

CITY OF NORWALK
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
DECEMBER 17, 2012

Attendance: Darren Oustafine, Chairman
Fred Wilms
Mark Berns
Dave Mc Carthy
Galen Wells
Sheiree Powell
Frederika Bikakis-Hajjan

Staff: Hal Alvord, DPW Director
Lisa Burns, DPW Operations Manager
Ralph Kolb, DPW Waste Systems Manager

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Oustafine called the meeting to order at 5:30PM

Chairman Oustafine called for a moment of silence for the victims and the families of the tragedy that occurred in Newtown.

**2. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM WPCA MEETING HELD ON NOVEMBER 19, 2012
(COPY INCLUDED)**

**** MR. MCCARTHY MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

3. AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN OR VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE AN AMENDMENT TO THE NOVEMBER 19, 2007 AGREEMENT WITH MALCOLM PIRNIE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$148,900 TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE BEACON STREET INTERCEPTOR SERVICE AREA PROJECT IN ACCORDANCE WITH A SCOPE OF WORK DATED DECEMBER 11, 2012.

Account No. 09114062-5777-C0361

Mr. Kolb said that the Beacon Street interceptor is one of the projects that were indentified to the EPA, and that the proposal with Malcolm Pirnie is to design the service area which is approximately 8 miles of sanitary sewer pipe. He said that they would conduct a preliminary

design that would include whether to use lining versus a dig and replacement, and that they will also provide a final design as well as assist the WPCA in going out to bid. He said that once the contractor has been selected staff will be requesting to the Board to amend the contract with Malcolm Pirnie to provide inspection services and project closeout. Mr. Berns asked if a completion date should be included. Ms. Burns said that it will be included in the contract. Mr. Wilms said that assuming the project is complete as per the expectations there will be less unwanted flow coming into the system and asked if there is any sense on how much less and if it can be measured. Mr. Kolb said that would be hard to quantify. Ms. Burns said that this project is more an infrastructure rehabilitation then overall reducing flow and that the pipe has deteriorated and is past its useful life.

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

4. AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN OR VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE A FOURTH AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN NORWALK WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY AND OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT INTERNATIONAL, INC. IN THE INITIAL AMOUNT OF \$69,800 (RENEWED ANNUALLY AND AMOUNT INCREASED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE EXISTING CONTRACT) FOR COLLECTIONS SYSTEM PROGRAM MANAGER SERVICES IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROPOSAL DATED NOVEMBER 27, 2012.

Ms. Burns said that John Ahern, the project manager for OMI, Inc. was unable to attend the meeting tonight and that she would be presenting the item on his behalf. She said that in 2009 a collections system master plan was done and that a lot of projects were identified that needed to be done and were outlined by priority. She said that the contract includes very basic levels of service as far as what is done in the collections system and since OMI, Inc. bid the contract 14 years ago things have changed. She said that staff feels that it is time to take the program up another level and bring on a more professional person on a part time basis to their staff to assist them in bringing up their program up to where staff thinks it should be as far as implementation of technology. She said that OMI, Inc. has submitted a proposal which includes updating the master plan and that staff has requested that they provide it for a one year period so that staff can determine how it is working and evaluate it at that time. Mr. Berns asked if this is the going rate for those skills. Ms. Burns said that she thinks it's actually a little low.

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

5. REPORTS

- a. FY12/13 Revenues/Expenditures Report (MUNIS report included)
Mr. Kolb said that everything is tracking as expected.

- b. WWTP Phase I Upgrade- Project Closeout & Budget Schedule
Mr. Kolb said that the punch list items are completed but are still experiencing an issue

with the grit system and that Gilbane is working to rectify the problem. He said that once that is resolved staff will continue to evaluate the system. He said that in addition to the issues with the grit system that due to the July 15, 2012, storm event the influent sampler was lost and that Gilbane has purchased another sampler and are replacing it.

Ms. Burns said that this has been a very difficult project closeout with Gilbane and that staff has been trying to work proactively with them to get the punch list items completed. She said that staff has now engaged in outside legal counsel to assist on how to financially settle the project. Mr. Wilms asked if there is a good possibility of litigation. Ms. Burns said that she does not think so based on the amount of the dispute.

- c. FY 13/14 Draft Capital Budget (copy included)
Mr. Kolb and Ms. Burns presented and discussed the draft capital budget.

- d. Sewer Use Bill Appeals/Adjustments Update
 - 1. Appeal Status
Mr. Kolb said that the adjustments to date are \$64,502.

- e. Norwalk Housing Authority
Ms. Burns said that the Housing Authority has sent a request to the Tax Collector stating that they are not responsible for paying the sewer use charges at one of their facilities located on Fairfield Avenue. She said that she has read the agreement that they had provided and that they are required to pay them and that the Corporation Council has opened a file on them and will be pursuing it. Mr. Wilms asked if the incident with The Marvin has been resolved. Mr. Alvord said that he has spoken with Mr. Maslan and he said that because the way that the agreement was written they were in fact exempt from the sewer use fees but not from the IPP program, and that they will be looking for the exemption going forward and probably reimbursement for some period of time. Mr. Wilms said that he is very disappointed to hear that because the WPCA acted on behalf of the advice of the Corporation Council and they were adamant that there was no way that they were exempt. Ms. Burns said that she can request through the Corporation Councils office that an update be provided for the Board for next month's meeting. Mr. Alvord said that staff will invite Corporation Council to attend next month's meeting.

- f. Information Copies:
 - 1. OMI Monthly Operating Report- November 2012 (copy included)
Mr. Kolb reported on the major items that were completed and said that the force main was repaired at 69 Howard Avenue. He said that nitrogen was in the expected operating range.

 - 2. OMI- Force Majeure (letter included)
Mr. Kolb reported on the follow up Force Majeure letter that was received from OMI, Inc.

6. ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. WILMS MOVED TO ADJOURN**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting adjourned at 6:30PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Dilene Byrd