

CITY OF NORWALK
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
March 21, 2016

Attendance: Darren Oustafine, Chairman
Mayor Rilling
Frederika Bikakis-Hajian
John Igneri
John Flynn
Gregory Burnett

Staff: Bruce Chimento, DPW Director
Lisa Burns, DPW Principal Engineer
Ralph Kolb, DPW Senior Environmental Engineer

Others: John Ahern, CH2MHill, OMI, Inc.
Paola Molloy, CH2MHill, OMI, Inc.
Katherine Conlin, UCONN
Dimitri Santamaria, UCONN

**1. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED SEWER USE RATES TO BE EFFECTIVE
JULY 1, 2016 (NOTICE INCLUDED)**

**** CHAIRMAN OUSTAFINE OPENED THE PUBLIC HEARING AT 5:30PM**

Mr. Kolb said that for fiscal year 2016-17 the proposed residential rate is \$330 per unit, the commercial mixed use properties is \$475 for the flat rate, and \$8.55 per 1,000 gallons for the consumption rate. He said that all other fees will remain the same. Mr. Burnett asked when the last increase was and if the percent increase is in line with what has been proposed. Mr. Kolb said "yes" and that the last increase was last year and was approximately 5%. He said that the WPCA financial model is updated every two years or sooner as needed.

****CHAIRMAN OUSTAFINE CLOSED THE PUBLIC HEARING AT 5:35PM**

No one from the public attended.

2. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Oustafine called the meeting to order at 5:35PM

3. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM WPCA MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 22, 2016 (COPY INCLUDED)

- ** MR. FLYNN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES**
- ** MOTION PASSED**
- ** ONE ABSTENTION- MAYOR RILLING**

4. AUTHORIZE REIMBURSEMENT TO CANAAN INSTITUTIONAL BAPTIST CHURCH AT 31 CONCORD STREET FOR SANITARY SEWER LATERAL REPAIRS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$17,829.23. (CLAIM SUBMISSION AND DRAFT RELEASE INCLUDED)

ACCOUNT NO. 224062-5298

Mr. Chimento said that approximately five years ago that work was done on the corner of South Main and Concord Streets, and it appears that the sewer lateral to the church was damaged. He said that staff has reviewed all of the work that was performed to repair the lateral and that the church has submitted all of the bills and receipts for the repair which total \$17,829.23. He recommended that the Board reimburse the church for all the fees.

- ** MAYOR RILLING MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

5. APPROVE THE SEWER RATES TO BE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2016

- ** MAYOR RILLING MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Ms. Bikakis-Hajian arrived at 5:55PM

6. APPROVE THE PROPOSED FY 2016-17 OPERATING BUDGET (COPY ATTACHED)

Mr. Kolb said that Mr. Barron had requested Ms. Castracane of the Finance Department do an evaluation on the sewer use fee for the City, and to also look at all of the services that the City performs for the WPCA. He said that for the last few years that certain percentages were being used and that Mr. Barron wants to verify that the amounts being billed are accurate. He said that the Finance Department has not had a chance to finalize that information so the operating budget could not be finalized, but that it will be finalized and presented at the April meeting. Mr. Flynn asked how the WPCA

reimburses the City. Ms. Burns said that the Comptroller's office transfers the funds from an enterprise account to the general fund.

**** MAYOR RILLING MOVED TO TABLE THE ITEM**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

7. APPROVE THE PROPOSED FY 2016-17 CAPITAL BUDGET (COPY ATTACHED

Mr. Kolb said that there have been no changes to the proposed capital budget since the last meeting, and that staff is requesting \$4.5 million dollars in fiscal year 2016-17.

**** MR. IGNERI MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

8. CONTRACT OPERATIONS REPORT:-FEBRUARY 2016 (COPY INCLUDED)

Mr. Ahern reported and said that there were a few problems last month and that there were three events that were reportable as violations. He said as a result of the violations there were contract performance guarantee violations but not permit violations. Ms. Burns said that there are provisions to fine OMI, Inc. per event and that it is evaluated by staff on an annual basis, and that a recommendation will be made to the Board if there should be any monetary penalties assessed. Mr. Ahern reported on the maintenance and training and said that the FOG and IPP training for WPCA staff was conducted during the week of February 22, 2016. He reported on the collections system and that they are concentrating on the new paving list so they can address any repairs prior to paving. He said that nitrogen fell into band "D"

9. REPORTS

a. FY 15/16 Revenues/Expenditures MUNIS Report (copy included)

Mr. Kolb reported and said that everything is tracking as expected with the exception of septage disposal fees and that they continue to track down.

b. Discussion on WPCA Projects:

1) Main Lift Pump Replacement Project

Mr. Kolb said that the project is moving along as planned and that construction is expected to begin in June.

2) On-Call Professional Services

- a. Sluice Gate and Plant Water Pump Rehabilitation Project
Mr. Kolb said the contracts have been signed with ARCADIS for the Wastewater Treatment Plant, Wright-Pierce for pump stations, and CH2MHill for the collection system. He said that staff has added the ARCADIS is quote from that it will be done as sluice gate and the plant water pump project, and that currently reviewing it and they will be obtaining a Nickerson. He said as long as it is reasonable a change order to the main lift pump project.

3) Beacon Street Interceptor Service Area System Rehabilitation Project

Mr. Kolb said that several locations have been added for lining and that the contractor will be on site in May.

c. Sewer Use Bill Appeal/Adjustments Update

- 1) Appeal Status
Mr. Kolb said that the adjustments to date are \$52,546.

d. Information Copies:

- 1) Wall Street Place (Phase I) Approval (copy included)

Mr. Kolb said that there are two sections of pipe that staff have required the contractor to replace, and that the remaining sections to be CIPP lined before they begin crossing under the sanitary sewer line because it will collapse and will impact the local business's as well as water quality in the Norwalk River.

- 2) Nitrogen Credit Exchange and Press Release (copy included)

Mr. Kolb said that the press release was sent out and that Norwalk did an excellent job last year in nitrogen removal and will receive \$351,824 from the State. He said that going forward the program will be self sustaining and that the credit prices will come down in 2016-17 and that the State is anticipating that Norwalk will receive approximately \$50,000 to \$60,000.

- 3) GPLPE Report (copy included)

No discussion.

- 4) CTDEEP Guidance Manual-Sinking Funds (copy included)

No discussion.

**10. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS ONGOING LITIGATION WITH FLOWSERVE
ABOUT MAIN LIFT PUMPS' FAILURE**

**** CHAIRMAN OUSTAFINE MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Executive session began at 6:25PM
Executive session ended at
No action was taken

11. ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. BURNETT MOVED TO ADJOURN
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Dilene Byrd