

CITY OF NORWALK
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
March 19, 2018

Attendance: Darren Oustafine, Chairman
Lewis Clark, Vice Chairman
Mayor Rilling
John Bove
John Igneri
Vincenzo Capozzoli
Edwin Camacho

Staff: Ralph Kolb, DPW Senior Environmental Engineer

Others: Monty Sedlak, CH2MHill, OMI, Inc.
Paola Malloy, CH2MHill, OMI, Inc.
Mark McCormick
Scott Bartush
Mr. Johnson
Joanne Horvath

1. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED SEWER USE RATES TO BE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 (NOTICE INCLUDED)

**** MR. BOVI MOVED TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The public hearing opened at 5:30PM

**** MR.IGNERI MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING.**

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

The public hearing closed at 5:32PM

No one from the public commented.

2. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Oustafine called the meeting to order at 5:32PM.

3. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM WPCA MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 20, 2018.

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

**** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. APPROVE THE SEWER USER RATES TO BE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2018 (COPY INCLUDED)

Mr. Kolb said the residential sewer user fee is going from the current rate of \$335 per unit to \$352 per unit, and is an overall 5% increase for both residential and commercial mixed use properties. Mayor Rilling asked how the increases are calculated. Mr. McCormick said a five year pro-forma was done based on operating costs and capital required. The goal is to maintain a six month balance in the reserve account.

**** MR.IGNERI MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5. APPROVE THE PROPOSED FY 2018-19 OPERATING BUDGET (COPY ATTACHED)

Mr. Kolb presented and said that he has been working with the finance department on the direct and indirect expenses. Mr. Bove asked what the line in the budget for other contract customers is. Mr. Kolb said that there are some customers from Westport that we bill a sewer use fee to and there is no local inter-local agreement with Westport so we have to bill them directly. In addition to that there are temporary discharges from construction sites that discharge and we charge them per 1,000 gallons and those funds also go into that account.

**** MR.IGNERI MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6. APPROVE THE PROPOSED 2018-19 CAPITAL BUDGET (COPY ATTACHED)

Mr. Kolb presented and said that there has been no change since it was presented last month and the request is for \$5 million dollars for the rehabilitation of the collection system, \$4 million dollars for pump stations upgrade and replacement and \$100,000 for SCADA and I/C system updates.

**** MR.IGNERI MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

7. APPROVE REVISIONS TO THE SEPTAGE DISPOSAL RULES AND REGULATIONS

Mr. Kolb presented the draft revisions to the policy and said that the scope of services now includes the disposal of septage from other towns if authorized by the Board or the Directors or The Director of Public Works. Mr. Camacho asked what the rationale is for have the Public Works Director essentially have the sole authority to receive liquid waste from other towns. Mr. Kolb said that the Director of Public Works has the authority to issue license and registrations and the same concept was followed. Mr. Camacho suggested there be some layer of review. There was further discussion ensued and it was decided on page one to change "the WPCA Board of Directors or The Director of Public Works" to "the WPCA Board of Directors and The Director of Public Works"

**** MR. CLARK MOVED THE APPROVE THE ITEM AS AMENDED TO INCLUDE CHANGING “THE WPCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS OR THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS” TO “THE WPCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS”.
** THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8. CONTRACT OPERATIONS REPORT:

b. OMI MONTHLY REPORT- FEBRUARY 2018 (COPY INCLUDED)

Mr. Sedlak reported and said that there were a variety of MRR repairs that were done for the month, and that there was no permit violations received but there was a performance guarantee violation on February 5, 2018, due to high flows. He said that there were three spills in the collections system, and that nitrogen fell into band “D”. He reported on the collections system and said that 3.80 miles of cleaning was done and 1.79 miles was CCTV’d for the month.

9. REPORTS:

a. FY 17/18 Revenues/Expenditures MUNIS Report (copy included)

Mr. Kolb said everything is tracking as expected.

b. Discussion on EPA’s AOC (copies attached)

Mr. Kolb said on March 13, 2018, staff had sent out item #34 to EPA which is the outfall 002 control plan and is the wetweather outfall flow that activates only a few times each year, and there is a preliminary design to improve disinfection and add dechlorination prior to discharge out to the river and are continuing on to the design and implementation.

Mr. Kolb said on February 27, 2018 that staff received by the EPA stating that they had reviewed several of the items that we have submitted and had comments specific to the collection system and Verrill Dana is reaching out to their Attorney to discuss.

c. Discussion on WPCA Projects:

1) Marvin Beach Pump Station and Force Main Status (copy included)

Mr. Kolb reported on the status and said that the Marvin Beach Pump Station rehabilitation project and other pump station improvements and said that the project is out to bid, and that there is a mandatory pre-bid meeting scheduled for tomorrow and all the bids are due on April 5, 2018.

- 2) Sanitary Sewer Improvements (copy included)

Mr. Kolb said that CH2MHill is our consultant for collections system projects and we are currently working on a \$4 million dollar project to go out to bid and are just beyond 60%. He presented photos and explained the reasons we continue to put money into the asset. He said that most of the improvements will be lining work but in the areas that can't be lined due to the condition of the pipe will excavate and replace in kind.

d. Sewer Use Appeals/Adjustments Update

- 1) Appeal Status

Mr. Kolb said that the adjustments to date are \$315,428.

e. Information Copies

- 1) CT DEEP Compliance Inspection Report (copy included)

There was no discussion.

- 2) Draft Nitrogen Credits for 2017 (copy included)

Mr. Kolb said that staff received a letter from DEEP stating that Norwalk ranked fourth out of all the wastewater treatment plants in the state, and for calendar year 2017 Norwalk will be receiving 157,831 nitrogen credits.

Mr. Oustafine said that the public hearing was closed and that the rates have been approved but asked Ms. Harvoth if she would like to comment. Ms. Harvoth said that she is not in favor of the rates being raised and asked what the reasoning is for raising the rate. Mr. Oustafine read the letter that Ms. Harvoth submitted that urged the board to re-think the proposed \$17 increase and lower it to \$10.00. Mr. Oustafine explained that the infrastructure is deteriorating and some of it needs to be upgraded and staff has reported to the board that the rates would need to be raised 5% in order to take care of projected expenses and still have a healthy reserve.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS ONGOING LITIGATION WITH FLOWSERVE ABOUT MAIN LIFT PUMPS' FAILURE AND WASTEWATER TREATMENT SERVICE AGREEMENT EXIT AND PROCUREMENT

There was no executive session held. Mr. McCormick said that staff is waiting to receive letters back from the Attorney.

11. ADJOURNMENT

**** MAYOR RILLING MOVED TO ADJOURN
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting adjourned at 6:05PM.
Respectfully Submitted,

Dilene Byrd