

CITY OF NORWALK
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
February 27, 2012

Attendance: Darren Oustafine, Chairman
Fred Wilms
Marc Berns
Fredericka Bikakis-Hajian
Doug Hempstead

Staff: Hal Alvord, DPW Public Works Director
Lisa Burns, DPW Operations Manager
Ralph Kolb, DPW Wastewater Systems Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Oustafine called the meeting to order at 5:38pm

4. REPORTS

- a. FY 11/12 Revenues/Expenditures Report (MUNIS report included)
It was discovered that the incorrect report was run and was decided that the correct report would be e-mailed to the Board members.
- b. FY 12/13 Draft Operating Budget (copy included)
Mr. Kolb reported on the draft operating budget and proposed sewer use charges. Ms. Burns said that the residential rate will increase by 2.4%, the commercial flow rate will increase by 2.8% and the commercial flat rate will have no increase. She said that the total blended increase will be 3.19%. Mr. Wilms asked if the increase is based on the reduced capital expenditures. Ms. Burns said "yes". Mr. Berns asked why the commercial rate does not increase. Mr. Kolb said that there are only 1500 establishments that are charged a flat rate so even if there is an increase it does not do much to impact the budget. Mr. Berns asked what the typical usage is of the 1500 establishments. Ms. Burns said 134 CCF annually.

Mr. Berns asked if there is an issue with non-compliance. Ms. Burns said "yes" and that it is a new fee. Mr. Berns asked if the requested amount is enough. Mr. Kolb said that this is an annual fee and that the State's General Permit required all Class III and IV food establishments to have complied by July 1, 2011. He said that a non-compliance fee needs to be established for the establishments that don't comply so that it can be justified for the establishments that have complied.

Ms. Burns said that the city's workers compensation costs have increased dramatically and is an allocation to each department on the city's overall cost. Mr. Kolb said it is expected that \$14 million dollars will be collected this year from sewer use charges, and another \$1 million dollars in other revenues. He also said that it is

estimated that \$75,000 will be received in nitrogen credits.

- c. FY 12/13 Capital Budget Status (memorandum and draft budget included)
Ms. Burns said that the original draft capital budget had a \$2 million dollar request for the collections system but in Mr. Hamilton's recommended budget he had recommended it be reduced to \$500,000. She said that there is over \$2 million dollars in capital work that has already been obligated through the EPA, and she had contacted Mr. Hamilton and he stated that he will change the number in the Mayors recommended budget. She also said that Mr. Kolb had sent him a memo stating the obligations and that she does not think it will be an issue, but has not yet received a response back so she has included another \$1.5 million dollars in the operating budget request should it not be approved and will only be spent with Board approval.

2. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM WPCA MEETING HELD ON JANUARY 30, 2012 (COPY INCLUDED)

- ** MR. BERNS TO APPROVE THE MINUTES**
- ** MOTION PASSED**
- ** TWO ABSTENSIONS- MR. WILMS AND MS. BIKAKIS-HAJIAN**

3. SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING FOR PROPOSED FY 2012-13 SEWER USE RATES ON MARCH 19, 2012 AT 5:30PM (DRAFT NOTICE INCLUDED)

- ** MR. HEMPSTEAD MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM**
- ** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Mr. Hempstead left at 6:10PM

- d. WWTP Phase I Upgrade Project Update (report included)
Mr. Kolb reported on the project update and said that during the week of March 19, 2012, the major connections will be made to tie into the existing force main and that there is a 48 hour window for the start up of the new building. He said that once the connection is made the flow will begin to come into the new building and then the new pumps will slowly be turned on and the bypass pumps will be shut down. Mr. Berns asked if there is anything that could happen during the 48 hour start up time that the public would notice. Mr. Kolb said that he is not anticipating anything but that representatives from Godwin Pumps will remain on site until staff is comfortable with the new pumps. He also said that staff has notified DEEP and asked for comments but have not received a response back from them.

Mr. Wilms left at 6:15PM

- e. Collection System Project Update:

1. Edith Lane and Todd Road Project
Mr. Kolb said that after OMI had cleaned the pipe it was determined that there were multiple point repairs that were needed which have now been completed.
 2. Douglas Drive Project
Mr. Kolb said that approximately 300 feet of pipe needs to be replaced and that Green Mountain will be coming tomorrow to determine if it can be lined or if will need to be replaced.
 3. Lockwood Lane and Buckingham Place Project
Mr. Kolb said that there is a storm water project for the city that has been ongoing that consists of a new 60-inch pipe installation. He said that during the project it was determined that the sewer main was leaking and their contractor has done a temporary repair for now. He said after further investigation it was also determined that the pipe is located under some private property and DPW had to get temporary easements with the property owners to relocate the sewer main. He said once the drawings are received OMI will negotiate with AJ Penna to carry out the work. He said that in addition to that that five other point repairs have been identified on Lockwood lane, and will be presenting the TV footage to Green Mountain to determine if it is a viable option for lining.
 4. Beacon Street Interceptor Project
Mr. Kolb said that there are several manholes that are welded shut because during extreme heavy rains sewage has the potential to spill out. He said that WPCA staff has been performing smoke and dye testing to find the deficiency in the collections system and may need to perform an emergency point repair.
 5. Ely Avenue and Bouton Street Project
Mr. Kolb said that the gravity sewer line actually goes uphill before going downhill and resulting in the sewer line surcharging which collects grease in the manholes and OMI has added this location to their trouble spot list which has helped. He also said that National Water Main Company will be performing a bypass to clean and cctv the pipe underneath Metro North's New Haven line. CIPP lining may follow if required.
- f. SCADA Pump Station Project Update
Mr. Kolb said that 90% design has been completed and that WPCA staff is reviewing the drawings and should have comments back to Wright-Pierce within the next couple of weeks and they will then finalize the design.
- g. Sewer Use Bill Appeals/Adjustments Update
1. Appeal Status
Mr. Kolb said that the adjustments to date are \$20,144.
- f. Information Copies:
1. OMI Monthly Operating Report- January 2012 (copy included)
Mr. Kolb said that a repair was done on the #2 horizontal screw for the bar rack

and that 8-inch sewer line was replaced at 12 Keith Street. He said that nitrogen fell into band "D".

5. ADJOURNMENT

**** MS. BIKAKIS-HAJIAN MOVED TO ADJOURN**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting adjourned at 6:45PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Dilene Byrd