

**New Hartford Water Pollution Control Authority
TOWN OF NEW HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, January 8, 2015 at 7:00 PM
New Hartford Town Hall
530 Main Street, New Hartford, Connecticut**

PRESENT: Chairman Bill Michaud, Ken Krohner, Denton Butler, Joe Toro, Mary Beth Greenwood, Robert Fulton, Michael LeClaire, First Selectman Dan Jerram.

ABSENT: None.

Chairman Bill Michaud called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. All regular members present were seated for the meeting. The proceedings were recorded digitally and copies are available at Town Hall.

MOTION: Mr. Mike LeClaire, Mr. Ken Krohner second, **to amend the Agenda, to move Item #8 of the published Agenda to Item #1 and for each item under #1-#7 to fall back behind #8; unanimously approved.**

1. Report of Subcommittee on Analysis of Sewer Extension Alternatives

Mr. Denton Butler, Chairman of the Subcommittee on Analysis of Sewer Extension Alternatives, acknowledged the members of the subcommittee, new WPCA member Mr. Joe Toro and resident Mr. Roy Litchfield, for their efforts with the analysis. He noted that they are both present and would share in the presentation of the subcommittee's findings. He also acknowledged the assistance of Land Use Enforcement Officer Steve Sadlowski for his efforts and assistance with the map preparation. Mr. Butler distributed to board members a spiral bound document detailing the following in their analysis: executive summary, line extension analysis, principal drivers, and first action steps. Also included were sections on Pine Meadow and Cottage Street (Option A and Option B), Johnnycake Town Hill and Highland, Greenwoods & Hillside (At Option of Developer/s), Abutters & Non-Compliant, Recommended Project Line Extension, Adopted Statement of Work, Funding Options, Regulatory & Oversight and Task Management Schedule.

Mr. Butler noted a footnote on the document indicating that the analysis was based on the current rates and the number of users and applied a factor to determine a current rate stream. He cautioned that the number would not be the same after adjustments for a Betterment Assessment, a connection fee or adjustments made by applying grants and/or loans.

After reviewing the summary of the subcommittee and reading the history of "The Problem" for the benefit of the attending freshman students from Northwestern Regional District #7 High School, Mr. Butler addressed the Principal Drivers of the Line Extension Action Plan. They were identified as: protection of town aquifer, emergent of septic system failures/repairs, sewer collection system age and failures, advancement of economic development, and qualified availability of funding. Following that, he then addressed the *First Action Steps*, specifically Jones Mountain Trunk Line, as identified in the Line Extension Analysis:

- sole transfer trunk – requires by-pass during repair/construction
- clear brush upper reaches Jones Mountain trunk line, expose manholes

- video trunk line service life at 47 years – expectancy (50-60)
- root intrusion, infiltration, inflow & leaks (outflow)
- impact of surface water run-off (soil cover erosion)

Also among the group's suggested first action steps is securing a construction estimate which requires by-pass during repair or replacement.

Mr. Litchfield then addressed the topics covered under the Pine Meadow Section: property analysis, estimate of possible connections as ninety-three (93), intersection measurements, review of a map, construction estimate of \$3.4M with an estimated revenue projection of \$104,733. He then covered two options under the Cottage Street Section, one with fifty-two (52) possible connections with a projected construction estimate of a little over \$1.7M with an annualized usage revenue projection of \$71,534. Mr. Litchfield continued, presenting the second option for Cottage Street with an estimate of sixty-two (62) possible connections with a projected construction estimate of just under \$2.5M with projected annualized usage revenue of \$80,338. Mr. Litchfield addressed the section entitled, "Sub-Committee Does Not Recommend for the Foreseeable Future". Johnnycake Lane and Highland Avenue were discussed which revealed through the property analysis an estimate of forty-four (44) possible connections with an estimated construction cost \$2.4M and an annualized usage revenue projection of \$49,523.

Mr. Toro then addressed the Greenwoods Road/Hillside Avenue area and reported that it was the subcommittee's recommendation that this work be funded by the developer. He noted the estimate of possible connections to be one hundred thirty-four (134) with an estimated construction estimate of \$694,600 but a projected annualized usage revenue of \$161,776. He then addressed two different groups of residents: abutters and then, non-compliant. Outlined in this section was estimated possible connections thirty-six (36), construction estimate which is essentially none, and projected annualized usage revenue of \$40,719.

