

RECEIVED FOR RECORD July 22, 2016  
AT 10:30 AM  
ATTEST Barbara M. Runney DEPUTY TOWN CLERK

Windham Water Pollution Control Authority

Windham, CT

Minutes

June 28, 2016

The Windham Water Pollution Control Authority held its meeting on June 28, 2016 at the Windham Wastewater Treatment Facility Conference Room located at 2 Main Street, Willimantic, CT. Chairman Andrew Carey called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Members present were Victor Rayhall, Mary Burnore, Stanley Morytko and Andrew Carey . Also present was Plant Superintendent David Garand.

**Public Comment**

1) **Mr. Ahmet Caglar** said prior to purchasing the property at 77 – 79 North, he spoke to the Town’s Zoning Official. Mr. Caglar said at that time he didn’t know if the property was connected to the Town’s sewer system. He said the regulations state that each housing unit should have its own septic connection. He said the building located in the back of the property should be considered as an additional unit on one property. Mr. Cargal said the construction costs to correct the single sewer lateral situation would be far too costly and something that he cannot afford to do at this time. He said he is seeking a variance and is requesting the WPCA to consider this one property with one sewer connection.

Plant Superintendent Garand asked Mr. Cargal which zoning regulation he doesn’t meet which would prevent the property from being subdivided. Mr. Cargal said the lot size itself and the parking requirements.

Mr. Garand referred to his letter dated June 27, 2016 regarding a combined sewer lateral situation. He said the WWPCF will consider a temporary option for separating the non-compliant sewer laterals located at #77 and #79 North Street. The WWPCF will allow the property owner to cap the sewer lateral to house #77 North Street, thereby making the house inhabitable. The WWPCF is requesting that the sewer lateral from # 77 North Street be capped at the identified location. The WWPCF is requesting that a new sewer lateral be installed at # 77 North Street prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy from the Town of Windham. The installation of the new sewer lateral at #77 North Street must conform to the rules and regulations relating to the Windham Water Pollution Control Authority. Mr. Garand said that according to the North Central District Health Department there is still a sewer lateral problem located at # 77 and # 79 North Street that needs to be corrected. The North Central District

Health Dept. is requesting that all problems related to the sewage overflows be corrected by the property owner before re-occupancy is allowed.

Mr. Garand said the WWPCF believes the sewer lateral separation will not resolve the existing sanitary sewer overflow problem at #77 North Street when it is occupied. The WWPCF believes that the sewer vent piping has failed and needs to be removed, said Garand. He added that the back property should be disconnected until such time that the sewer lateral problem is corrected.

Mr. Garand suggested that Mr. Caglar contact a plumbing company to camera the sewer laterals and provide the information to the WWPCF. He added that our objectives are not to create hardships, but to ensure that the sewer system is repaired and working properly.

A discussion ensued.

Mr. Garand asked if Mr. Caglar had any other comments. Mr. Caglar said he will try to make the necessary changes to the sewer laterals in a couple of years when he has the financial means to do so. He again asked for consideration for a variance to the sewer lateral separation regulation.

Mr. Garand stated further discussion will be tabled until later in the meeting.

**2) Lesley Sweeney** appeared before the WPCA requesting a reduction in her sewer bill for property at 222 Lewiston Avenue, Willimantic, CT. She explained that there was a significant leak that flooded the basement and caused a large loss of water that did not enter the sewer system. The house is rented out and the tenant did not call the landlord until it was a crisis on April 9, 2016. Looking at my past usage it is apparent that the leak had been happening for a few months and then got worse, said Sweeney. The leak originated from a hot water heater (which was replaced on April 15, 2016), she added

She reviewed her sewer usage for the last 2 years. Her bill showed very little variation in usage except for the last 2 quarters. It is very consistent until you get to February.

She is requesting that the last 2 quarters be reduced to the average usage level. This amounts to a 3,570 cf reduction for the 2/16 quarter. She is also asking to have the interest deferred.

Plant Superintendent Garand explained that the WPCA has a policy in place for sewer rate reduction. In order to grant a reduction, it must be consistent and it must be metered. He asked if there was a sump pump in the building. Ms. Sweeney said there was not a sump pump in the basement. Mr. Garand added that the sewer use charges must be consistent and equitable for all.

Ms. Sweeney said she had budgeted for the original usage, but would not be able to pay this bill in full at this time. She asked that the interest be deferred.

Mr. Garand said the Authority would review her request and he would get back to her.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of May 24, 2016 were approved. Motion by Victor Rayhall and seconded by Mary Burnore. The motion carried unanimously.

### **Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

### **Reports**

#### **Chairman's Report**

The Chair had no report.

#### **Plant Superintendent's Report**

##### **Plant Performance**

All permits were met for the month of May. Plant Superintendent Garand reviewed the Effluent Quality Report for May, 2017. BOD, TSS and nitrogen discharges are all below plant requirements and the Plant continues to run extremely well.

##### **Administration & Finance**

#### **Monthly Budget Report for May**

Plant Superintendent Garand reviewed the Monthly Budget Report as follows: **Revenues** total \$2,886,854. This represents 83% of revenue collected with 92% of the year complete. **Expenses** total \$3,017,188. This represents 85% of the budget spent with 92% of the year complete. Mr. Garand then reviewed adjustments made to line items.

#### **Significant Non-recurring Expenses**

Plant Superintendent David Garand reviewed Significant Non-recurring Expenses for May 2016. These expenses include maintenance software renewal (\$504.00) and secretarial expenses Jan. – June 2016 (\$588.00).

#### **Sludge Storage Upgrade Updates**

Plant Superintendent Garand gave a progress report on the sludge storage upgrade.

#### **W.P.C.A Regulations (clarification on #16 (Language to be added) "& 18" vertically" after 5' horizonitally.**

Mr. Garand reviewed the proposed change to #16 in the W.P.C.A. Regulations Booklet. Vic Rayhall made a motion to make the changes to item #16 as presented by the Plant Superintendent and Mary Burnore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **109 Union Street**

The Authority reviewed a letter from James Hooper, Water Works Superintendent to John Walker for property located at 109 Union Street, Willimantic, CT. The existing water meter was removed and a spacer pipe was installed. As a result this property was not paying for water or sewer usage. The spacer pipe was removed and a new water meter was installed. An estimated invoice based upon actual historical readings plus interest was forwarded to Mr. Walker. In addition Mr. Walker will be invoiced for a new water meter as the original one was damaged.

#### **77 & 79 North Street**

Plant Superintendent Garand said in order for him to recommend a variance be granted the following criteria must be met. #1) The property owner must have a camera inspection of the sewer laterals performed, recorded and given to the WPCF for review. #2) He must verify in writing, current zoning regulation which prevent the property from being subdivided. #3) The failed vent piping must be removed from the lateral. #4) The sewer lateral to the property must be 6".

#### **317 Mount Hope Road**

Plant Superintendent Garand recommended that we maintain the status quo (Billing sewer usage off metered water usage). He said it is impossible to determine how the water was used. He recommended the WPCA waive the interest for three months allowing her time to pay the bill without penalty. If the bill is not paid in full within three months the interest rate will be added retroactively. The WPCA concurred. Mr. Garand said he will notify the Collector of Revenue's Office and the property owner.

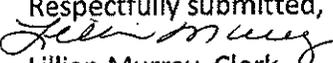
#### **Old Business**

There was no old business.

#### **New Business**

There was no new business.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:23 P.M. Motion to adjourn made by Mary Burnore and seconded by Stanley Morytko. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,  
  
Lillian Murray, Clerk