

CITY OF NORWALK
WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
March 16, 2015

Attendance: Darren Oustafine, Chairman
Lewis Clark, Vice Chairman
Mayor Rilling
James Clark
John Flynn
Jerry Petrini

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

Others: Kevin Dahl, CH2MHill, OMI, Inc.
John Ahern, CH2MHill, OMI, Inc.
Paola Molloy, CH2MHill, OMI, Inc.

**1. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED SEWER USE RATES TO BE EFFECTIVE
JULY 1, 2015 (NOTICE INCLUDED AND 108 AND 108C PARCELS)**

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

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The public hearing opened at 5:30PM

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

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The public hearing closed at 5:34PM

No one from the public attended

WPCA REGULAR MEETING:

2. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Oustafine called the meeting to order at 5:35PM

**3. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS ONGOING LITIGATION WITH FLOWSERVE
ABOUT MAIN LIFT PUMPS' FAILURE**

**** MR. JAMES CLARK MOVED TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

Executive session began at 5:35PM

Executive session ended at 6:05PM

No action was taken

Mayor Rilling left at 6:05PM

**4. APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM WPCA MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 9, 2015
(COPY INCLUDED)**

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

5. APPROVE THE SEWER USE RATES TO BE EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

Ms. Burns discussed the properties of the 108 and 108C that will be affected and said that the key is that there needs to be consistency on how the billing groups are charged. Mr. Kolb said that there are a total of 323 properties that are on the list, and said that the recommendation of staff is that the properties that the Tax Assessor has listed as the 108 land use code will be billed by the number of units, and the properties that are listed as the 108C land use code will be billed by consumption for the sewer use billing. After further discussion it was the consensus of the Board that this is a fair and equitable way to proceed. Mr. Petrini said that if any property owner wishes to appeal their land use code that they could do so to the Tax Assessor Board of Assessment and appeals.

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

6. APPROVE THE PROPOSED FY 2015-16 OPERATING BUDGET (COPY ATTACHED)

Ms. Burns reported and said that the major changes on the revenues is that staff is expecting the septage disposal fees to trend down, and that instead of receiving nitrogen credits Norwalk will be paying \$47,000 this year.

**7. APPROVE THE PROPOSED FY 2015-16 CAPITAL BUDGET (COPY ATTACHED
AND MEMORANDUM)**

Ms. Burns reported and said that the capital budget request includes five million dollars for the replacement of the main lift pumps and one million dollars for the Ely Avenue and Bouton Street hydraulic repair.

**** MR. PETRINI MOVED TO APPROVE THE ITEMS 6 AND 7
** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

8. REPORTS

- a. Introduction of Paola Molloy as CH2MHILL's Assistant Project Manager
Mr. Dahl introduced Paola Molloy as the new Asst. Project Manager and said that she is an environmental engineer by trade.
- b. Financial Model Report (copy included)
Ms. Burns reported and said that this is a very comprehensive financial model and is done by ARCADIS. She said and it projects the sewer use rates out, the draw down on cash.

- c. FY13/14 and FY 14/15 Revenues/Expenditures MUNIS Report (copy included)
Mr. Kolb reported on the FY 13/14 report and said that everything is tracking as expected with the exception of the revenues from septic disposal, and they are down more than was anticipated due to Kaiser-Battistone being sold and since then they have been going to Bridgeport. He said that they are one of the biggest septage haulers and it will have a big impact on septage revenues.

- d. Discussion on emaciated birds at WWTP (article included)
Mr. Ahern said that last Tuesday the operator at the Wastewater Treatment Plant had noticed an unusual number of dead birds underneath the grading by the chlorine contact tank. He said that staff removed them and notified the Fish and Wildlife at DEEP. He said that that the DEEP had said that there have been numerous issues with dead birds throughout the State, and they did perform an autopsy and it was determined that the birds died from starvation due to the cold winter.

- e. Discussion on Treated Solids Loss at WWTP on 3/12/15
Mr. Kolb said that on March 12, 2015, there was a treated solids loss at the Wastewater Treatment Plant due to flows being higher than normal due to the snow melt, and the influent wastewater temperature being colder this time of year. He said that all the proper entities were notified and when OMI, Inc. spoke to Agriculture they had said that Norwalk was the third wastewater facility that day to call in a treated solids loss.

- f. Discussion on WPCA Projects:
 - 1) Beacon Street Interceptor Service Area Sewer System Rehabilitation Project
Mr. Kolb said that the project is going well and that the sanitary sewer has been lined on most of the side streets, and that they will now be lining the main interceptor. He said that there will be multiple people on site communicating with the neighbors that will be affected. Mr. Petrini asked if this will have anything to do with the turf field at Nathan Hale Middle School. Mr. Kolb said “no” and that they will be going around that. Mr. Kolb said that the project is scheduled to start within the next couple of weeks and go to the end of May.

 - 2) Sammis Street Pump Station and Ann Street Flood Damage Upgrade
Mr. Kolb reported and said that the contractor is now working on the punch list for the Sammis Street Pump Station and that they have provided training to OMI Inc. staff on the pumps. He said that the Ann Street flood damage upgrade is now done and is back on line for monitoring.

- g. Sewer Use Bill Appeals/Adjustments Update
 - 1) Appeal status
Mr. Kolb said that the adjustments to date are \$73,403 and that there was a big adjustment of \$51,460 at 10 Norden Place in the favor of the WPCA. Mr. James Clark asked if it would be worth going back farther than one year. Ms. Burns said technically the WPCA can go back for administrative errors and when the WPCA owes the property owner for an adjustment they are adjusted three years back, but said that it would be problematic to adjust a place of business more than one year once their books are closed.

h. Information Copies:

1. OMI Monthly Operating Reports-January and February 2015 (copy included)
Mr. Kolb reported and said that AJ Penna had performed a repair on the collection system at 47 Wall Street and have tied it into the main line. He said that nitrogen performance fell into band "D" for January and February.
2. Final Nitrogen Credit-2014(copy included)
Mr. Kolb said that the WPCA will be paying \$47,231 to purchase nitrogen credits.

9. ADJOURNMENT

**** MR. FLYNN CLARK MOVED TO ADJOURN**

**** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting adjourned at 7:10PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Dilene Byrd