



**Unapproved
Town of Ridgefield
Water Pollution Control Authority**

**WPCA Regular Meeting
September 26, 2019 7:00 p.m.
66 Prospect Street
Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877**

WPCA: Amy Siebert, Gary Zawacki Ron Hill, Kevin Briody, Rudy Marconi (arrived at approximately 7:30 pm)
Suez: Jeff Pennell, Matt Brown, Michael Burke
AECOM: Jon Pearson, Don Chelton
3 Halpin Lane : Lawrence LePere
40 Mulberry St: Megan Couri

These are not verbatim minutes of the proceedings but identification of general items and specific actions undertaken.

WPCA Regular Meeting called to order at 7:05 by Ms. Siebert

1) New Business

a) Public Comment.

David Coles, 18 New Street. Stated opposition to the annual sewer rate increase. Suggested billing rate to be based on water usage.

Steve Jensen, 19 Prospect Ridge #60. Stated opposition to the annual sewer rate increase. Suggested billing rate to be based on water usage.

Ray Goddard, 19 Prospect Ridge #40. Stated opposition to the annual sewer rate increase. Suggested billing rate to be based on water usage.

Dick Moccia, 2 Highcliff Terrace Stated opposition to the annual sewer rate increase. Suggested billing rate to be based on water usage.

Joe Savino, 71 St. Johns Road. Stated opposition to the annual sewer rate increase. Suggested billing rate to be based on water usage.

Roger Restaino, Prospect Ridge 46. Stated opposition to the annual sewer rate increase. Suggested billing rate to be based on water usage.

Bob Hebert, 58 Prospect Street. Stated opposition to the annual sewer rate increase. Suggested billing rate to be based on water usage.

John West, 16 Abbott Ave. Stated opposition to the annual sewer rate increase. Suggested billing rate to be based on water usage.

Janet Maddox. Stated opposition to the annual sewer rate increase. Suggested billing rate to be based on water usage.

b) Approval of Minutes. Motion to approve August 22, 2019 minutes by Mr. Briody, seconded by Mr. Hill, Passing 4-0. Mr. Zawacki abstained.

c) 3 Halpin Lane, Lawrence LePere, Presented proposal to hook up Ability Beyond to sewers tributary to the Quail Ridge pump station. Mr. LePere will review area and submit further plans for review on sewer hookup.

d) 40 Mulberry Street, Megan Couri. Presented proposal to hook up a single family residence to the town sewer.

2) Old Business

a) South Street WWTF Upgrade Bond Resolution.

- (1) Conference call held with CTDEEP on Wed. 9/18 with Glenn Santoro (Bond Counsel), Amy Siebert, Rudy Marconi, Diana Van Ness, Kevin Redmond, George Hicks, Ann Straut, Sue Hawkins, Lee Rogers, Rowland Denny, Don Chelton, Jon Pearson. The following were discussed:
 - (i) The total project costs are eligible for grants confirming that the portions of the upgrade project work paid through fund balance are eligible for grant reimbursement.
 - (ii) Upgrade design costs will be applied for grant reimbursement through a standalone application, through design fund reimbursement reserves. (Separate application to be confirmed by CTDEEP). Meeting minutes showing the resolutions made to fund this work should be sufficient for the application.
 - (iii) South St. construction will be applied for under the CWF paperwork, using the Town's \$48MM authorized bond resolution. This should allow CTDEEP to determine the grant portion of this work. The CWF paperwork for this will be signed by the Town's First Selectman.
 - (iv) The Rt 7. work will be a separate application, to be completed when it is bid and the figures are known at that time.
 - (v) Grant reimbursement will come back to the Town; the Town is responsible for putting it into the WPCA account(s).
- (2) CT DEEP (thru Glenn Santoro) confirmed the above approach with the Treasurer's office following the conference call, allowing submittal of the Clean Water Fund (CWF) application for the grant associated with the design. Mr. Pearson noted that with the approach noted on the conference call, the WPCA needs to adopt a resolution authorizing the WPCA Chairperson as the authorized representative for the design CWF application, and a copy of the resolution certified by the Town Clerk. Ms. Siebert read the following resolution aloud:

Authorizing Resolution Which Is Required To Obtain Clean Water Fund Financing For Water Pollution Abatement Facilities

Be it resolved that it is in the best interests of the Water Pollution Control Authority of the Town of Ridgefield, Connecticut to enter into contracts with the Department of Energy & Environmental Protection. In furtherance of this resolution, Amy Siebert, the Water Pollution Control Authority Chairperson is duly authorized to enter into and sign said contracts on behalf of the Water Pollution Control Authority of the Town of Ridgefield, Connecticut related to the Design of the Ridgefield Wastewater Facilities Upgrade Project. The Water Pollution Control Authority Chairperson is further authorized to provide such additional information and execute such other documents as may be required by the state or federal government in connection with said contracts and to execute any amendments, rescissions, and revisions thereto.

Motion to approve the Authorizing Resolution as read by Mr. Briody, seconded by Mr. Zawacki, Passing 5-0. Mr. Pearson noted that based on the call with CTDEEP, AECOM is currently finalizing the calculations on the grant amount, and will be forwarding them to the CTDEEP for review shortly. CTDEEP just issued the approval letter for Design Amendment No. 2, so that all design costs have been approved by CTDEEP.

- (3) Mr. Pearson discussed that since the Town will be submitting the \$48 million CWF application for the South Street WWTF Upgrade project, the Board of Selectmen will need to adopt a resolution designating the First Selectman as the authorized representative. Once adopted, a copy of the resolution certified by the Town Clerk will be needed for the CWF application. It was also noted that the \$48 million bonding resolution adopted by the Selectmen (and certified by the Town Clerk) is needed for inclusion in the application. AECOM suggested that Glenn Santoro, bond counsel, should be contacted to obtain the language for the bonding resolution. Mr. Marconi will follow up on this.

b) South Street Easement Agreement. Legal counsel has sent a final copy of the temporary construction that has been signed by the property owner, Formation Development Group, and the First Selectman and recorded by the Town Clerk.

c) Sewer Rates, 20 West Lane, Bernard's restaurant seating area was reviewed and reduced from 35 units to 26.5 units. 246 Main Street, Tablao restaurant seating area was reviewed and reduced from 10 units to 8.5 units. This brings both sites into conformance with their current configurations.

3) AECOM Report

a) WWTF Upgrade Design

- (1) The Planning & Zoning/Inland Wetlands (P&Z/IW) permit hearing for the Rte. 7 PS, Force Main and WWTF Decommissioning contract is scheduled for Wed. Oct. 2, and Ms. Siebert encouraged the WPCA members to attend the hearing if possible. AECOM has submitted supplemental information on compliance with floodplain development and aquifer protection was provided to P&Z/IW on September 16th.
- (2) The latest version of the plans and specifications for the Rte. 7 PS, Force Main and WWTF Decommissioning contract were sent to Charlie Fisher on July 23rd, and he also received the P&Z/IW application and supplemental information for review. Mr. Fisher provided preliminary comments on Sept. 5th. AECOM provided responses to his preliminary comments on September 12th. Mr. Fisher forwarded final comments to P&Z/IW on September 16th. Mr. Pearson distributed copies of Mr. Fishers comments and AECOM's response noting that there are several comments where WPCA input is needed:
 1. Plant Decommissioning comment 1 – need for grading plan. Following discussion, it was agreed to wait to see how this is addressed by P&Z/IW. In the project documents, the contractor is held responsible for appropriate sedimentation and erosion control measures.
 2. Force Main Construction comment 15 – trenchless crossing of 72" culvert on Farmingville road. AECOM noted that this approach would increase the cost for this work by an estimated \$250,000. The concern appeared to center on the need for dewatering, and discussion of the nature of the soils, the likelihood that they would not give up water easily, and the Town's reasonable experience with a water main installation many years ago through open excavation ensured. Following discussion, the WPCA confirmed that they were not in agreement with the recommendation to change to a trenchless crossing at this location given all the factors discussed.
 3. Police Dept. comments – night work required at 3 locations. Following discussion, Mr. Zawacki and Mr. Marconi agreed to meet with the Police Dept. to discuss other options to night work such as road closures and detours or limiting the work hours in these locations. Mr. Marconi noted that a noise variance will be needed if night work is required.

