29, 2015

Members Present: Paul Anderson, Chuck Riggott and Kirk Montstream

Members Absent: Dave Tyler

Others Present: Superintendent E. Arthur Enderle III, Chief Operator Ed Alibozek, WPCA Attorney Michael Lanza, Selectman Dale Nelson, Board of Finance Member Kathy Pippin, Peter 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

II. Acceptance of the Minutes of May 27, 2015 and June 24, 2015

Motion: To accept the minutes of May 27, 2015.
Montstream/Riggott
In favor: Montstream/Anderson
Abstained: Riggott
Passed

Motion: To accept the minutes of June 24, 2015
Riggott/Montstream
Passed unanimously

III. Election of Officers

This was postponed until the August meeting.

IV. Communications

There were no communications.

V. Visitors

Barbara Sabonis Chafee, 79 Scantic Rd

Ms. Sabonis Chafee explained that this is the third time she has tried to introduce her issue to the WPCA. In 2012, she made an inquiry regarding having a varied rate. She was told that allowances could not be made for using small amounts of water. In 2013, she wrote a letter to Paul Anderson explaining her issue. The letter she received back upset her. It was explained that the WPCA has to be fair to all; no considerations can be given to individual circumstances. Ms. Sabonis Chafee explained that she has a 4 room house with only one bathroom and spends 4 months of the year in Florida with her daughter. Her Social Security has only increased pennies over the past several years. In 2005, her sewer use bill was \$180; in 2010, it was \$244 and in 2015, it is \$360. It is a hardship. The Town gives an allowance on taxes if your income is below poverty level. She is asking the WPCA for consideration to be given to a person with a small house and small water use. Mr. Anderson explained that water use and

income are not related. Mr. Anderson explained that the WPCA doesn't monitor water use for residential properties; many properties are on wells and the water use can't be monitored. Residential property owners are paying for service capability not usage. He explained that the WPCA is looking into some consideration based on income. There is not a policy in place today. This will take time. A fair methodology will be needed. Mr. Anderson explained that he doesn't know how they would implement a policy. It takes a certain amount of money to operate the facility. The cost of operation is divided by the number of users; that is how the rate is determined. Ms. Sabonis Chafee would like to take part in finding a solution. Mr. Anderson explained that she could contribute her ideas. Mr. Anderson explained that the WPCA would need to meet with the Assessor and look at what other towns are doing. A public hearing would need to be held to take input. Ms. Sabonis Chafee thanked the Board for their openness and willingness. Ms. Sabonis Chafee left the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

VI. Public Participation

Mr. Clifford Lane, 1501 Meadowview Drive, explained he was quite interested in what Ms. Sabonis Chafee had to say. He asked if wells could be monitored. If yes, than usage can be monitored. Mr. Anderson explained that water usage can be monitored but what goes into the sewer can't be monitored. Mr. Lane explained that he spends half of the year in Florida. When he is not in Florida, the water is shut off and he receives a bill for access to water and sewer. When he is there, he receives a bill for water and sewer use. Mr. Lane explained that the elderly are on a fixed income and it is important for this to be looked at. They need to take action. Mr. Anderson explained that the WPCA doesn't monitor residential water use. There would be a cost associated with that for obtaining water records. There would also be a cost to the home owner for installation of a water meter if they are on a well. Mr. Anderson explained they can't give consideration for water use and a consideration for income level. Mr. Anderson explained that at \$1 a day, sewer use is a bargain. Mr. Lane explained that it is a hardship for some. Mr. Riggott asked what the user rate in Florida is. Mr. Lane replied that he pays \$14 per month for sewer and water access when he is not there and \$20 per month for use when he is there. Mr. Lane thanked the Board for listening and stated that he appreciates the work they do. Mr. Lane left the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

Dale Nelson explained that residents can apply to the Town for an adjustment; it is based on State Statutes.

