



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

**WPCA Regular Meeting
July 25, 2019 7:00 p.m.
66 Prospect Street
Ridgefield, Connecticut 06877**

WPCA: Gary Zawacki, Ron Hill, Amy Siebert, Rudy Marconi
WPCA Kevin Briody arrived 7:20
Suez: Matt Brown
AECOM: Jon Pearson

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

WPCA Regular Meeting called to order at 7:00 by Ms. Siebert

- 1) **New Business**
 - a) **Approval of Minutes.** Motion to approve June 27, 2019 minutes by Mr. Zawacki, seconded by Mr. Hill, Passing 4-0.
- 2) **Old Business**
 - a) **South Street WWTF Upgrade Bond Resolution.** In order to complete its Clean Water Fund (CWF) application, the WPCA needs to submit a bond resolution as part of the paperwork to the DEEP. With the potential for the project to require additional funding as a whole, question arose over how to best address this as well as complete the funding package paperwork. Ms. Siebert stated legal counsel (Pullman and Comley) has been reviewing options to make up the potential project funding shortfall. Discussions have focused on funding the shortfall from the WPCA's fund balance and using the referendum process to fund the Quail Ridge Pump Station upgrade and relocation, possibly using a DEEP Clean Water Fund loan. Through its review, counsel has indicated that the WPCA is not a Town agency and is not part of the Town's budget process. The Town of Ridgefield approval for a bond resolution for the WPCA is only needed when the Town is guaranteeing a loan, so the CWF loan amount cannot exceed the approved \$48 million. The WPCA has frequently funded projects through its fund balance (cash reserves). A question arose regarding whether or not the DEEP provides grant funding when projects paid for using a fund balance, rather than a CWF loan. Ms. Siebert will coordinate with counsel to discuss this as well as how to complete the CWF paperwork given the funding sources anticipated.
 - b) **Motion made by Mr. Hill: If we don't get \$6M in DEEP Grants the WWTF Upgrade project should be stopped. Motion was not seconded.**
 - c) **South Street Easement Agreement.** Legal counsel has sent a draft copy of the temporary construction easement agreement to the adjacent property owner for review as the first step in execution of the agreement.
 - d) **Sewer Rate Update.** Ms. Siebert presented the Financial Summary from the latest Raftelis sewer rate model to the WPCA. The information was discussed in detail and made a motion to increase the sewer rates:

Motion to approve \$280 increase for District 1 and District 2, keep District 3 the same contingent upon Kevin Redmond, Director of Finance and Raftelis review, by Mr. Briody, seconded by Mr. Zawacki passing 5-0.

3) AECOM Report

1. WWTF Upgrade Design.

- a. **Motion to add to the agenda: Executive Session to discuss decommissioning of the Route 7 property following the SUEZ Report on the Agenda by Mr. Marconi, seconded by Mr. Briody, passing 5-0.**
- b. **Permitting Status.**
 - i. AECOM is completing the Planning & Zoning (P&Z) /Inland Wetlands (IW) permit application packages for the Route 7 PS, FM and WWTF Decommissioning contract. Consulting Town Engineer Charlie Fisher is currently reviewing the plans now. AECOM intends to submit the applications by August 2nd. The information in the application packages may have to be modified after discussions with the owners of 901 Ethan Allen Highway are concluded. The P&Z Commission does not meet in August, so it will be Fall before these applications are on the P&Z/IW meeting agenda.
 - ii. As part of the Wetland Permit process, a project must check if it is located in an area where rare or endangered species have been mapped. The National Diversity database shows habitat for a rare butterfly along the road shoulder on Limekiln Road. AECOM recommended avoiding disturbance in this area by locating the force main farther into the road than would otherwise be done to minimize disturbance of the road shoulder. The WPCA concurred with the recommended approach.
 - iii. The WPCA Received confirmation on DEEP receipt of the flood management certification application.

2. South Street WWTF Upgrade Construction

- a. The Preconstruction meeting was held with representatives of Spectraserv, WPCA, AECOM, DEEP, the Consulting Town Engineer, and the Director of Purchasing on July 16, 2019. Spectraserv does not expect to mobilize to the site until October to allow time for final permits to be obtained, initial shop drawing submittals, etc. Following the preconstruction meeting, there was a walkthrough of the WWTF and staging area sites. Spectraserv provided a working (not final) staging area layout for the temporary trailers in the designated staging area adjacent to the WWTF.
- b. AECOM noted that the items currently stored in the staging area next to the WWTF will need to be moved prior to Spectraserv mobilizing to the site. The materials/equipment includes Highway Dept. equipment/materials, an emergency response trailer, and cars stored in the Police Impoundment. In addition, there are still materials stockpiled in the area behind the Parks & Recreation Maintenance Garage that will need to be moved for this area to be available for Spectraserv. Mr. Marconi contacted the Highway Department regarding the need for this relocation and will contact the Police Department about relocating the cars out of the impoundment area.
- c. During the site visit, Spectraserv inquired about potential to tie sewer service from the trailers into the existing DPW Pump Station. To review whether the pump station could accommodate this usage, AECOM was directed to contact the Town Engineer, and then the Director of Public Services.
- d. AECOM questioned whether the WPCA wanted to have a groundbreaking ceremony for the WWTF Upgrade. Following discussion, it was agreed that a groundbreaking ceremony would not be held.

- e. AECOM noted that preparation of the Route 7 WWTF NPDES permit renewal application is nearly complete and plans to have it completed before the next meeting. AECOM will coordinate with Ms. Van Ness to submit the renewal application.
3. **Septage Receiving Options During Construction**
- a. Mr. Zawacki requested clarification regarding the septage receiving operations during construction. Mr. Pearson stated that as previously discussed due to the replacement of the septage receiving facility, the very small WWTF site, and the extent of underground utilities on the site, continuing to accept septage during construction of the WWTF was not recommended. As a result, the WWTF upgrade contract documents noted septage receiving would be discontinued during construction. Discussed possible options to have an alternate way of septage being taken during construction as well as impacts of septage being hauled to other WWTFs during construction. Mr. Pearson suggested discussing the potential for septage receiving with Spectraserv once they have developed their schedule for the project construction.
 - b. Discussed increasing septic tipping fee. **Motion to increase the septic tipping fee from \$100 to \$110 by Mr. Briody, seconded by Mr. Zawacki, passing 5-0.**
4. **Quail Ridge Pump Station Relocation Design.** No activity on this project this month. Mr. Brown noted that depending on the timing, it may be possible to salvage the Route 7 WWTF generator, which has not been extensively used, and use it for the relocated Quail Ridge Pump station.
5. **Suez Report.** Mr. Matt Brown presented Suez Environmental report for June, 2019.
6. **Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss decommissioning of the Route 7 property, and invite Mr. Pearson and Ms. Van Ness, by Mr. Briody, seconded by Mr. Zawacki, passing 5-0.**
No Motions were made no Votes were taken. Motion to end Executive Session by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Zawacki.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Hill, seconded by Mr. Zawacki at 8:58 p.m., passing 5-0.

Submitted by Diana Van Ness