

STAFFORD WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

Special Meeting
Veteran's Meeting Room
Wednesday, January 14, 2009

Members Present:

Francis Finch
Doug Fassett
Douglas Minich
Herman Perlot
James Tantillo
B. Allen Warren
Michael Waugh

Members Absent:

Earl Avery
Paul Burns
James Tantillo

Also present were Shift Supervisor Richard Hartenstein; Steve Seigal and Paul Gilbert of CDM; Pete Williams of the Town of Ellington; First Selectman Allen Bacchiochi, Joseph and Christopher Paradiso and Ricky Casagrande.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Waugh at 5:35 P.M. A quorum was established.

2. INDUSTRIAL DISCHARGE EVALUATION AND SURCHARGE DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Recent test samples taken of 3M's (Cuno) effluent have shown no decrease in solids. A time span of 6 months has passed since the initial meeting with 3M (Cuno) to discuss possible measures that could be taken to reduce their effluent solids. The WPCF has not received any correspondence from 3M (Cuno) as to what measures they plan to take to address their pretreatment methods to reduce their discharge of solids. A letter was drafted, to be sent Registered Mail, and distributed to the members, regarding scheduling another meeting with 3M (Cuno) to try and rectify this problem before involving other parties and/or implementing a surcharge.

3. FACILITY PLAN UPGRADE – MONTHLY PROGRESS MEETING

The bid packages for construction are completed and ready to go out. The documents will be available on January 26, 2009. At 10:00 a.m., Monday, February 9, 2009, there will be a pre-bid tour of the treatment plant; followed by the bid opening in March; evaluation; and approval by both DEP and RD. Bids are expected to be awarded by mid April. The Town of Stafford and WPCA has entered into an Agreement for the bid process only with CDM.

4. OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE ASSESSMENT

Mr. Gilbert stated he had an initial inspection back in November and had been back at the treatment plant recently to discuss operation issues and to tour the pumping stations. He stated he would be reviewing the laboratory procedures the following week. A schedule of work to be performed will be distributed to the WPCA members.

5. USDA / RD LOAN APPLICATION

The application has been completed, along with the Environmental Report and the Preliminary Engineering Report. A response is expected in February.

6. MINUTES OF DECEMBER 8, 2008

Mr. Perlot made a motion to accept the minutes of December 8, 2008. Mr. Fassett seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.

Chairman Waugh made a motion to skip to Item 8 – Review of Department Expenditures. Mr. Minich seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.

8. REVIEW OF DEPARTMENT EXPENDITURES

The detailed expenditure sheet was distributed to all members. There was a question of the \$4,000 FEMA reimbursement payment. It was explained that FEMA had overpaid for damages to the WPCF from the flood of October 2005 and requested that reimbursement be made.

Chairman Waugh made a motion to return back to Item 7 – Chief Operator's Report. Mr. Minich seconded the motion. Motion carries unanimously.

7. ACTING CHIEF OPERATOR'S REPORT

The Orcuttville Road pump station is fixed. There have been mechanical issues on the LN 9000 tractor.

9. BUDGET FY 2009-2010

A new draft of the proposed budget was distributed. Chairman Waugh stated that Rural Development may suggest a user rate increase depending on how Stafford's rates compares to other Town's to be eligible for funding. A new tractor will be considered in the new budget after recommendations are made whether or not money could be saved by outsourcing the hauling of sludge.

Mr. Fassett questioned salaries and why pay raises would be awarded in such hard economic times. He also questioned longevity and stated that this bonus is exorbitant and should be done away with. Mr. Fassett also questioned the retainer fee paid for an electrician. It was stated that the current electrician is extremely knowledgeable and is constantly saving money for the Town and WPCA. He was on the job when the treatment plant was built and has worked on it since.

It was conceded that the electrician is of great value to the WPCA and it was recommended that he and the Town and Board of Education electrician be on hand for the upgrade.

10. OLD BUSINESS

- Brothers Quality Update

It was reported that there have been no complaints of odor lately which may have to do with the fact that the carcasses are being kept inside until they are transported off-site.

- Facility Plan Upgrade – Ellington Involvement

Chairman Waugh stated that Ellington is responsible for making their own map that is in compliance with the State Plan of Conservation and Development. Mr. Williams stated that Ellington's payment has been drafted in a letter and is awaiting a response and that the Agreement must be amended to be based on flow. Chairman Waugh stated that Ellington is expected to pay 4.9% of the project cost. This would be looked into.

- JMH Sewer Extension

No update

11. NEW BUSINESS

- 2 East Main Street Sewer Repair

Selectman Bacchiochi stated that a bill for \$3,500 was submitted to the Town regarding repair work done at 2 East Main Street. There was some question as to the work performed so he read a letter from Slanetz Corporation, dated November 30, 2008, stating the bill was for excavation performed on November 4th and 5th, 2008 to repair a clogged 6" clay sewer pipe, which included removal of sidewalk. This included jack hammering and digging to locate the sewer. The letter stated that the obstruction was 6 feet past the sidewalk into the road and clearly the responsibility of the WPCA. Selectman Bacchiochi stated that there were jobs in the past that were performed by employees of the WPCF that were located under the sidewalk.

Chairman Waugh stated that it was his understanding that the blockage was located directly under the curb and that would mean it is the property owner's responsibility. He was awaiting an inspection report from the employee who was on the job.

Mr. Hartenstein stated he did inspect the job and reported that the main line was clean so didn't believe that blockage was in the street. It is possible that the blockage came from the dirt floor within the building over a period of time.

Mr. Paradiso stated that it was impossible that the dirt came from within the building because the pipe was above ground and it was easy to assess that there were no leaks by viewing it that way.

Since it was not possible to know exactly where the blockage was, Chairman Waugh asked the Selectman Bacchiochi to split the bill, since it may have occurred under the Town sidewalk. Selectman Bacchiochi stated it was not a Town issue and would not pay.

Mr. Warren made a motion to table this topic until more information is received. Mr. Finch seconded the motion. Motion failed.

Mr. Perlot made a motion to pay the \$3,500 fee for excavation, material and labor for 2 East Main Street Sewer Replacement job and to set regulations for future inspections. Mr. Minich seconded the motion. Motion carries with 4 approved and 2 no votes.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Minich made a motion to adjourn at 7:20 P.M. Mr. Finch seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted:

Jane LaMorte
Office Manager WPCA