

CITY OF NORWALK  
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY  
March 20, 2017

Attendance: Darren Oustafine, Chairman  
Lewis Clark, Vice Chairman  
Mayor Rilling  
Dave McCarthy (via phone)  
John Flynn  
John Bove

Staff: Bruce Chimento, DPW Director  
Ralph Kolb, DPW Senior Environmental Engineer  
Chris Torre, DPW Superintendent  
Robert Barron, Management & Budgets Director

Others: Kevin Dahl, CH2MHill, OMI, Inc  
John Ahern, CH2MHill, OMI, Inc.  
Paola Molloy, CH2MHill, OMI, Inc.  
Robert Koch, The Norwalk Hour

**1. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED SEWER USE RATES TO BE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017 (NOTICE INCLUDED)**

Chairman Oustafine opened the public hearing at 5:30PM.

Mr. Kolb said that each fee was increased this year by 1.5% which on the residential side equates to an increase from \$330.00 to \$335.00.

**\*\*MR. FLYNN MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING.  
\*\*MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Chairman Oustafine closed the public hearing at 5:32PM.  
No one from the public attended.

**2. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Oustafine called the meeting to order at 5:33PM

**3. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM WPCA MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 13, 2017**

**\*\* MR. MCCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES.  
\*\* THE MOTION PASSED WITH ONE ABSTENTION (MAYOR RILLING)**

**4. APPROVE THE SEWER USE RATES TO BE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017**

**\*\* MR. FLYNN MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.  
\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**5. APPROVE THE PROPOSED FY 2017-18 OPERATING BUDGET (COPY ATTACHED)**

Mr. Kolb said that the revenues are in line with last year's numbers and have assumed a 1.5% rate increase, and are anticipating receiving \$77,000 in nitrogen credits. He said on the expenditure side there are minimal increases. He discussed the indirect charges on both the expense and revenue side, and said that they are the expenses that the WPCA charges the city for services, and the city charges back to the WPCA for services, and that he is working with the Finance Department to finalize the numbers.

**\*\* MR. MCCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**6. APPROVE THE PROPOSED FY 2017-18 CAPITAL BUDGET (COPY INCLUDED)**

**\*\* MR. CLARK MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**7. CONTRACT OPERATIONS REPORT:**

**a. OMI MONTHLY REPORT- FEBRUARY 2017 (COPY INCLUDED)**

Mr. Ahern reported on the MRR repairs and upgrades that were done for the month. He reported on the violations and said that there were no monthly permit violations, but that there was a performance guarantee on February 24, 2017, due to failing to submit the two hour notification to Bureau of Aquaculture for the spill at Old Trolley Way. Mr. Flynn asked how long it took to repair the break. Mr. Ahern said overnight and that AJ Penna had done the repair. He reported on the collections system and said that the drive shaft at the Woodward Avenue pump station and the sump pump at the Westport Avenue pump station were replaced. He said that nitrogen fell into band "D". He reported on the monthly rolling averages and said for TV'ing it was 0.82 miles per month, and for cleaning was 4.12 miles per month. He said that some of the hotspots that have not shown signs of debris build up will be added to a watch list and will potentially phased out.

**b. DISCUSSION ON FEBRUARY 24, 2017 SEWAGE SPILL (LETTERS INCLUDED)**

Mr. Kolb said that Mr. Chimento sent a notice of Default letter under the Service Agreement to Mr. Ahern at OMI. Mr. Oustafine asked if the Bureau of Aquaculture could be included on the list of agency to report a spill. Mr. Ahern said "no" and that is part of the problem and they are notified on the five day but not the on two hour. Mr. Dahl said that the reason for that is that Aquaculture is only required to be notified south of I-95. Mr. Ahern said going forward they will be going back to the old system when reporting and will notify DEEP on-line and then call all of the other agencies. Mr. Kolb said that the only advantage to the online reporting to DEEP in that the public can see that it is an active spill. Mr. Chimento said that the main issue is that the phone call was never made and although he has not heard anything officially back from the DEEP as of yet, there was a recall of the shellfish. Mr. Kolb said that the recall did affect three states. Mr. Chimento said that it was a situation that could have been avoided if the notification

would have been done and that he does not want that to happen again. Mr. Ahern said they have established a procedure to double check the notifications and there is also now a verification form. Mr. Oustafine asked if the shellfish beds are open now. Mr. Chimento said “no” but that is due to the snow melt and rain.

## **8. REPORTS**

- a. FY 16/17 Revenues/Expenditures MUNIS Report (copy included)  
Mr. Kolb reported and said that everything is tracking as expected.
- b. EPA Inspection Update  
Mr. Kolb said that the EPA had sent a draft administrative order and they would like staff to meet with them to discuss some of the items, and that there is a meeting scheduled for April 6, 2017. Mr. Bove asked if the EPA supersedes DEEP. Mr. Chimento said “yes”.
- c. Approval of Monitoring Modification (letters included)  
Mr. Kolb said that in December he had sent an official letter to DEEP requesting to utilize the influent flow meter at the Wastewater Treatment Plant in lieu of the effluent flow meter because the effluent meter reads higher than what is actually being discharged out to the river, and they have approved the use of the influent meter.
- d. Sewer Use Bill Appeals/Adjustments Update
  - 1) Appeal Status  
Mr. Kolb reported and said that the adjustments to date are \$78,519.
- e. Information copies:
  - 1) GPLPE Report (copy included)  
No discussion.

## **9. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS ONGOING LITIGATION WITH FLOWSERVE ABOUT MAIN LIFT PUMPS’ FAILURE, SEWAGE OVERFLOW FINDINGS BY CONNECTICUT FUND FOR THE ENVIRONMENT**

**\*\* MR. CLARK MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Executive session began at 5:55PM.

Executive session ended at 6:18PM

No action was taken.

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

**\*\* MR. FLYNN MOVED TO ADJOURN.**

**\*\* THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:19PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dilene Byrd