

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
October 14, 2010

Chairman Philip Richardson called the regular meeting of the Water Pollution Control Authority to order at 7:32 p.m. at the Simsbury Water Pollution Control Facility Conference Room, 36 Drake Hill Road, Simsbury. The following members were present: Warren Coe, Ed Kelly, Michael Park, Paul Gilmore and Loren Shoemaker. Also present were: James Clifton, Superintendent; Kendra Dahlquist, Clerk, and other interested parties. Richard Sawitzke, Town Engineer, arrived at 7:40

Mr. Kelly moved and Mr. Park seconded a motion to approve the minutes of September 9, 2010 as submitted; Mr. Gilmore and Mr. Shoemaker abstained; motion passed.

A general discussion of the pros and cons of either a phased-in or an all-at-once implementation of the previously approved non-residential sewer billing policy resulted in a general consensus that an all-at-once change was the preferred solution. Further, a letter to be sent to all non-residential customers was reviewed and edited. It was suggested to follow up with a second letter a few months later, and that staff provide appropriate personal contact and information to those customers who will see the largest increase in their bill. It was also recommended that letters communicating the change be forwarded to Town Counsel, and the Board of Selectmen for their review.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE:

Board of Finance Motion, September 22, 2010: Request for Sewer Use Fund 5 – Year Plan:

There was a general review of the necessity, value and statutory requirements that guide the building of an adequate reserve fund. Mr Sawitzke noted there was a question about which of the several fees the WPCA collects may in fact be included in the “sewer use” fund. It was suggested that a meeting between representatives from the WPCA and the Finance Director and members of the Board of Finance would be the most effective response to the Board of Finance motion.

VI. ENGINEER’S REPORT

Mr. Sawitzke noted Pheasant Lane is underway and will be completed shortly. Bushy Hill Road north of Sidney Way will be bid this month, and Bushy Hill Road north of Sand Hill Road will be bid next summer. Relevant hearings will be scheduled during the winter of 2011.

VII. SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Mr. Clifton reported all permit parameters were met in September. Tunxis Pump Station plans are complete and out to bid. Wolcott plans are also final, and shelved until funding is available. Staff assistance is being offered to Granby as they develop their own Fats, Oils and Grease program. Replacement for antiquated truck equipment is being considered in order to facilitate adequate evaluation of the uninspected portion of the Town’s 35-year old system. Mr. Clifton advised members to be aware of FOI rules, especially regarding electronic communication. Work has begun on the FY2011-12 budget

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS: CORRESPONDENCE

Request for one-time reduced septage fees: after a brief discussion, there was a consensus that there was no precedent to consider or grant such a special consideration and there was no further discussion or decision.

90 Wolcott Road: Phonon Corporation: Mr. Clifton is working with the owner in evaluating the possible discharge of process wastewater into the sewer.

Facility Connection Charge: A chart of comparative connection fees in surrounding towns was provided to assist in addressing recent questions of cost and methodology from the public. A general discussion followed on how the fee was calculated.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Gilmore moved, and Mr. Coe seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting: motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:52 pm

Philip Richardson, Chairman