

**WINDHAM WATER POLLUTION  
CONTROL AUTHORITY**

**MINUTES**

**August 25, 2009**

The Windham Water Pollution Control Authority held its meeting on August 25, 2009 in the Meeting Room, Town Hall. Acting Chairman Charles Kratt called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. Members present were Nita Giordano, Mary Burnore, Rene Goss, Stanley Morytko and Charles Kratt. Also present was Plant Superintendent David Garand.

**I) Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**II) Correspondence**

Rene Goss was reappointed to the WPCA, although the WPCA has not yet received official notification.

**III) Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of July 28, 2009 were amended; Pg. 2, item 2B, line 3, **He has** communicated this to Selectman Ernest Eldridge...Pg 2 item 2C add **Dave Garand always reviews all bills before they are paid. Charles Kratt has also reviewed some of the legal bills...**Pg 2 item 4 add **Kratt said the WPCA must comply with all Town employment practices per the Town Charter.** Pg 4, item I, correct 2001 to read **2011.**

Charles Kratt made a motion to approve the minutes as amended and Stanley Morytko seconded the motion. Voting in favor of the motion were Charles Kratt, Stanley Morytko, and Mary Burnore. Rene Goss and Nita Giordano both abstained as they were not present at the July meeting. So voted.

**IV) Reports**

**a) Chairman**

The Acting Chairman had no report.

**b) Plant Superintendent**

**1) Construction**

Current Work: **New garage building** – continue electrical work, working on punch list. **Primary settling tanks** – Primary collector equipment performance testing, completing electrical wiring, Primary Pumps start up on pumps & drives. **Administration Building** – Start up the S.C.A.D.A. primary treatment control panel. Aeration Tank #2 – Tank off line for tank repairs and equipment replacement.

**Change Orders** – There were no new change orders (7 total).

## **2) Plant Performance**

All permits were met for the month of July. Garand reviewed the July 2009 Effluent Quality Report. He said nitrogen numbers are slightly elevated.

## **3) Administration & Finance**

a) Teamster Operator 12 Position – The plan is to fill the Teamster Operator 12 position once the contract is signed. Plant Superintendent Dave Garand said there is a tentative agreement that the Teamster union contract will be approved. He said Assistant Superintendent David Gagnon has expressed interest in taking the Teamster Operator 12 position. His present position is a management position. Garand said some of the advantages of having Gagnon as an Operator 12 is the fact that he has his Class 3 certification and is extremely familiar with the current and the new facility equipment. He explained that union staff is responsible to respond to after hour emergencies and Gagnon is the only one qualified to respond to electrical problems after hours.

Dave Gagnon was in the audience and offered to answer any questions the WPCA may have regarding his interest in the Teamster Operator 12 position. Plant Superintendent Dave Garand said he felt the WPCA, as well as the Town, would benefit from Gagnon taking over the Operator 12 position because he would be on call for after hour emergencies. The Town truck assigned to him would become a vehicle to be used at the sewer facility eliminating the need to purchase an additional vehicle.

Stan Morytko asked Gagnon why he is interested in the position. Gagnon responded that he has been at the Plant for 5 years and considers himself to be well versed in Plant operations. Changing to a union position would give him more benefits, he said. Because his position is currently a management position, he recently had to take 5 furlough days without pay as a cost cutting measure. Rene Goss said he feels that giving furlough days is the wrong thing to do because it lowers employee morale and does not save the Town General Fund any money.

Charles Kratt asked who authorized Gagnon's use of a Town truck. He said the Town Charter specifies Town vehicles are not to be authorized for Assistant

Superintendent positions. Kratt then questioned the necessity of having three Class 3 operators working around the clock. He said he recently called DEP regarding this and was told that this is not necessary. Dave Garand told Kratt that the DEP would not have told him that. An operator no less than one grade below the facility rating must be on site to make any facility operational changes (on call person). Kratt said he would contact DEP again for clarification.

After further discussion Rene Goss made a motion to fill the Operator 12 position and Mary Burnore seconded the motion. Dave Garand said you are only voting on filling the Operator 12 position at this time. Once the union contract is approved then the Town has two options: 1) Consider Dave Gagnon for the position (post internally only) or 2) go out and advertise the position. Voting in favor to approve the Operator 12 position were Rene Goss, Mary Burnore, Stanley Morytko and Nita Giordano. Charles Kratt voted in opposition. The motion carried.

#### b) Monthly Budget Report

Garand reviewed the monthly budget report dated 7/31/09. **Revenue** totals \$270,471.00. This is 8% of revenue collected with 8% of the year completed. **Expenditures** are incomplete at this time. Garand said he plans to meet with the Finance Director to review expenses.

c) Garand reviewed significant non-recurring expenses July 22, 2009 to August 24, 2009.

d) Mansfield Dispute. Garand said he has received a letter from Lon Hultgren outlining issues of concern for Mansfield. Garand referred to the discussion points which are the remaining issues from the 2009 Arbitration. Garand said he intends to meet with the Town of Mansfield tomorrow at 11:00 A.M. to discuss the issues. He invited WPCA members to join the meeting. He said Windham and Mansfield must follow the approved "Rules and Regulations to connect to the Windham sanitary sewers. We must both follow the same rules and regulations.

e) High Strength Waste. Garand said this will be discussed at the CAWPCA meeting and he will report the findings.

f) Reserve Investments. Garand reviewed the report from Multi-Bank Securities, Inc. He said 3 CD's were replaced.

#### **4) Customer Relations**

There were no sewer blockages in our lines through 8/25/09. Rene Goss expressed surprise that no Town officials have visited the Sewer Treatment Plant to follow the progress of building the new Sewer Treatment Facility.

Because there were several individuals seated in the audience, Rene Goss made a motion to re-open the Public Comment portion of the meeting to accommodate any questions from the audience. Charles Kratt seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

There were no questions or comments received.

**5) Old Business**

a) Magnet School Sewer Hook-up. A discussion ensued regarding a proposed Magnet School sewer hook-up on Tuckie Road. Plant Superintendent Garand explained that there are no sewer hook-ups available in this area of Town at the present time.

Charles Kratt said the Town's Development Map should be upgraded every ten years. At the present time there are no plans to install sewers on Tuckie Road. Plant Superintendent Garand explained that in order for the Magnet School to move forward the Zoning Commission would have to change the category of this property to allow the sewers to come in. They would have to re-zone this property as a development area and amend the map. Once that is completed they would have to come before the WPCA for approval, said Garand.

b) Update on grease in the sewer system. The First Baptist Church has not yet installed an A.G.R.U. At the last meeting Charles Kratt said the W.P.C.A. is sympathetic to the Soup Kitchen especially in these difficult economic times, but the Soup Kitchen must become compliant by 2011. If they do not become compliant they would have to cease operations.

Rene Goss said while compliance is necessary most of the time, it is not necessary at this time. He said the W.P.C.A. has been criticized recently about charging fees for the Splash Park which is used by the Town's children. To close the Soup Kitchen because of non-compliance would not be well accepted by the public and they are not required to become compliant until July, 2011.

c) Lining Sewer Main – Lewiston Avenue to Oak Street. Garand said the project should begin within a couple of weeks.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:23 P.M. Motion by Mary Burnore and seconded by Nita Giordano. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Lillian Murray, Clerk