

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY MINUTES

For minutes prior to January 2004, please contact Judy Archer of Public Works at 203-854-7791 or jarcher@norwalkct.org

CITY OF NORWALK
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
MAY 19, 2008

ATTENDANCE: John Atkin, Chairman
Fred Wilms
Darren Outstafine
Lewis Clark
Andrew Conroy
Frederika Bikakis-Hajian

Staff: Hal Alvord, DPW Public Works Director
Lisa Bardon, DPW Operations Manager
Ralph Kolb, DPW Wastewater Systems Manager
Tom Hamilton, Finance Director

Others: Kevin Dahl, CH2M Hill OMI
Tim Dupuis, Camp Dresser&McKee
Eric Muir, Malcolm Pirnie

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Atkin called the meeting to order at 5:38PM

2. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM WPCA MEETING HELD ON APRIL 14, 2008

**MR. CONROY MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES

**MOTION PASSED

**ONE ABSTENTION MS. BIKAKIS- HAJIAN

3. APPROVE TO REMOVE THE WESTPORT AVENUE SANITARY SEWER SERVICE AREA INCREASED CAPACITY DEFERMENT

Ms. Bardon said the moratorium was adopted because of the sanitary sewer overflow issues in the Westport Avenue sewershed which consists of approximately 7 miles of sewer. She said that approximately 80% of the work has now been completed and the remaining work is all structural and has nothing to do with capacity. She said at this point

she is recommending that the sewer moratorium be lifted in that area. Mr. Kolb said that the various departments will be notified. Ms. Bardon said on July 14, 2008 the contract should be completed

**** MS. BIKAKIS-HAJIAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

4. AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN OR VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY TO EXTEND THE TERM OF THE LOAD RESPONSE PROGRAM FOR THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT WITH THIRD TAXING DISTRICT (COPY ATTACHED)

Mr. Alvord said that at the end of this month that four years have been completed in the load response program with ISO New England and at the end of this month the program will have generated over \$400,000 to the City. He said the CL&P transmission line projects that are currently under construction and some have been activated has reinforced the grid and their need for back up power has decreased significantly. He said this will now be on a year- to- year basis. He said in the existing program the City has been paid \$9.00 per kilowatt per month and that the WPCA has committed to 700 watts and that will continue but the rate per kilowatt hour per month will decrease to \$2.75. He said there are no additional costs and that the only other change is that under the current program the Third Taxing District was paying for the lease of the pagers to notify the appropriate City personnel to start the emergency generators and under the extension the City would now be paying for that. Chairman Atkin asked if the first contract was a three year contract. Mr. Alvord said it was a four year contract. Mr. Hamilton asked if called upon to turn on the generators if additional money would be paid. Mr. Alvord said "yes" at 50 cents per kilowatt hour for the time the generators are operating over and above the standby fee.

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

5. AUTHORIZE THE ALLOCATION OF \$165,000 TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS FOR USE ON THE WILTON AVENUE STORM/SANITARY SEPARATION PROJECT BEING ADMINISTERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS UNDER THE WILTON AVENUE ROAD RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT (MAP ATTACHED)

Ms. Bardon said that the road is being reconstructed from School Street to Catherine Street and there is currently no storm drainage on that road. She said that the existing catchbasins, which are minimal, are connected to the sanitary sewer. She said that DPW is proposing to extend a storm pipe which will have a benefit to the WPCA because the stormwater will no longer be going into the WWTP. She said down the road when additional funds become available through DPW that Horton Street, Fair Street and Loundsbury Avenue will also be separated. She said now is the time to do the separation before the road gets reconstructed. Mr. Alvord said that Wilton Avenue was supposed to

be paved in 2007, but was held off due to the drainage issues and at that time did not have the means to add the drainage work to the project. Ms. Bardon said the total project cost will be approximately \$260,000 of which \$100,000 will be paid from DPW and \$165,000 from the WPCA. Mr. Hamilton asked which account would be used for the WPCA portion of the project. Ms. Bardon said from the collection system account. Mr. Hamilton asked if that is a current existing capital account. Ms. Bardon said that it was.

