

Water Pollution Control Commission

Town of Clinton, 54 East Main St., Clinton, CT 06413

Rose Room

Tuesday January 24, 2017

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

1. Call Meeting to Order:

Matthew Kennedy (Chair) called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM in the Rose Room of the Andrews Memorial Town Hall.

Present: Matthew Kennedy (Chair), Laura Peterson (Vice Chair), Hal Dolan, Chris Guelke, Al Walker

Absent: Omar Francis, Carl Neri

2. Recognition of Guests:

Kate Zadek of Beach Park

3. Approval of Minutes:

H. Dolan made a **motion** to approve the minutes of Jan. 10, 2017.

L. Peterson seconded the motion.

In favor: M. Kennedy, L. Peterson, H. Dolan, A. Walker

Opposed: None

Abstained: C. Guelke

Motion Carried: 4-0-1

4. Correspondence:

The WPCC received and discussed an email from Appraiser Christopher Kerin, MAI, CCIM of Kerin & Fazio, LLC, Fairfield, CT. Mr. Kerin is a specialist in Benefits Assessment.- the appraising and assessing of property values attributed to implementation of a capital project (i.e.- How much would the value of a house change if public sewers were installed at the property?). In Clinton's case, the WPCC is looking for a specialist to perform these assessments in the 'areas of concern' that are expected to be sewerred during the application of the proposed Facilities Plan.

5. Old Business:

a. Sewer Benefit Assessment Information:

The Kerin & Fazio group has a lengthy history of performing similar assessments for many CT towns and municipalities and come with very high recommendations. M. Kennedy and H. Dolan discussed the need to meet and speak with Finance Director J. Murphy in order to clarify the use of the additional \$45,000 that the WPCC requested and added to the WPCC FY 2017/2018 budget.

K. Zadek stated that she works extensively with the Coastal Needs Area and feels that the opportunity to gain public acceptance for sewerage is now. She sees that people are concerned and aware and she feels as though there would be a positive reception for the project. Guelke stated that the project would also gain traction if the WPCC had the solid figures people want to see relating to actual costs associated with the sewer project. Zadek pointed out that there are Morgan School students that may be able to help with the marketing of upcoming projects. Zadek also noted that in her work on Coastal Resilience she found that the Rockefeller Foundation provides grants relating to that topic and wondered if 'clean water' may have grant funding as well.

Project funding discussion followed: Walker- Are there enough funds to do a partial benefit assessment? What if the time frame for implementation is prolonged? How to address the quoted figures? Guelke- What is the time frame for funds? Kennedy- Could we do a representative survey for a lower budget? Peterson- What if the benefit assessment went through CDM Smith rather than the Capital Expenditure Committee (CEC)? Would that enable the WPCC to get more funding for the project? Dolan- Can we use the balance of the Unilever settlement for benefit assessment after the lagoons are closed?

b. Rocky Ledge Water Main Update:

Final review of the proposed water project is in the hands of CT DPH (Dept. of Public Health) now. Comments from Town and CT Water Co have been addressed. Final review by DPH should result in DPH permission to advertise the project for bidding, pending Town authorization of funds. CT Water Co is working directly with Town (Pete Neff, DPW) in discussions on CWC contribution and service agreement.

K. Wagner spoke with DEEP (CT Dept. of Energy and Environmental Protection) about DEEP's perspective of requiring connections. As indicated in their approval letter of the Rocky Ledge water main project, DEEP supports the water main extension as it allows/enhances the ability for on-site septic upgrades at such time as they are determined to be needed. For this to actually be realized, most if not all properties must connect to water. However, DEEP has limited direct authority over actions on individual private properties – UNTIL the Town establishes the Decentralized WW Management District(s) required for all of the Study Areas that remain on-site. Establishment of those districts will allow both DEEP funding for upgrade programs, and DEEP authority to regulate the activities on the private properties. The Town could consider (and DEEP would support) requiring connection to public water wherever it is available as one element of the Decentralized WW Management Program planning.

MJ Engle has been working on creating a policy for water hook-ups and waivers to hooking up for the WPCC. General discussion of the document followed specifically relating to 'late' hook-ups; homeowners that might desire to hook up to the main after the project has been completed. M. Kennedy stated that Atty. Matt Ranelli has been invited to attend the March 14, 2017 meeting to discuss the policy. Discussion of the waiver option followed. K. Zadek suggested investigating existing ordinances by researching 'Bond Books' (books that are created by towns when bonds are issued; that include every document relating to a bond)

c. Lagoons Closure Update:

Kennedy read a letter from CDM Smith about the final procedures for closure. K. Wagner-Letter is ready to go to DEEP pending Matt and Pete/DPW's final review.

d. Update on Board of Selectman Budget Presentation:

General discussion ended with the conclusion that Kennedy and any other interested parties should meet with J. Murphy as soon as possible to discuss the further defense of the FY 2017-2018 budget.

e. Post & Main Wastewater Treatment Tour - Feb. 11, 2017 at 9:30 AM.

General discussion followed and it appears that the majority of the WPCC would like to participate in this tour. The Westbrook Health Dept. will be joining the commission there as well. The clerk will contact AquaPoint representative Mark Lubbers and tell him that we will meet him at Post & Main on Feb. 11, 2017

6. New Business:

a. B. Lamb (K. Zadek) Advisor for Water/Sewer Projects:

Resident K. Zadek discussed her connection with Bob Lamb, a financial advisor whose expertise is in water and sewer financing. Mr. Lamb is currently advisor to the CT Clean Water Fund and may be able to help the WPCC with alternative financing options for upcoming WPCC projects.

b. Land Use Referrals:

The commission examined two ZBA proposals and found them non-actionable.

c. Invoices:

None

d. Discussion of Agenda Items for Feb. 14, 2017 meeting:

None

7. Chairman's Commissioner's Comments:

H. Dolan would like to see a more in depth discussion of the implementation of the Facilities Plan- Where will be the facilities be located? How will they be purchased? How to plan the costs involved? When will that design and purchase phase of the project begin? How do we get the project shovel ready?

M. Kennedy would like to discuss working on the Decentralized Waste Water Plan. Guelke noted that it must stress and describe the benefit to the entire town of having a waste water situation plan and remedy in place. Dolan would like to see the BoS and the BoF involved in the process, but the WPCC must come up with the recommendations.

8. Adjournment:

H. Dolan made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting.

L. Peterson seconded the motion.

In favor: M. Kennedy, L. Peterson, H. Dolan, A. Walker

Opposed: None

Abstained: C. Guelke

Motion Carried: 4-0-1

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Walter
Recording Clerk

