PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: D. Parisi, E. Duell, J. Galeota, S. Koehler

Members Absent: P. Gilbert


1. Call to Order

Chairman Dan Parisi opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

2. Public Hearing – Sewer User Fees for 2019
Reading of the Public Notice

The Chairman read the Legal Notice into the record and asked for comments from the public. No comments received.

3. Close Public Hearing

MOVED (DUELL) SECONDED (KOELER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:03 PM.

4. Citizen’s Forum-Items not on the Agenda

Ms. Varunkumar of 1 Ashley Way, stated that she is opening a cottage industry small business, which will be a bakery out of her home. She is located in Windermere Village which is on the Ellington sewer system and after contacted Public Works, the Director suggested she attend tonight’s meeting to let the Board know that she is applying for this business. This will be a business operated out of her kitchen with no extra equipment allowed. She will probably have a couple
of orders a week consisting of cakes, cookies, cupcakes, etc. The WPCA did not feel that there would be an excess amount of grease to require a FOG inspection and agreed that the sewer line would be monitored for any problems. The line is owned by the Town of Ellington and therefore, the Town has the right to inspect it.

**BY CONSENSUS THE WPCA APPROVED THE REQUESTED ACTIVITY AND WILL MONITOR THE SEWER LINE.**

5. Approval of the December 19, 2018 Meeting Minutes

Mr. Galeota pointed out that the figures recorded in the minutes for the Vernon Treatment Plant Upgrade are estimates.

**MOVED (GALEOTA) SECONDED (KOEPHLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 19, 2018 REGULAR MEETING AS WRITTEN.**

**MOVED (KOEPHLER) SECONDED (GALEOTA) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADD SOMERS ROAD PROPERTY TO THE AGENDA UNDER NEW BUSINESS.**

6. New Business
   1. Fuss & O’Neill, Project Updates

   Mr. Gaston of Fuss & O’Neill told the committee that 90% of the survey work for Stein Rd and High Ridge Rd sewer construction is complete. The test pits are done. They will contact Connecticut Water Co.

   Mr. Mailman contacted DEEP at the urging of this Committee last month. He distributed an email he received from Jennifer Perry that stated that the Town should request a meeting with them. Tim Webb will contact Jennifer Perry in this regard.

   Mr. Gaston distributed a map showing the extension of the sewer line to the industrial area on Tomoka Ave. The pipe would be shallow at 4’ and a 10” pipe to the intersection would probably work. It could possibly be a low pressure system pumped to the north.

   Mr. Webb stated that the plan is to put the sewer line under the sidewalk with the manholes on the snow shelf. However, the sewer district needs to be extended and the extension should be fine-tuned to include the properties that require sewage including the property on Middle Rd that the Town owns. If a school is ever to be built on this land, it will need to be connected to sewer. The sewer extension will also connect the Hall Memorial Library to the sewer. Oakridge Dairy should also be taken into
consideration. It was noted that the properties on the south side of Main Street have good soils and may not need to be included.

2. Somers Road Property 083-003-0000

In 2008, the owners of this property took the WPCA to court contesting their sewer assessment. However, the original filing for the lawsuit was for the incorrect property located across Route 83. They asked that the assessment be deferred and it was agreed. Now there is possible development on this property and the Town Attorney is asking that the WPCA clarify that the parcel in question is 083-003-000 and is located in the sewer service district. The agreement stated that the assessment be made when construction begins.

MOVED (DUELL) SECONDED (GALEOTA) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY THAT IT IS AGREED THAT THE PARCEL IN QUESTION FOR ASSESSMENT PER CITATION AND RECOGNIZANCE PRESENTED IS 083-003-000 AND IS IN THE SEWER SERVICE AREA.

7. Old Business
1. Website Update

Some of the new items on the WPCA website are up and Mr. Galeota agreed that it looks good and is an improvement.

8. Administrative
1. Design, Construction & Maintenance Reports
   i. Pump Station & Meter – Updates

Working on updating the GPS over the last month and working on MS4 documentation. Recently there was a sewer issue at 2 McKnight Circle that turned out to be the homeowner’s responsibility.

Mr. Galeota stated that he figured out that the increase in the user fees will generate between $100,000-$150,000. This helps in the catch up to cover the costs but doesn’t take into account future payments.

Mr. Gaston asked for confirmation on where to start with the I&I study, and it was agreed that the Longview area is the place to start.

Mr. Hartenstein from Stafford WPCA stated that the Town of Stafford will be raising their rates and this will affect Ellington.
Mr. Webb stated that the Town is covered for the increase as the fees in the Crystal Lake sewer area were increased in past years although Stafford did not increase their fees.

9. Adjournment

MOVED (KOEBLER) SECONDED (DELL) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Lori Smith, Recording Secretary