- (3) Mr. Pearson asked if there had been any further discussions with the property owners at 901 Ethan Allen Highway regarding the details of the proposed project that had been forwarded. Mr. Marconi noted that he had recently met with the property owners and that they are in general support of the project as proposed. Mr. Marconi also noted that it has been confirmed that the Route 7 WWTF parcel is currently owned by the Town and not by the WPCA.
- (4) Mr. Pearson informed the WPCA that the CTDEEP issued the required Flood Management Certificate for the Rte. 7 PS, Force Main and WWTF Decommissioning contract on 9-19-19. The only significant condition was to protect the habitat of the Appalachian Blue Butterfly along a section of Limekiln Road.

b) South Street WWTF Upgrade Construction

- (1) Mr. Pearson noted that AECOM has received about 20 shop drawing submittals from Spectraserv, including submittals for major equipment such as the BluePRO sand Filters, chemical feed pumps, and sludge pumps. It was also noted that 4 Requests for Information (RFI) have been received from Spectraserv.
- (2) AECOM has recently received an updated schedule for the project from Spectraserv – showing Spectraserv will mobilize on-site towards the end of the year. AECOM is currently reviewing the schedule.
- (3) AECOM submitted Progress Payment Estimate No. 1 for Spectraserv in the amount of \$381,237. The majority of the payment is for bonds and insurance, with the balance being pre-mobilization administrative costs and submittal costs. Following review and discussion the WPCA approved the payment.
- (4) Mr. Pearson distributed a preliminary cash flow projection for both construction and engineering costs on this project. Since there will be a need for payments for construction and engineering on the South Street WWTF Upgrade for a period of time before the CWF Grant/Loan Agreement is executed and payment requests can be submitted to the DEEP for reimbursement, there is likely a need for short term borrowing to provide the necessary funds. Mr. Chelton noted that the duration of the period of time before the CWF Grant/Loan Agreement is executed is not defined but based on other projects could be 9-12 months. The WPCA encouraged AECOM to complete the CWF applications quickly. Mr. Marconi and Ms. Siebert will follow-up with the Town Controller regarding the approach to providing the required short term funds.
- (5) Mr. Pearson noted he has been in contact with Jake Muller, Director of Facilities regarding the materials/equipment in the WWTF storage area (behind the Parks and Rec Building) that need to be moved, and that effort is proceeding. Mr. Pearson asked if the Police Dept. had been contacted about the need to relocate the 2 vehicles in the current police impoundment next to the Animal Control building, as well as the need to temporarily relocate the impoundment area during the construction period. Mr. Marconi agreed to follow-up with the Police Dept. on this.

c) Septage Receiving Option During Construction – no activity this month

d) Quail Ridge Pump Station Relocation Design. No activity on this project this month.

- 4) Suez Report.** Mr. Jeff Pennell presented Suez Environmental report for August, 2019. Mr. Pennell noted that the radiator for the Middle School Pump Station generator (which also serves the adjacent Domestic Water Facilities Building that provides potable water to both schools) has developed pinholes and needs to be replaced. Following discussion, Ms. Siebert agreed to draft a letter to the Supt. of Schools regarding the urgency to implement the radiator replacement for the generator.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Zawacki, seconded by Mr. Marconi at 9:34 p.m., passing 5-0.

Submitted by Diana Van Ness