Mr. Toro discussed the subcommittee recommended combined project. Included in this was: sewerage the Pine Meadow section first, with protection of the aquifer as the priority, Cottage Street section as the second priority, Greenwoods Road thirdly because of the centralized septic field located along the river serving a small number of homes and the replacement or repair of Jones Mountain trunk.

Mr. Toro then reviewed the subcommittee's opinion of probable construction cost for a combined project as just over \$5.9M which would according to the subcommittee, result in an estimated annual revenue stream, using current rates, for 2017 of \$183,970. Mr. Butler explained the benefits as he saw them to lumping this work into one project for the following reasons: a project advanced over a sequential timeline as the escalation would be eliminated, certain economies in dealing with bids that would be received for a larger project at one time, a reduction in engineering costs for a project for a one time basis, and most importantly to him, a one-time voter review project. Mr. Michaud noted that what should, if not already, be included in the Task Management Schedule is take the \$5.9M and look at questions of how much might be covered through grants, how much would need to be bonded, what the cost of that would be over twenty years, add in benefit assessments and then annualize that.

Mr. Butler reported that they would like to get a budget of \$30,000 so that professional engineers can give a conceptual plan of design and construction oversight. He reviewed again the Statement of Work covering this. Funding options, such as loans and grants, was then also discussed by Mr. Butler.

2. Election of Chairman

Mr. Michaud reported to the board that he is not seeking reelection for the chairman position.

MOTION: Mr. Krohner, Mr. Toro second, **to nominate Denton (Bud) Butler as chairman; unanimously approved.**

MOTION: Mr. Krohner, Mr. Butler second, **to nominate Joe Toro as vice chairman; unanimously approved.**

MOTION: Mr. Butler, Mr. Krohner second, **to close the nominations; unanimously approved.**

3. Welcome to New Members

Mr. Toro was welcomed as the newest member of the WPCA. His contributions already, in terms of his work with the sewer line extension alternatives, was acknowledged.

4. Meeting minutes

Approval of the meeting minutes was continued to the next regularly scheduled meeting of the WPCA, February 5, 2015.

5. Opportunity for public comment

Mr. David Krimmel, member of the New Hartford Planning and Zoning Commission as well as New Hartford Economic Development Commission, acknowledged his appreciation for the amount of time and effort the subcommittee on sewer extension alternatives has expended in their work and the savings they have achieved to all taxpayers of New Hartford through their many hours of volunteer work compiling the data.

6. Operations

a. Sewer operations monthly report – The Water Planet Company

See Addendum 'A' attached hereto and made a part hereof.

b. Water operations monthly report – Torrington Water Company

See Addendum 'B' attached hereto and made a part hereof.

c. Monthly financial report

See Addendum 'C' attached hereto and made a part hereof.

7. Correspondence

See Addendum 'D' attached hereto and made a part hereof.

8. Review of motions from Special Meeting on December 11, 2014

MOTION: Mr. Butler, Mr. Krohner second, **to approve the input as modified for the Plan of Conservation and Development; unanimously approved.**

9. Ongoing business

None discussed.

10. Other business

Ms. Greenwood reported that in working on the F.O.G. program, she notes that one of the first responsibilities of the WPCA is to establish the legislative framework or the authority to do the plan. She discovered that the 1969 ordinance that the WPCA has been working with was repealed in 1982. She provided the document that, along with confirmation from the First Selectman's Administrative Assistant, Christine Hayward, believes the group should be using but notes that there are steps the group will need to take to get there. One June 20, 1983, the sewer commission voted to say that they reviewed the document, would take it to public hearing, did indeed take it to public hearing and passed unanimously the ordinance. The document was written as ordinance when should have been regulation. Ms. Greenwood noted that the issue just needs to be clarified as a matter of record.

MOTION: Mr. Butler, Mr. Toro second, **to adjourn the meeting at 9:24PM; unanimously approved.**

Respectfully submitted,

**Pamela Colombie
Recording Clerk**