** MR. WILMS MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM

** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

6. AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN OR VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT TO THE SEPTEMBER 29, 2005 AGREEMENT WITH CAMP DRESSER & MCKEE, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,111,000 TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE CSO/WET WEATHER PRELIMINARY TREATMENT SYSTEM DESIGN IN ACCORDANCE WITH A SCOPE OF WORK DATED MAY 10, 2008 (REPRESENTATIVE FROM CDM TO ATTEND)

Ms. Bardon said this is the scope of work that is necessary to construct Phase I of the WWTP upgrade and said that this agreement needs to be executed quickly because of the phasing of the Clean Water Funding. She said on the Clean Water Funding priority list for 2008-09 which starts in July 2008 that Norwalk has \$3.8 million dollars allocated for the design of this project and there is \$30 million plus dollars allocated for construction and said if the \$30 million dollars is not secured in the next fiscal year- which means going out to bid and entering into an agreement with a contractor that Norwalk will be in jeopardy of losing that money. Mr. Hamilton asked if the State Clean Water Funding would be reimbursing prior expenditures. Ms. Bardon said "no" and that the State would issue a deviation letter stating that when the money is available Norwalk would be reimbursed. Ms. Bikakis-Hajian asked if there was any possibility that the priority list would change. Ms. Bardon said the list won't change but this is somewhat out of her control as to where Norwalk ends up on the list. Mr. Wilms asked what the worst case scenario would be. Ms. Bardon said that the WPCA would be out \$3 million dollars but would still have a design that would have to be built anyway at some point.

Mr. Dupuis said this project will consolidate the screening, grit removal, and pumping and said that the pumping facility is currently in one of the oldest buildings and is limited by space and this will also give a new preliminary treatment building at the current fire department training site. Mr. Conroy asked if the current fire department training area is used by surrounding towns. Mr. Alvord said it is not and could never be turned into a viable regional training facility. Mr. Dupuis said that the new structure will be approximately 260X60 feet and will be enclosed for odor control. Ms. Bardon said for preliminary treatment that currently 30 MGD is being treated and they are designing this facility to do 90 MGD and said that this is critical to the next two phases. Mr. Dupuis said that the DEP would not approve the current system for the next permit and that they would write an order to upgrade. He said that the DEP is happy that Norwalk is

voluntarily moving forward with the project and they have committed CSO funds which has the higher grant matching contribution. Mr. Hamilton asked if the construction coming out of this design is 50% grant eligible. Mr. Dupuis said not all of it but that he would be doing his best negotiating the biggest percentage. Ms. Bardon said that it will all be subject to negotiation.

7. BE IT RESOLVED THAT IT IS IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF NORWALK TO ENTER INTO CONTRACTS WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FOR THE CSO/WET WEATHER PRELIMINARY TREATMENT SYSTEM DESIGN PROJECT. IN FURTHERANCE OF THIS RESOLUTION, JOHN ATKIN, THE CHAIRMAN IS DULY AUTHORIZED TO ENTER INTO AND SIGN SAID CONTRACTS ON BEHALF OF THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY FOR THE CITY OF NORWALK. THE CHAIRMAN IS FURTHER AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE SUCH ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND EXECUTE SUCH OTHER DOCUMENTS AS MAY BE REQUIRED BY THE STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT IN CONNECTION WITH SAID CONTRACTS AND TO EXECUTE ANY AMENDMENTS, RESCISSIONS, AND REVISIONS THERETO.

No discussion.

** MR. WILMS MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM

** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

8. APPROVE THE SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT FROM FLEET PUMP & SERVICE GROUP, INC. OF 17 PROPELLARS FOR THE INTERNAL RECYLCE PUMPS AND CHANNEL MIXERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$16,602 FOR INTERIM NITROGEN REDUCTION IMPROVEMENTS (SOLE SOURCE PROCURMENT DOCUMENTATION ATTACHED)

Mr. Kolb said these propellers will ultimately increase the internal recycle rate in the irrigation tank and will also improve nitrogen performance. He said there are currently 17 internal recycle pumps and mixers and they are interchangeable and for redundancy purposes have decided to replace all 17 propellers. Ms. Bardon said the account that will be used to purchase the propellers is the replacement reserve account where the fines that were collected from some of the performance guarantee violations from OMI, Inc. went into. Mr. Outstafine asked if it is necessary to have the propellers in two weeks when the shipping is free if received in four weeks. Mr. Kolb said the sooner they are received the better for nitrogen performance.

