

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2013- 7:00 P.M.

NEW HARTFORD TOWN HALL-530 MAIN STREET

PRESENT: Chairman Robert Krzys, Bill Michaud, Kenneth Krohner, David Rosengren

ABSENT: Joe Nerney, Michael LeClaire, Steve Hanright

1. Call to Order:

Chairman Krzys called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. The proceedings were attempted to be recorded digitally and Mr. Rosengren took notes as well as the usual operator of the recorder was absent.

2. Approval of Minutes

There were no minutes available to be reviewed.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

There were two members of the public present but there were no comments offered.

4. Operator Report Water Planet

Chairman Krzys reported in the absence of a Water Planet representative that Change Order No. 6 was proceeding and that Change Order No. 7 had been approved by the USDA.

5. Operator Report United Water

Chairman Krzys reported that United Water had sent a letter advising they were not going to bid on a renewal of the water operator contract when the current contract terminates in December, 2013. The Authority will have to secure the services of a new operator and the services of a new billing firm or reach an independent agreement with the current billing firm Computil since Computil is currently a subcontractor under the United Water contract and handles billing for both the water and wastewater operations.

6. Chairman Krzys provided copies of the WPCA's filing for specific projects to be considered for the DEEP's Priority List of projects for FY 14 and FY 15. The list of projects included a request to continue authorization for the Cottage Street project under the Reserve for Small Communities.

7. The Authority reviewed a proposed contract to continue the services of the Water Plant for another three years as the operator for the wastewater system and plant. Motion was made by Mr. Krohner and seconded by Michaud to approve and the Motion carried unanimously. Discussion on the Motion

included reference to the comments of member LeClaire at an earlier meeting that the proposed terms of the agreement were in line with industry standards in his opinion as an assistant superintendent of the Simsbury sewer plant.

8. Liens

Chairman Krzys reported that the advice of counsel had been sought to review the procedure for filing liens and that it was possible action could be taken at the next regular meeting on October 3, 2013. The Town of New Hartford had indicated to Mr. Krzys that if the authority to lien was properly delegated, the Town would take care of the clerical part of the process.

9. USDA debt service payment and request of Board of Finance to meet in joint session on October 8, 2013 and request of Board of Finance for information.

The members discussed that the payment for September, 2013 and the Board confirmed its decision to place a hold on the payment pending further discussions with the Boards of Finance and Selectmen. The WPCA agreed to meet with the Board of Finance on October 8, 2013 as requested and to request the Board of Selectmen meet then as well.

Board members Krzys, Rosengren and Michaud spoke about the history of the referendum and the document distributed by the Town Treasurer and the Board of Selectmen at the time of the referendum. It was noted that the referendum question itself made no mention of any allocation of the debt payment. The document from the Town listed the percentage as 19% for the then current users, 39% for the general tax base and that new users would pay 42%. The WPCA discussed how Mr. Michaud's earlier document distributed at the September 5, 2013 meeting of the WPCA and now forwarded to the Chairman of the Board of Finance showed that the economic development and the hoped for additional publicly funded sewer extensions simply had not occurred so that there were no new users to pay that 42%. The decision of the Town to invoice the WPCA users for that 42% had required the WPCA to substantially raise its rates since the passage of the referendum. This has had the result of placing a large additional burden on the user base so that delinquent accounts have increased.

10. ADJOURNMENT. Upon motion by Mr. Krohner and a second by Mr. Michaud, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

David Rosengren, WPCA member