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Cc:

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
January 12, 2012
DRAFT

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Philip Richardson called the regular meeting of the Water Pollution Control Authority to order at 7:31 p.m. at the Simsbury Water Pollution Control Facility Conference Room, 36 Drake Hill Road, Simsbury. The following members were present: Michael Park, Loren Shoemaker, Jay Sheehan and Ed Kelly. Paul Gilmore arrived at 7:40 p.m. Also present were: James Clifton, WPC Superintendent; Richard Sawitzke, Town Engineer, who arrived at 7:35 p.m; Alison Sturgeon, Clerk; as well as other interested parties.

2. SAFETY BRIEF – Although there were no people from the public in attendance at the meeting, Mr. Richardson gave a safety brief of the facility.

Dr. Park made a motion to move Item 3 next on the agenda. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

3. TREATMENT FACILITY REPORT – J. CLIFTON

Mr. Clifton stated that there was a by-pass at the Tunxis Pump Station in December. Small pieces of brick and stone were getting stuck in the check valve, keeping it from closing. There was also a by-pass on the EB system. He stated that they are currently recruiting for the position of Operator III; five applications were submitted. Mr. Clifton stated that the Farmington River bank is stable; they are waiting for the ground to freeze so work can start. Also, the bid opening for the TV inspection equipment will be held on Tuesday, January 17th.

Mr. Clifton stated that the flow was down last year. The average BOD was also down. He stated that when the flow is up, the BOD should be down and vice versa. This may be because the billing for non-residential customers is based on water use. People may be trying to conserve water while decreasing their bill.

4. STATUS REPORT ON SEWER EXTENSION PROJECTS, ETC. – R. SAWITZKE

Mr. Sawitzke stated that the extension projects for 99 Deer Park Road and 212 Bushy Hill Road have been completed and are ready for the assessments to be levied. The homeowners have the option of including the \$4095 Facility Connection Charge in this assessment. The cost for these projects is favorable to the estimates given to each homeowner. Regarding 99 Deer Park Road, the construction and legal costs are lower because the work was done on an easement on private property and because there was no associated roadwork or manholes. The extension for 212 Bushy Hill Road was done as a main line and has the capability to serve one additional house.

5. DRAFT BUDGET REVIEW – J. CLIFTON

Mr. Clifton reviewed the draft budget with the Authority members. He stated that salary and wages have been adjusted for step increases for three employees, although contracts are still under negotiations; these numbers may change. Adjustments to social security and Town pensions were also made to reflect the step increases.

Mr. Clifton stated that there will be a charge for an Intergovernmental support charge of 2%. Also, he is still waiting for the paperwork to account for the \$1.3 million to bond for the Wolcott Pump Station; that debt and interest payment is not currently accounted for in this budget.

Regarding revenues and expenditures, Mr. Clifton stated that they have typically been able to put some money into reserves, although in this current fiscal year, they will probably not be able to do this because of the truck and TV inspection equipment purchases. Regarding user rates, he stated that he did not put in any recommended rate increases, although he did detail what the benefits would be for a \$5 increase to residential customers and a 5 cent increase to non-residential customers.

The Authority discussed raising the user rates. Mr. Kelly stated that they have had to take money from the reserves for several years in a row and there are big capital expenditures in the budget for next year. Mr. Shoemaker stated that the Authority needs to think about having more money in the reserves. Mr. Sheehan suggested a user fee increase of \$10 for residential customers. Mr. Gilmore suggested raising the user fee for both residential and non-residential customers.

Mr. Gilmore made a motion to approve Mr. Clifton forwarding the FY 12-13 budget as written with the addition of a \$10 user rate increase per EDU for residential customers and a ten cent user rate increase per hundred cubic

feet for non-residential customers. Mr. Shoemaker seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

The Authority reviewed a letter from the State of Connecticut regarding approval of the plans for Dorset Crossing.

7. DECEMBER 12, 2011 SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES – POSSIBLE APPROVAL

Mr. Sheehan made a motion to approve the December 12, 2011 minutes as written. Mr. Shoemaker seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

8. OTHER BUSINESS: SCHEDULE ASSESSMENT HEARINGS FOR 99 DEER PARK ROAD AND 212 BUSHY HILL ROAD

Dr. Park made a motion to schedule the assessment hearings for 99 Deer Park Road and 212 Bushy Hill Road at the next regularly scheduled meeting on February 9, 2012. Mr. Sheehan seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Mr. Clifton stated that the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission has a Manager Candidate School in all States in New England except for Connecticut. This program takes people that will be moving into a Superintendent position and trains them once a month in developing budgets, preparing speeches, etc. He stated that he is currently promoting this program in Connecticut; there will be a meeting on January 18th.

9. ADJOURN

Mr. Sheehan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. Mr. Shoemaker seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Philip Richardson, Chairman