** MS. BIKAKIS-HAJIAN MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM

** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

9. APPROVE THE RESOLUTION ON BEHALF OF JAMES MCINERNEY (COPY ATTACHED)

No discussion.

** MR. CLARK MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM

** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

10. REVIEW AND SIGN TAX COLLECTOR RATE BILL-WPCA

No discussion.

11. REPORTS

a. FY07-08 Revenues/Expenditures Report (report Included)

No discussion.

b. FY 08-09 Operating Highlights/Operating & Capital Budgets

No discussion.

c. Sewer Connection Fee & Sewer Use Bill Appeals/Adjustments

1. Special Billing Update

Mr. Kolb said that 100 appeals have been received to date and are currently performing on site inspections and updating the records.

2. May 16, 2008 Updated Sewer Use Rates, Billing Information & Appeals Process (copy included)

No discussion.

d. Information Copies:

1. NACWA Newsletter

Ms. Bardon distributed.

12. CONTRACT OPERATIONS STATUS

a. Public Works Director Report:

1. Collection System Master Plan Status (representative from Malcolm Pirnie to attend)

Mr. Kolb said that Malcolm Pirnie has been working for over the past year on the collections system master plan which included the GIS system, hydraulic model and evaluating the collection system as a whole.

Mr. Muir presented the development and findings of the collection system master plan. He said that there is approximately 200 miles of pipe and 22 pump stations and services approximately 70,000 people with an average dry weather flow of 12MGD. Chairman Atkin asked what the current population of the city is. Mr. Alvord said 84,400. Mr. Muir said approximately half of the current collection system is 50 years or older and that the first step was to develop a sanitary sewer database and in the spring of 2006 a flow meter program was conducted for 22 flow meters and each of the substations were analyzed and

they were able to prioritize which areas had the most inflow and infiltration. Mr. Muir said with the development of the GIS database and with the collection of flow data for 8 weeks that information was put into a hydraulic model and went thru a selection process and calibrated it into the flow of those 8 weeks and developed design storms and put it thru the system to determine where the capacity issues are and help to develop the types of flows that are currently seen at the WWTP. He said that a priority plan was also developed which targeted the structural deficiencies.

Mr. Muir said that the financial model shows that \$500,000 to \$1 million dollars in collection system capital improvement projects per year over the 10 year forecast period and that these projects are anticipated to be financed with general obligation bonds with a term of 20 years and an interest rate of 4.75 percent. He said based on CIP and O&M expenses, a moderate annual sewer rate increase of approximately 6% between 2008 and 2014 is recommended.

2. Contract Operations Status

Mr. Kolb said that Malcolm Pirnie is still working on the draft annual report and it will soon be finalized. Ms. Bardon said that a representative from Malcolm Pirnie will be attending next month's Board meeting to make a presentation.

3. Odor Issues

Ms. Bardon said that no odor complaints have been received.

b. OMI Report

1. Monthly Operating Report-March and April 2008 (copy included)

Mr. Dahl said that there were no permit violations for March but had a monthly BOD performance guarantee violation on March 10, 2008, and that the nitrogen performance was very good in comparison to the table and fell into band "D". He said there were no violations or performance guarantees issues in April and that Nitrogen performance fell into band "D". Chairman Atkin asked Mr. Dahl if he had any problems meeting the new schedule. Mr. Dahl said "no" and that it works fine for him.

2. Collection System and Pump Station MRR Accounts (copy included)

Mr. Dahl said that two new personnel have been hired for the maintenance clerk and the operator position and that they are now fully staffed.

13. ACTION ON ANY ITEM DISCUSSED HEREIN

No discussion.

14. ADJOURNMENT

** MS. BIKAKIS-HAJIAN MOVED TO ADJOURN

** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting adjourned at 6:44PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Dilene Byrd

