

CITY OF NORWALK
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
April 21, 2014

Attendance: Darren Oustafine, Chairman
Lewis Clark, Vice Chairman
Mayor Rilling
Dave McCarthy
James Clark
John Flynn

Staff: Hal Alvord, DPW Director
Lisa Burns, DPW Operations Manager
Ralph Kolb, DPW Senior Environmental Engineer

Others: John Ahern, CH2MHill, OMI, INC
Robert Cook, The Norwalk Hour

1. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED SEWER USE RATES TO BE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014 (NOTICE INCLUDED)

Chairman Oustafine opened the public hearing at 5:30PM
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 5:32PM

3. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM WPCA MEETING HELD ON MARCH 17, 2014 (COPY INCLUDED)

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

Mr. Oustafine introduced Mr. Flynn and said that he is the newest member to the WPCA.

4. APPROVE THE SEWER USER RATES TO BE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2014

Mr. McCarthy said that there was no change in the rate last year and that this is consistent with how the WPCA has been tracking.

**** MR. JIM CLARK MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

5. APPROVE THE PROPOSED FY 2014-15 OPERATING BUDGET (COPY INCLUDED)

Mayor Rilling asked why the budget line for legal fees went from \$30,000 to \$80,000. Ms. Burns said because the WPCA has entered into litigation regarding the main lift pumps. She said to date that the line for legal fees is over budget this fiscal year by approximately \$10,000. Mr. Flynn asked if there is an agreed upon legal fee established per action. Ms. Burns said that the budget is based on historical projections of what was spent, and a lot of years it has been nominal and whatever monies that has not been spent gets returned back to the WPCA's fund balance.

**** MAYOR RILLING MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEM
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

6. APPROVE THE PROPOSED FY 2014-15 CAPITAL BUDGET

Ms. Burns said that the only change that was made since the capital budget was presented last month is that it used to say general obligation funds, and that has been removed to be consistent with the financial model. She said that the WPCA is not going to be issuing through the city's general obligation bonds to finance the capital projects next year and will be paying for them from the existing fund balance.

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

7. AUTHORIZE TRANSFER OF \$64,787 FROM WPCA SEWER USE CHARGES ACCOUNT (224062-4513) TO GENERAL FUND TAX OVERPAYMENT ACCOUNT (010000-2307) FOR "THE MARVIN" PER STIPULATED JUDGEMENT DATED FEBRUARY 12, 2014.

Ms. Burns said this is a follow up to the discussion at the last meeting that the city entered into a stipulated judgment in February regarding an overpayment of pilot and sewer use fees for The Marvin. She said that they will be receiving relief back over a five year period, but in lieu of doing a budget transfer of one fifth of \$64,707 per year back to the city, staff is suggesting the entire amount be put into the city's general fund so that the city can then apply it to The Marvin at its own discretion.

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

8. AUTHORIZE TRANSFER OF \$443,562.50 FROM REPLACEMENT RESERVE ACCOUNT (224062-5789) TO SAMMIS STREET PUMP STATION CAPITAL ACCOUNT (09144062-5777-C0529)

Mr. Kolb said that when the pump station went down during Hurricane Sandy staff had requested \$1.4 million dollars in the capital budget not knowing how much it was going to ultimately be with the design and construction costs. He said now that the design has been and completed and that bids are back for construction the total project is anticipated to cost \$1.843

million dollars and staff is requesting the additional monies be transferred from the replacement reserve into the Sammis Street pump station account.

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

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

9. REPORTS

- a. FY12/13 Revenues/Expenditures Report (MUNIS report included)
Ms. Burns said that overall everything is tracking as anticipated on both the revenue and expense side. Mr. Kolb said that Wilton has paid their invoice in the amount of \$505,061 for the sewer use charges.
- b. Draft Financial Model Report (by ARCADIS)
Ms. Burns said that the report summarizes the assumptions of the financial model that was presented at the meeting last month based on finalizing the approach of how the rate was going to be set.
- c. Discussion on WPCA Projects:
 1. Beacon Street Interceptor Service Area Sewer System Rehabilitation Project
Mr. Kolb said that the project went out to bid on April 16, 2014, and that there is a mandatory pre-bid meeting scheduled for April 30, 2014, and the bids are due back on May 19, 2014. He said that this is a lining project and that the engineers estimate is \$1.8 million dollars.
 2. Sammis Street Pump Station and Ann Street Flood Damage Upgrade
Mr. Kolb said that Delray is the contractor for both projects and that they are now in the process of working with Wright Pierce. Ms. Burns said that staff will be working with the Garden club on the plantings for the Sammis Street pump station. Mr. McCarthy asked how long Ann Street will take to complete, and will they then begin the Sammis Street project. Mr. Kolb said that Ann Street will only take a few weeks to complete and once that is completed they will then begin the Sammis street project. Mr. McCarthy asked how long the Sammis Street project will take to be completed. Mr. Kolb said that the overall time line for completion is 365 days which will be in February 2015, but that it is his understanding that they will finish completion by the end of this year.
 3. Ely Avenue and Bouton Street Investigation
Mr. Kolb said that this has been on-going for several years and there has been multiple qualified contractors that have attempted to clean and CCTV the sanitary sewer line and have failed. He said that the line goes underneath Metro-North at Lowe Street and Ely Avenue and that it is a difficult location and that the line is deep. He said there is now a contractor that is scheduled to begin work in the coming weeks.

- d. Sewer Use Bill Appeals/Adjustments Update
 - 1. Appeal Status
Mr. Kolb said that the adjustments to date are \$40,370
 - 2. Top 25 Sewer Use Fees (FY13-14)
No discussion.

- e. Information Copies:
 - 1. OMI Monthly Report- March 2014 (copy included)
Mr. Kolb reported on the major items completed and said that MLP number four is back from repairs and has been installed, and that MLP number three has been sent out for repairs. He said that nitrogen fell into band "D".

 - 2. WPCA Contact List Update (copy included)
No discussion.

10. ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. MCCARTHY MOVED TO ADJOURN**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting adjourned at 7:15PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Dilene Byrd