



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

**WPCA Special Meeting  
February 11, 2019 5:00 p.m.  
66 Prospect Street  
Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877**

WPCA: Amy Siebert, Gary Zawacki, Kevin Briody, Rudy Marconi, Ron Hill  
AECOM: Jon Pearson  
Pullman & Comley: Christopher McCormack  
233 Danbury Road: Marty Handshy, Jay Metcalf, Jacqueline Kaufman, attorney  
Planning & Zoning:: John Katz  
BOS: Maureen Kozlark

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

**WPCA Special Meeting called to order at 5:03 by Ms. Siebert**

**1) New Business**

- a) **233 Danbury Road.** Mr. Handshy while not submitting a formal application, requested the WPCA's consideration of an extension of the sewer district for a project consisting of either 60 or 84 units at 233 Danbury Road together with adjacent parcels at 217, 221 and 249 Danbury Road approved by Planning and Zoning, with a septic system. None of the parcels noted are in Sewer District 1 nor were they considered in the current Facilities Plan.
- b) Ms. Siebert noted the meeting purposes were to have a refresher regarding the WPCA's authority with respect to setting the sewer boundary area and to answer Board members questions on this topic, and to provide informal consultation regarding the 233 Danbury Road matter.
- c) Chris McCormack, WPCA legal counsel, explained the informal consultation process, and how it provides information to potential applicants which may then be used to determine if they wish to proceed. Mr. McCormack explained that the WPCA has discretion concerning expansion of the sewer district, and exercising that discretion in any one instance has no precedential effect on future projects. He stated that the current sewer system upgrade was based on a Facilities Plan that included a detailed analysis of future wastewater treatment demands over the anticipated life span of the new facilities, including the potential need to extend service to known areas of septic system failure. The parcels under consideration were not included in the analysis since they are not in the sewer district and were not identified as having a history of septic issues. A formal request to expand the sewer system would no doubt present many technical issues, the issue of capacity versus anticipated demand would have to be addressed.
- d) Ms. Siebert stated that in the past when a development project located outside the sewer district was presented to the WPCA, we automatically said they were out of the sewer district and we do not extend the sewer boundaries for development.

- e) Mr. Marconi discussed a potential meeting with Planning and Zoning, WPCA and Board of Selectman to discuss future development. Ms. Siebert and other board members noted they would participate in such a meeting. Ms. Siebert did note such meeting would not alter her opinion that the boundary should not be altered for the project in question.
- f) Mr. Zawacki, Ms. Siebert and Mr. Hill stated that they were not in favor of extending sewer service to this project. Mr. Briody also was not comfortable changing the boundary. Concerns include that the parcels are outside of the current sewer district, and extending sewer services to these parcels would consume future capacity for the projects that are in the district or need to be on sewer for health reason. Mr. Marconi noted his concerns about current plant flows and the need to address wet weather conditions, and the impact of these on acceptance of additional flows to the plant.
- g) In response to a question regarding the technical details of how flow might be conveyed, Mr. Handshy noted that a new pump station would be built for this development and would tie into the force main from the Recreation Center pump station. Mr. Pearson mentioned that the pump station at the Recreation Center, the force main and the Copps Hill pump station capacity would need to be evaluated to assess the ability to accommodate the additional flow.
- h) Ms. Siebert mentioned the flows at the South Street plant have been over the 1 Million gpd for the last 6 months due to severe rain events.
- i) In response to a question, Mr. Handshy confirmed that they received the feedback they were looking for from the WPCA.

**Motion to adjourn by Mr. Briody, seconded by Mr. Marconi at 5:59p.m., passing 5-0.**

Submitted by Diana Van Ness