VII. Receipt of Applications

Mercury Fuel, 9 South Main St, COM2015-005

Mr. Enderle explained that at last month's meeting this application was incomplete. He sent a letter to Mercury Fuel and their consulting engineer. They responded and submitted a revised plan that shows the grease trap detail and agreed to use the Town Engineer's flow estimation. Mr. Enderle explained he didn't have a memo from Town Engineer Len Norton as he is on vacation but Mr. Norton did give his approval by email.

Motion: To accept the application of Mercury Fuel, 9 South Main St, COM2015-005.
Riggott/Montstream
Passed unanimously

VIII. Approval of Applications

Mercury Fuel, 9 South Main St, COM2015-005

Motion: To approve the application of Mercury Fuel, South Main St & Thompson Rd, East Windsor, CT, Plan S-6 B, with a revision date of 7/9/15 by Consulting and Design, 33 Park Plaza, Lee, MA
Montstream/Riggott
Passed unanimously

IX. Legal

Mr. Anderson explained there were two warrants that were returned by the State Marshal. Attorney Lanza took one of the returned warrants. He will search the land records to see if anything has been filed. He will report back at the August meeting. For the second returned warrant, the Board decided that they would wait until the September meeting, giving the property owner an opportunity to begin a payment plan, before moving it to the next level of collection.

A revision was made to the Delinquent Policy that was adopted at the June meeting. A copy was provided to Attorney Lanza; it contained more permissive language. Attorney Lanza was fine with it.

Mr. Anderson had a draft of the revised FCC Regulations. He asked Attorney Lanza if the allowances for existing units on an existing sewer lines should be put into the regulation. Attorney Lanza felt it should. It will make it clear and give notice.

X. Unfinished Business

Sanitary Sewer Construction Agreement

Mr. Enderle explained that he had contacted Canton, but the agreement couldn't be found. Attorney Lanza will contact Fred Shaw, the Superintendent in South Windsor, regarding the agreement. He will have an answer for the next meeting.

Revision of Delinquent Policy

Mr. Anderson presented the revision. It was suggested by the Town Tax Collector to change some of the wording.

Motion: To adopt the revision to the Delinquent Policy as published changing "shall" in the 3rd sentence and "would" in the 5th sentence to "may".
Montstream/Riggott
Passed unanimously

IT Status

The Town's IT has been working but there have been some internal IT issues. Mr. Enderle explained that Mr. Alibozek's computer had crashed and will need to be replaced. The Office Manager's computer was also having problems; it will need to be replaced after the collection period. The computers are four years old. The plant phone line was out July 1st and 2nd. Frontier repaired the problem. A Cox technician came out on July 8th to increase the internet band width.

Mr. Alibozek reported that the Industrial Park pump station is fully communicating using SCADA. The Route 5 pump station will be fully communicating in one to two weeks using SCADA.

XI. New Business

Transfer

Motion: To transfer \$12,549.00 from FCC Fund to 2014-15 WPCA CIP (2720 110600 59600).
Montstream/Riggott
Mr. Enderle explained that this was for the final paving on Winkler Rd. This wraps up Phases 1 & 2 of the North Road Sewer Project.
Passed unanimously

Bill Sheet Review

Mr. Anderson reported that the budget is on track. Mr. Enderle explained that B&K Masonry did a phenomenal job with the brick work on the digester building. B&K was recommended by Rand Stanley, EW Building Official. Their price was \$9,000 less than the other estimate received. Mr. Enderle stated that his goal is to take savings and do more projects.

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Anderson pointed out that Steve Bednarz made the President's List for the second time and Mr. Alibozek completed a course, The Location Advantage. Mr. Enderle reported that a push camera has been purchased. Mr. Alibozek will work with Jon Ference on getting the data into the GIS System. Mr. Enderle reported that they have been working on the Route 5 pump station. It has been a very busy month.

XII. Adjournment

Motion: To adjourn the meeting at 8:07 p.m.
Riggott/Montstream

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Michael
Recording Secretary